## **Stouffville United Church**

34 Church Street, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 1E3 www.stouffvilleuc.ca December 19, 2021

#### **Music Prelude**

#### Welcome

### Acknowledgement of the Land

We are gathered on the treaty territory of the Huron Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe people and their ancestors. May we honour their history, spirituality, culture and teachings and uphold our responsibilities as treaty partners.

#### Announcements

#### Call to Worship:

Hymn: People Look East (9 VU)

**Prayer of Approach and Confession:** Loving God - as we approach the day of Christ's birth help us to throw wide the doors of our hearts in preparation. Help us to sense the importance of what happened so long ago when Mary was visited by the angel Gabriel, to remember the words of the angels and the prophets and the teachers of old, and to celebrate all the promises that you made through them. Help us to take firm hold of the meaning of all these things and to know in the depths of our being that even now you are seeking to work in us and through us to fulfill the promises you have made. And when we fail to realize this or to live them out in our lives, forgive us, we pray in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Words of Assurance:

God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself, not counting our trespasses against us. Therefore be assured and believe your sins are forgiven.

### Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

**Music Ministry:** 

# A time of silence

### **Offertory and Offertory Prayer**

Faithful God, You astound us with Your miracles! We rejoice that you sent your Son Jesus to bring light and salvation. We are grateful for Your great wisdom and love in Your actions toward humanity. Help us to be more like Mary, believing Your Word and trusting in the fulfillment of Your promises. We dedicate our tithes and offerings for the mission of this church, so that more people will find hope in waiting on Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

## **Prayer for Illumination**

### Scripture: Luke 1:39-56

Hymn: There Was A Child in Galilee (134 VU)

## Sermon: "Ghost of Christmas Present"

## **Prayers of the People**

#### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven Hallowed be thy name, Thy kingdom come, thy will be done On earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation But deliver us from evil For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory Forever and ever. Amen

Hymn: Hark the Herald Angels Sing (48VU)

# Blessing

# Closing Response (VU 967)

### **Music Postlude**

Thank you for worshipping with us, whether in person or on line. We look forward to joining with you again next week!