



# 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."

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**February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Seventh Sunday in Epiphany**

**Congregational responses in bold.**

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## *We Come Together*

**Prelude**

**Greeting**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**Land Acknowledgement:**

**Announcements**

**Call to Worship:**

One: Come and see, God's light is shining brightly.

**All: God's light shines in us:**

One: As we struggle in faith,

**All: God's light guides us.**

One: As we are encircled by joy,

**All: God's light enfolds us.**

One: As we forgive, where once we were forgiven,

**All: God's light shines through us.**

One: We are light for this world!

**All: As we live our faith, journey with Christ, and reflect God's love for this world, Amen.**

**Opening Prayer: (*unison*) God our refuge and wonder, we gather in this space to praise your name. As we worship this day, may your Spirit attend us and allow us; to lay aside our worries, our fears, our frustrations, and our anxieties. May we be fully present within our worship, as we sing of your goodness, and grow in our faith. Through the power of your**

**Spirit, allow us to seek your ways, walk in the footsteps of Christ, come before you with our whole heart, and to live as your faithful people. As you speak, help us to listen and then, to follow you in grace and in love. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

**Hymn:** "All Things Bright and Beautiful" **VU#291**

**Personal Prayer** "Send Your Holy Spirit" x2 **VU#370**  
*(concluded as we pray together the Lord's Prayer)*

**We Listen to the Word**

**Children's Time**

Children's Time Prayer: In faith and in light we gather, as children of God's grace, singing of your love, that guides us in this place. Allow your Spirit to leads us, allow our faith to grow, that we may ever be your light, your love for all to know. **Amen.**

**Hymn:** "Draw the Circle Wide" **MV#145**

**Prayer for Understanding** **Reader:** Joe Avery

**Scripture Reading: Psalm 37: 1-11, 39-40**

**One:** May the Word of God rest on your hearts this day.

**All: Thanks be to God, Amen.**

**Sermon** "Life's Waiting Room"

**Anthem** "Cover the World with Love"

**Prayers of the People**

**We Respond to the Word**

**Invitation to the Offering:** God provides abundantly for us and calls us to give generously to those in need. It is with humble and grateful hearts that we make our offering in thanksgiving for the blessings we have received. May our offering be accepted, and used with wisdom, that others may come to know the deep care and love you have for your people.

**Offertory Prayer** (*unison*) **God of abundant life, we give you thanks for your many gifts. Most of all thank you for the gift of faith which allows us to draw ever closer to you in all our joys and challenges. May these gifts be blessed and be used in ways that go beyond our imagination brings abundant life to those both near and far. In your precious name of Jesus, we pray, Amen.**

**Hymn:** "Take My Life and Let It Be" **VU#506**

**Blessing:** (*unison*) **Friends, go we forth now in faith.**

**Walking in the ways of Christ, strengthened by the Spirit, and held in the love of God. May each of us reflect God's life and light in our week ahead and embody the peace which only Christ can provide, Amen.**

**Extinguishing of the Christ Candle**

**Postlude**

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**Ministers:** The Gathered Community  
**Clergy:** The Rev. Scott Stuart, BA, MDiv.  
**Music Ministry:** France Henriques  
**Office Administrator:** Tracy Parrott  
**Custodian:** Wayne Surette  
**Church Office:** 855-5771  
**Kitchen Phone & Fax:** 855-7180  
**Rev Scott Stuart's cell:** 506-295-5918  
**Office e-mail:** [office@mountroyaluc.ca](mailto:office@mountroyaluc.ca)  
**Mount Royal website:** [www.mountroyaluc.ca](http://www.mountroyaluc.ca)  
**Office Hours:** (this week) Wednesday – Friday, 9am - 3pm

**Screen operators for the coming weeks:**

**Feb 20** Esther, **Feb 27** Esther, **Mar 2** (AW) Elizabeth, **Mar 6** Erik

**Sound/Prompter operators for the coming weeks:**

**Feb 20** Tracy, **Feb 27** Stephen, **Mar 2** (AW) Tracy, **Mar 6** Stephen

## This Week's Events

<b>Monday</b>	9:30am	<b>Tai Chi</b>	<b>Church Hall</b>
	6:30pm	<b>Cubs</b>	<b>Church Hall</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	9:00am	<b>Craft Group</b>	<b>Boardroom</b>
	1:00pm	<b>Art Club</b>	<b>Church Hall</b>
	6:30pm	<b>Beavers</b>	<b>Church Hall</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:30am	<b>Tai Chi</b>	<b>Church Hall</b>
	7:00pm	<b>Venturers</b>	<b>Church Hall</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	6:15pm	<b>Brownies</b>	<b>Church Hall</b>
<b>Friday</b>	9:30am	<b>Tai Chi</b>	<b>Church Hall</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	10-12pm	<b>Tai Chi</b>	<b>Church Hall</b>

**Council Highlights: BUSINESS ARISING:** the draft Terms of Reference for the newly formed Executive Committee were submitted. John Brown offered to fill the role of "other" member of council. **The Finance report** for the month of January, 2022 was presented by the treasurer which shows a deficit of (\$8,600) compared to (\$9,333) for the month of January last year. The treasurer also presented a summary of last year, 2021, ending with a deficit of (\$11,856). This was offset by the surplus carried forward from 2020. The full financial statements have been completed for the Annual Report. **The budget for 2022**, as prepared by the finance committee, was submitted for approval which shows a deficit of (\$24,600). This deficit is due to projected reduced fundraising and ending of the government wage subsidy. It is hoped that with the lifting of COVID restrictions we will be allowed additional fund raising and increased Sunday attendance will result in higher envelope givings for a lower deficit. This deficit will be offset by the surplus of \$29,100 carried forward from 2021.

**PROPERTY MAINTENANCE:** the heating issues have been dealt with. The energy audit is in the final draft stage. The committee will report back when it is received. **COMMUNICATION:** the FB page is up to 200 "likes". There have been good comments on the items posted. **ADHOC VISIONING COMMITTEE:** committee will meet in person on February 28. **SYSTEMS COMMITTEE:** the monitors in the sanctuary are showing their age and may need to be replaced at some point. **NOMINATIONS:** The key positions on council that remain open are: Vice chairman, Worship committee chair, Ministry & Personnel chair, Nominations chair. John Brown offered to act as interim chair of Ministry and Personnel until a replacement can be found. **UCW/CRAFT GROUP:** Craft Group met via hybrid meeting at the church, Teams and by phone. They are appreciating that fellowship. **FUNDRAISING/ TRUSTEES:** there is concern regarding the very low offerings this month. It was felt that it needs to be more inviting to folks to attend church in person. It was noted that grocery gift cards are not the only fundraiser in the church. They seem to get top billing but there are other initiatives such as Tai Chi, the memorial hymn sing and Christmas tree bulbs that also raise funds for the church. It was felt that those persons enjoying the on-line services should be asked to make a contribution to allow us to continue. This could be a slide in the announcements at the beginning of the service or a plug during virtual voices or a post on Facebook. It could also be as a sponsor for the announcements or as a dedication in memory of a loved one. **COVID related discussion:** In Level 1 of the winter plan singing with masks will be permitted. Children who are double-vaccinated will also be permitted but no BLAST program is available at this time. People would love to have coffee and conversation again and a target of April 24 was suggested to get people back to church. **NEW BUSINESS:** The Annual meeting is set for **Sunday, April 24** in person and by Teams or call in as requested.