

Stouffville United Church

34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3

www.stouffvilleuc.ca

December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent

Children's Christmas Pageant

Welcome

Announcements

Acknowledging the Indigenous Territory

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

On the first Sunday of Advent we lit a candle for Hope. (*light candle*) Our second candle was lit for Peace. (*light candle*) Today we light a candle for Joy. (*light candle*)

This is the joy we search for:

The Joy that comes when we go out of our way to help others, the Joy that overcomes sadness and fear, the Joy that Jesus brought to the lonely and the oppressed, the Joy that chuckles out from a young baby, the Joy that is in the energy of a street-hockey game, the Joy that comes with a new job and is found in a purposeful retirement, the Joy of friendship, the joy of a Christian faith that is central to all we do and are,

a joy to encourage us, a joy to delight us,

a Joy to challenge the despair in our hearts, in our town, and among the hopeless of our world. Amen.

(Written by David Sparks, Summerland, B.C. Gathering, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2014-2015, page 62. Used with permission.)

All sing: Hope is a Star

[VU 7, Vs. 3]

Call to Worship:

We come together today to celebrate changes.

A change in the weather, a change of seasons.

From the season of fall to the first day of winter,
from Advent to Christmas.

**In the midst of the busyness of this Christmas season –
the planning, the shopping, the baking, and the visiting**

– help us remember to stop and listen, look and see, and find our faith in the old story of new parents, a little baby, and a long journey. Journey with us, Lord, through this season. Amen.

(Written by Cheryl McMurray, New Hope United Church, Port Hope, Ont. Gathering, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2014-2015, page 27. Used with permission.)

Carol: 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime [VU 71]

Prayer of the Community:

The Lord's Prayer

Music Ministry

Offering

Dedication: Nowell Doxology

Offering Prayer:

Christmas Pageant: "The Not-So-Silent Night"

Carols during the Pageant:

Angels We Have Heard on High
Away in a Manger
Silent Night! Holy Night!
Go, Tell It on the Mountain
O Come, All Ye Faithful
We Three Kings of Orient Are
Joy to the World!

Children's Worship Presentation to the Children and Teachers

Closing Carol: We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Words of Blessing

Parting Song: Joy is Now in Every Place [VU 45, Vs. 1 & 4]

Music to Send Us Out into Our Ministry

Over→

Please join us for a Coffee and Conversation in the Davis and Friendship Rooms, through the West Doors.

Cast for "The Not-So-Silent Night"

Prosecutor – Bradley Devereux
Defense Attorney – Ella Parry
Judge – Lindsay Duncan
Bailiff – Jacob Shpak
Josiah – Kyle Duncan
Abel – Malcolm Condori-Harvey
Seth – Teirnan Cusack
Dr. Sigmund Fruitcake and Baltasar – Amy Shpak
Sophia Busybody – Chelsea Condori-Harvey
Gotta Lotta – Ava Cooke

Extras

Arch Angel – Nikki Devereux
Angels – Daphne and Lucy Britton and Chelsea Condori-Harvey
Pantomime Shepherds – Alexander Geremia, Daniel Geremia and Kyle Duncan
Mary and Joseph – Dana and Kevin Shpak
3 Kings – Doris Harvey, Alexander Geremia, and Jacob Shpak

Director - Lisa Harvey
Assistant Directors – Nikki Devereux and Dana Shpak

Set Design – Joanna Parry and Nikki Devereux
Behind the scenes helpers – Cindy Duncan, Joanna Parry, and Laura Cusack

A Special Thank You to Catherine Hions for leading our worship this morning!