



Mount Royal United Church

"At Mount Royal United Church, our mission is to serve God; living our faith inside and outside these walls and nurturing each individual on their faith journey."

December 4th, 2022. Advent— Peace (Foundation) Sunday

Congregational responses are in bold.

(*) Indicates Standing.

We Come Together

Prelude... (*this is an opportunity for us to appreciate the gift of music and prepare our hearts for worship*)

Greeting

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the land upon which we live, work, worship and play is the unceded territory of the Wabanaki people; in this area they are they Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, and Passamaquoddy. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, may the gifts of this season, hope, peace, joy and love, guide us into reconciliation with all Indigenous peoples.

Announcements

Candle Lighting:

Scott: As we reflect on the foundation of our faith—
we gather around the candle of peace.

Ethan: The home we long for is a home that knows peace.

Scott: Peace that rests between us and our worries,

Ethan: peace around our worries,

Scott: peace within our relationships,

Ethan: peace within our hearts,

Scott: peace in and throughout our world,

Ethan: the home we long for is a home that knows peace.

Scott: Today we light the candle of peace— as a reminder and our prayer. **Amen.**

Hymn: "Hope Is a Star" Verses 1 and 2"

VU# 7

Call to Worship:

One: If life was a home, the foundation would be peace,

All: God would be the cornerstone,

One: the Spirit, our windows welcoming in the light,

All: with hope, the walls that hold us together.

One: In this time of worship, let us build that home together.

All: We may not know the path ahead, but God is here.

One: Let us give thanks for our foundation,

All: and let us worship our God of Peace.

Opening Prayer: (unison)

God of days gone by, and God of the here and now, we have arrived here on Peace Sunday once again taking another step towards Your blessed manger. We may not always know the next step You would have us take, but we have a foundation of faith that has been built through the guidance of Your Spirit. Allow us the Grace to once again be led by Your Spirit as we listen and wait for the birth of Your Son, the Prince of Peace. In Jesus' tender name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn:** "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

VU#60

Personal Prayer: "Where Two or Three..."

MV#14

(Concluded as we pray together the Lord's Prayer)

Children's Learning Time

Children's Prayer:

Our foundation dear God is found in You, who enters our lives making everything new. As we wait in wonder for the birth of Your son, guide us and lead us, in peace, make us one. In Jesus' face, we see the light of all lights, love for our hearts which is your delight. Amen.

***Hymn:** "Put Peace into Each Other's Hands"

MV#173

We Listen to the Word

Prayer for Illumination:

Reader: Erik

Holy One, You speak to us in scripture and in prayers, in sunrises and sunsets, in friends and strangers, in dreams and songs. You are speaking all the time, and our hearts long for every word. In this moment still our hearts and minds that we may hear Your still small voice speaking, calling out to us in love. **Amen.**

Scripture Lesson: Luke 1: 57-80

Response:

One: This is God's Word to the church,

All: God's Peace for our restless hearts, as we wait for Jesus' birth.

Sermon "Foundation of Faith"

Anthem "Zechariah's Lullaby"

Prayers of the People

We Respond to the Word

Invitation to the Offering:

Zechariah gave one of the greatest gifts he could give to his son. He gave him a foundation of peace— words of purpose, pride, love, and belonging. Remembering that joyful day, we now offer our own gifts: our time, our money, and our talents in the hope they be infused by the Spirit and used to as light for those in darkness and as a gift of peace reaching each broken heart.

Offertory Prayer: (*unison*)

Holy One, You are our home. You and Your goodness are the place we long to rest our heads. Today as we offer You these gifts, we pray that you would take them and turn them it into a ministry of peace. Use these gifts to transform the world we live in to better reflect the home You have envisioned for us— a home of peace, a home built on the foundation of love. With today's offering we also bring these gloves for the homeless in our area. To those who

receive these gifts, we pray Your Spirit would enter in, warming both body and spirit. Amen.

*Hymn: "Joy Shall Come"

VU#23

***Our Candle of Hope and Peace remain.**

***Benediction:**

As we ready ourselves to go back out into our world: May the Love of God go with you, the Friendship of Jesus our light guide you and the Presence of the Holy Spirit grant you peace this day. Amen.

***Choral Benediction**

Postlude

Music & words reprinted under ONE LICENSE – A- 621976 All rights reserved.

Clergy: The Rev. Scott Stuart, BA, MDiv.
Music Ministry: France Henriques
Office Administrator: Emily Smith
Custodian: Matt Wilson
Church Office: 855-5771
Rev Scott Stuart's cell: 506-295-8089
Office e-mail: office@mountroyaluc.ca
Mount Royal website: www.mountroyaluc.ca
Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 2pm

Screen operators for the coming weeks:

Dec 4 Stephen **Dec 11** Tracy **Dec 18** Elizabeth **Dec 21** Tracy

Ushers for the coming weeks:

Dec 4 Eleanor & Ensor **Dec 11** Sandra & Gill

This Week's Events: Dec 5th – Dec 11th

Monday	9:30am	Tai Chi	Church Hall
	2:00pm	Sparks	Church Hall

	7:00pm	Worship Committee	Boardroom
Tuesday	10:00am	Craft Group	Church Hall
Wednesday	9:30am	Tai Chi	Church Hall
	12:00pm	Writer's Circle	Church Hall
	7:00pm	Choir	Sanctuary
Thursday	7:00pm	M&P Meeting	Boardroom
Friday	9:30am	Tai Chi	Church Hall

Announcements

Grocery Gift Cards - are available! Please contact the office to purchase. Thank you for supporting this important fundraiser.

Winter item collection during Advent - We are collecting items to donate to Ensemble. Each Sunday is a different item: Dec. 11 – Handwarmers, Dec. 18 – Socks. If you can't make it to the Sunday service; donations can be dropped off during regular office hours. *Together we can make a difference!*



Today is White Gift Sunday! – This year we are collecting gift cards and cash to brighten Christmas for children in our neighbourhood schools. *Thank you for your generosity.*

Christmas Carol Sing – During Advent, join us by 10:15am for Christmas carol singing before worship.

Memorial Tree Bulb Dedication - Care to light a bulb on the Memorial Tree to honour or say thanks to someone? Send your dedication to the office by Dec 7th. Suggested donation - \$5.00

Writer's Circle meet in the first Wed of the month from 12-2pm. Anyone interested in writing, or the writing process is invited and welcome to join. Participants share anything they are working on. Contact Joan at northward8@gmail.com for more details.

Food Donations - We are collecting non-perishable food items for the Alimentaire Peter McKee food bank the first Sunday of every month.