

Plymouth-Trinity United Church
The United Church of Canada

Advent II

December 4, 2011

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

* the congregation standing, as able

VU: Voices United
OT: Old Testament

MV: More Voices
NT: New Testament



Plymouth-Trinity
Est. 1835

Prelude
Carol Sing Song

Welcome and Introductions

Announcements—Life and Work of the Church
(a time of silence and centering)

* **Introit (solo)** He Shall Feed His Flocks (G. F. Handel)

Call to Worship
Prayer of Approach

Advent Candle Lighting

* Hymn	Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus	VU 2
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Prayer of Confession
Words of Affirmation

* **Doxology** Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
(VU 7) giving a promise of safety and worth.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.

Time with the Children

* Hymn	'Tis the Gift to Be Simple	VU 353
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WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

First Reading Isaiah 40:1-11 OT 667
God's People are Comforted.
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 85

VU 802

A reading from Louise Haye

Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

NT 34

The Proclamation of John the Baptist.

Hear the lessons from Christ today.

Thanks be to our teacher.

Solo

Laudate Dominum (W. A. Mozart)

Meditation – Sanctuary for God: Joining the Great Turn-around
Personal Reflection (in silence, followed by organ)

* **Hymn**

Joy Shall Come

VU 23

**Minute for Mission
Offering**

* **Offertory**
(VU 702)

When a poor one who has nothing
shares with strangers,
when the thirsty water give unto us all,
when the wounded in the weakness strengthen others,
then we know that God still goes that road with us,
then we know that God still goes that road with us.

Prayer of Dedication

Peace is your gift, O God:
the peace of generosity,
the peace of compassion,
the peace of recognition,
the peace of communion with each other,
ours to enjoy.
As we open to the stranger before us in all these ways,
Bless these gifts.
Amen.

WE GO FORTH IN PRAYER AND HOPE

Prayer Hymn Wait for the Lord, God's day is near.
(VU 22) Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart! (x3)

Prayers of the People

Jesus' Prayer

* Hymn	Herald! Sound the Note of Gladness	VU 28
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* **Blessing**

* **Choral Amen**

Postlude Wachet Auf (J. S. Bach)

Ministers: All of us

Clergy: the Rev. Robin Osborne - robinplym.trin@gmail.com
819-346-6373 (church) - 819-347-2253 (home)

Organist and Music Director: Leslie Young

Webmaster, Secretary: Michael Eby
eby_michael@sympatico.ca

Caretaker: Christopher Bryant

President, Church Council: Ann Fowlis - 819-564-1030

President, UCW: Thelma Philbrick - 819-562-8870

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A **warm welcome** to all who are worshipping with us! May the gentle winds of the Spirit fill you with peace and hope.

Bienvenue à l'Eglise Unie Plymouth-Trinity! Il y a des Bibles en français disponibles sur la table à l'entrée pour ceux qui en désirent.

If you are a visitor please make yourself known to those around you, sign our guest book and join us for a cup of **Fair Trade** coffee or glass of juice at the front of the church after the service. Visitors, please take a peace candle back to your congregation.

We thank our volunteers

Reader: Andrew Brown

Ushers: Andrew Brown, Val Rawlings

Sexton: Dave Fowlis



Thank you to Michelle Gagné for sharing her gift of music with us this morning. Her presence was made possible by the Fred Sangster Memorial Music Fund.

Thank you to Kristi Roht and Michael Eby for decorating the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas.

Leftover bulletins: Please take one to P-T members in your neighbourhood who did not get to church this morning. If you do not use your bulletin after you leave worship on Sunday, please leave it on the back table or give it to Inge for distribution to our shut-ins in homes and residences.

Bulletin covers: The bulletin covers this morning were donated by Theresa and Harley Wilkie in memory of their parents.

Secretary: Michael is in the office on Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Please have all bulletin items to the office by email plymouthtrinitychurch@gmail.com (or by mail or phone) by Wednesday evening.

Looking to send out letters or Christmas cards? Contact Janet or Michael for an up-to-date **mailing list**.

2012 United Church Calendars are available for \$6.00. If you wish to purchase one, please speak to Thelma. This year's calendar features a picture from Lois Deagle's home church in Stellarton, NS.

Mitten tree: We once again have an outlet for idle fingers this winter! Mental Health Estrie prepares festive "HUGS" packages (Hats, Underwear, Gloves, Socks) at this time of year for residents at the homeless shelter Accueil Poirier and the residence for the 18-30 age group, Source Soleil. The gift bags contain knitted hats, gloves, scarves and socks in adult sizes (especially for men, since 80% of the homeless are men), either hand-made or bought. Our "mitten tree" is ready to receive any "fruit" you can provide.

If you would like to donate a **poinsettia** or **other flowers** to decorate the sanctuary for the Advent/Christmas season, please speak to Kristi Roht or call her at 819-566-6296. Please let Kristi know if you wish to have your name printed in the bulletin, along with the person or people in whose memory the flowers are given. We will be purchasing poinsettias from La Maison Aube-Lumière, the local palliative care hospice.

Happy Birthday to Harley Wilkie, who celebrates today; to Vivienne Galanis, who celebrates on December 7; and to Allan Marshall, who celebrates on December 8. **Belated Happy Birthday** to Sarah Ashby, Emmanuelle Boone and Jorge Pedraza, who all celebrated on December 1.

Happy Anniversary to Harley and Theresa Wilkie, who celebrate today.

THIS WEEK

Wednesday, December 7: Bible Study at 1:00 PM led by Carol Gosselin, right before the prayer group.

Friday, December 9: The Pastoral Care Team will meet at Robin's house at 1:30 PM.

Saturday, December 10: Rehearsal for the White Gift Pageant from 9:00 AM to noon.

NEXT WEEK

Next Sunday, December 11 – Advent III, White Gift Sunday

White Gift Sunday: For many years Plymouth-Trinity has been donating money and non-perishable food items towards the Christmas baskets distributed by our local schools to families in need. Until we became more environmentally conscious we wrapped our cans and packets of food in anonymous white paper following an old White Gift tradition.

This year we will again be supporting Sherbrooke Elementary School's **Christmas Basket Campaign**. Our gifts of food will be collected by the young people during Children's Time on December 11 and later taken to Sherbrooke Elementary.

If you prefer to give cash or write a cheque (payable to Plymouth-Trinity United Church) please place your gift in an envelope labelled Christmas Baskets and hand it in with the regular offering. Please do not put cash or cheques in a bag with the White gifts, and **please do not wrap the gifts**.

Tuesday, December 13: The UCW will be gathering for their Christmas pot-luck and secret pal gift exchange at 6:00 PM.

Wednesday, December 14: A Blue Christmas service will take place in the chapel at 7:00 PM.

ADVANCE NOTICES

Saturday, December 24: We will be gathering for worship and Holy Communion on Christmas Eve at 7:30 PM. Join us for this special worship service as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Sunday, December 25: There will be no Plymouth-Trinity worship service on Christmas Day.

GIFTS THAT KEEP ON GIVING

If you'd like to give "ethical" gifts this Christmas or are looking for a special gift for the person who has everything, consider one of the following options where your gifts will keep on giving.

Gifts with Vision: a giving catalogue from The United Church of Canada (an insert with the latest Observer): This year, purchase gifts that show your family and friends how much you care, gifts that make them feel great, gifts that help change the world. Choose a gift from the catalogue, send your money and notify your loved one with one of the enclosed gift cards. Gifts range from \$15 for Saint Columbia House in Point Saint Charles in Montreal to \$200 to pay for school uniforms and supplies for a child in the Congo for one year. Extra catalogues are available at the front and back tables, or go to www.giftswithvision.ca

Unicef Survival Gifts (2011/12 gift guide): UNICEF is the world's leading child-focused humanitarian and development agency. Give gifts... and give children what they need most to survive and to thrive. Gifts range from \$10 for a bed net (to protect against malaria) to \$500 for a local water pump. Call toll-free 1-888-777-0380 or go to www.unicef.ca/inspire

Bridgehead Gifts Mean the World (Holiday mailer 2011): Fair-trade coffee and tea, etc. These are gifts you can give to yourself as well as to others! Call toll-free 1-800-565-8563 or go to www.bridgehead.ca

Just Us! also sells fair-trade coffee and tea, as well as chocolate. We buy our Plymouth-Trinity coffee from them. Speak to Vivienne, or call toll-free 1-888-668-8436 or go to www.justuscoffee.com