

St David's United Church

December 15 Newsletter

www.sduc.ca

Growing & Deepening our Lives in an Affirming and Inclusive Community

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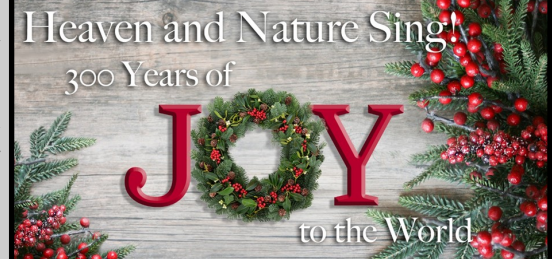
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HEAVEN & NATURE SING! ADVENT SERIES

This is an invitation to continue our community spiritual journey through Advent and Christmas providing a strong connection within community and a deeper knowing of our own individual spiritual lives.

"Joy to the World," a beloved Christmas classic, turns 300 this year. Composer Isaac Watt's interpretation of Psalm 98 invites us to sing a "new song" – and it is a powerful cosmic performance of all creation being renewed and freed. Rather than "joy" being yet another word for "happiness," we have discovered that the depths of joy can be found especially in the midst of suffering, the work of justice, and the presence of compassion – all part of the coming of Jesus' renewing love to this world and a message the world still so desperately needs.



St. David's Week at a Glance

Sun. Dec 15	10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 7:00 pm	Sunday Worship – Sanctuary Church School – Robertson Hall Advent Brunch – Robertson Hall Evening Compline - Sanctuary
Mon. Dec 16	12:30 pm 5:30 pm 5:30 pm 7:30 pm	Best Beginnings – Robertson Hall Sparks – TM Room Brownies/Girl Guides – Robertson Hall Angel Voices - Sanctuary
Tues. Dec 17	12:00 pm 6:00 pm	LaCocinelle Christmas Party – Rob. Hall Iglesia Ni Cristo – Sanctuary & TM
Wed. Dec 18	9:30 am 7:00 pm	Qigong – TM Room Under the Rainbow – Robertson Hall
Thurs. Dec 19	6:30 pm 7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Qigong – TM Room Chamber Choir Practice - Sanctuary Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
Fri. Dec 20	4:00 pm 7:00 pm	Anthony Edmunds Music Lessons – Lacombe Blue Christmas – Sanctuary
Sat. Dec 21	7:00 am 5:00 pm	Iglesia Ni Cristo – Sanctuary & TM True Light Church – Robertson Hall
Sun. Dec 22	10:00 am 10:00 am 11:00 am	Sunday Worship – Sanctuary Church School – Robertson Hall Refreshments – TM Room



Offering envelopes will be available for pick up at the back of the sanctuary from December 1 to December 29. Please pick yours up when possible.

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

December 20, 2019 at 7:00 pm

A meditative service that honors the challenges of experiencing the Christmas season while living with difficult life events.

The Giving Tree

Last call for Giving Tree items. Please have them to the Church Office no later than noon on December 18.

The Church Office will be closed from December 20 at noon until January 2.

Calling All Singers

Anyone who is interested in joining the Choir for the 8 PM Christmas Eve service, please speak with Brent. Come raise your voice in praise!

Coffee & Muffin

In the foyer of St. David's from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm

**January 9
February 20**

Everybody welcome!!!!

Come and enjoy a muffin, coffee and some conversation.

Sunday December 22nd

**Lesson & Carols
Pre-service Organ recital
9:40 AM -10:00 AM**

Christmas Take Down

We had a fantastic response in November to help decorate the Church for Advent and now we need your help to take down all of the beautiful decorations and put them away until next year. We are asking for volunteers to drop in at St. David's on **January 9** to do this. Come by between 9 am and 1 pm. Enjoy coffee, tea, muffins and treats provided by the Muffin Ministry.



Christmas Eve



Family Christmas Eve Service

December 24 at 4:30 pm

'The Sounds and Lights of Bethlehem' - Betty Lynn Schwab

'In dedication to Bethlehem – the Holy Lands and to the Child in each one of us for of such is the world of God.'

Come join us for this exciting, happy worship service – a story of two youngsters who are hiding in the cave where Jesus was born.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24 at 8:00 pm

Join us at 8:00 Christmas Eve Service for the culmination of our Advent Joy series.

Through the Advent season we have been celebrating that "Joy to the World," a beloved Christmas carol, turned 300 this year. Composer Isaac Watt's interpretation of Psalm 98 invites us to sing a "new song"—and it is a powerful cosmic performance of all creation being renewed and freed.

Rather than "joy" being yet another word for "happiness," we discovered that the depths of joy can be found especially amid suffering, the work of justice, and the presence of compassion—all part of the coming of Jesus to this world and a message the world still so desperately needs.

.....the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah,. . .Luke 2:1-20

On this Christmas Eve we celebrate the world-altering narrative of the in-breaking, indwelling, incarnation of the Holy among us. Do you remember the feeling you may have had in moments, events or revelations that changed your life, your outlook, your trajectory forever? The depth of that feeling is what "deep joy" is about. Not simply happiness, that can be fleeting, but the idea that no matter what, there is something living within you that can sustain you for the long haul. God is birthing this within us again and again.

Gift Card Fundraiser

St. David's is entering into a new Fundraiser Venture with Fundscrip. Fundscrip allows you to purchase gift cards directly through St. David's and have them conveniently delivered to the Church!

How does it work?

1. Grab an order form from the table in the front hall.
2. Fill in the order form to purchase gift cards for popular retailers at face value. Spend \$25 and get a \$25 gift card in return.
3. For each gift card sold, a portion of the proceeds (ranging from 2-10%) come directly to St. David's.

It's really that simple! We get paid for the shopping **that you already do!**

More information is included on the order form available in the Church office or in the front foyer of the Church.

Next deadline: February 2, 2020

Under the Rainbow

Social gathering and support for LGBTQ2S+ and allies.

Various formats

3rd Wednesday of the month 7-9pm

Hosted at St. David's United Church located by the university



HEALING TOUCH:

First Wednesday evening of every month.

Note: There will be no Healing Touch on

January 1. Contact the office to book your February appointment.

♪ Here We Go A Wassailing ♪

On December 31st at 10:00 a.m. we invite you to fill your cups with some warm wassail to sip on while we gather in the sanctuary for an informal Christmas worship experience!

All are welcome to bring a short (1-3 minute) anecdote, story, poem or song to share, a favorite Christmas carol request from the hymn book, or to simply come and receive what the morning has to offer.

If you are able to help out by bringing a batch of wassail in a crock pot that morning, we would be very grateful and would love to provide you with a recipe! Please contact Peggy or Chantal to answer any questions you may have.

The wassail recipe will be available on December 15 & 22.

We hope this will be a warm, beautiful Christmas worship that highlights all that makes this season special, touching, and meaningful and we look forward to receiving all who come "a wassailing" on Sunday, December 29 at 10:00 a.m.

LET'S LEND A HAND

As a New Year begins we endeavor to become a more caring and connected church community. If you are aware of a member who is ill or needs assistance, please inform the church office so that we may offer our support.

Also, if you know someone in our congregation who has difficulty getting to church, perhaps you could offer them a ride on Sunday. Due to insurance reasons St. David's is unable to establish a more formal ride sharing service, so it's up to us to lend a hand!

Your assistance is greatly appreciated!
*St David's Pastoral Care
Committee*