

# Cochrane Street United Church

81 Cochrane Street ♦ St. John's, NL ♦ A1C 3L7



## December 1, 2019 The First Sunday of Advent

Minister: Rev. Miriam Bowlby, B.A. (Hons) M.Div. *(on sabbatical)*

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Eric Hillier

Minister of Music: Patricia Young

Director of Music: Evan Smith

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# Welcome to Cochrane Street United Church

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Whether you are here for the first time or this is your church home – welcome to our community of faith.

Following worship there is a time of fellowship.

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## USHERING TEAM FOR DECEMBER

Keith Bowden, David Boone, John Bowden,  
Eldred Butt, Harold Grandy

## THIS WEEK AT COCHRANE STREET DECEMBER 2 – DECEMBER 8

Tuesday: 6:30 PM Choir Practice Bannerman Street Entrance  
Thursday: 12:30 PM YOGA in sanctuary  
Sunday: 10:00 AM Choir Practice

### OFFICE

**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 10:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Wednesdays 10:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Thursdays 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Email: [info@cochranestreetuc.com](mailto:info@cochranestreetuc.com)

Phone: 709-722-3023

Website: [www.cochranestreetuc.com](http://www.cochranestreetuc.com)

Cochrane Centre Contact information for bookings  
709-754-2532 or [info@cochranecentre.ca](mailto:info@cochranecentre.ca)

## PASTORAL EMERGENCIES AND FUNERALS

While Rev. Miriam is on sabbatical, Rev. Bruce Kearley will be covering all pastoral emergencies and funerals.

You can reach him at (709) 739-9025

Like us on Facebook or Follow us on Twitter!

[www.facebook.com/Cochranestreetuc](http://www.facebook.com/Cochranestreetuc) and @CochraneStreet

# GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

\*please stand as you are able

Worship Leader: Rev. Scott Parsons

## PRELUDE:

### \*INTROIT:

#### **People, Look East**

**#9VU**

People, look east. The time is near  
of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able,  
trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look east and sing today:  
Love the guest is on the way.

## \*WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE:

Let our hospitality towards each other reflect God's love.  
The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

### REFLECTIVE MUSIC:

#### **Hope Is A Star (vs. 1)**

**#7VU**

Hope is a star that shines in the night,  
leading us on till the morning is bright.

When God is a child there's joy in our song.

The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,  
and none shall be afraid.

### \*ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING:

**Readers: Rev. Scott Parsons and Will Parsons**

Reader 1: We are a people of hope.

Reader 2: *Our hearts are full of anticipation for the coming of  
Jesus Christ, born anew into our world.*

Reader 1: For God is to be among us,

Reader 2: *and we will see a great light in the midst of our night.*

**All: For we are a people of hope.**

*The first (purple) candle is lit.*

**SUNG RESPONSE: A Candle is Burning (vs. 1)**

**#6VU**

A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,  
a candle of hope in December's dark night.  
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,  
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.

**\*PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

Loving God,  
As we enter this Advent season,  
Open our lives to the light of Jesus Christ.  
Show us the creative power of hope.  
Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,  
That we may walk in the light of Christ.  
This we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

**\*HYMN: COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS**

**#2VU**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Merciful God,  
always with us, always coming:  
we confess that we do not know  
how to prepare for your Advent.  
We have forgotten how to hope in miracles;  
we have ignored the promise of your Kingdom;  
we get distracted by all the busyness of this season.  
Forgive us, God.  
Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds,  
the intelligent courage of the Magi,  
and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph,  
that we may journey with them to Bethlehem,  
and find the Good News of a child born for us.  
Make us ready for your coming among us. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

The Good News of this Advent Season  
is the forgiveness of sin and the promise of new life.  
Our Advent God who comes among us,  
Sets us free to love and serve.

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

**\*HYMN: HAIL TO GOD'S OWN ANOINTED**

**#30VU**

## OFFERING INVITATION

## OFFERTORY VOLUNTARY

**\*OFFERTORY HYMN:      What Child Is This? (vs. 3)                      #74VU**

What child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet

while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

## OFFERTORY PRAYER:

**God of hope,**

**We wait in eager anticipation at the coming of your Son.**

**Accept all we offer to you this day,**

**may they be used for the building up of your Kingdom,**

**which is to come. Amen.**

## GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION:

**O God, who is Alpha and Omega,**

**As we await your coming and the fulfillment of your promises,**

**Grant us hope as we read your Word. Amen.**

### SCRIPTURE READING:    **ISAIAH 2:1-5**

The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

Reader: Carol Joyce

### RESPONSIVE PSALM:    **PSALM 122 (pg. 845VU)**

Reader: Faith Roberts Pike

### GOSPEL READING:        **MATTHEW 24:36-44**

The Word of the Lord – **Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM:** *Waiting, Wandering, Wondering, by Ruth Elaine Schram*

## SERMON:

**\*HYMN:**

**HARK THE GLAD SOUND!**

**#29VU**

# THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God, our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**Cantor: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

**#1VU**

*O come, o come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

God, most holy,  
we do give you thanks as we gather at Christ's table,  
as we remember your love, holy and whole,  
a love that has held us from the beginning of the beginning,  
and a love that will hold us for as long as time exists.

**Choir Men:**

*O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
who orders all things mightily,  
To us the paths of knowledge show,  
and teach us in her ways to go.*

**Choir All:** *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

We need your Wisdom, God.  
We need your guidance.  
We need your invitation – your calling –  
Your whispers and your shouts –  
Through the voices of prophets and priests,  
Grandmothers and grandfathers,  
Children and infants,  
All who listen and speak your love.

**Choir:** *O come, o come, great God of might,  
who to your tribes on Sinai's height,  
In ancient times once gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Because we didn't always listen –  
Because we don't always listen –  
You gave to us your Christ,  
Alive in the world!

**Women Choir:**

*O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem,  
from every foe deliver them  
That trust your mighty power to save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave.*

**Choir All:** *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.*

**All:** *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Wholly God and wholly human,  
A tiny baby, a teacher, a healer, a challenger, a Saviour,  
He laughed with those who laughed  
And cried with those who cried –  
But, most of all, he loved us with a love that never ever ends.  
A love that surpasses even death.  
A love that brings new life –  
Not only to us... but to all creation!  
Alleluia!

**All:** *O come, O Dayspring, from on high,  
and cheer us by your drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

On the night before he was taken to his death on a cross,  
Jesus gathered with his disciples ... he gathered with his friends.  
He shared with them a meal of remembrance and freedom.  
After an act of utmost humility and hospitality – washing their feet –  
He blessed the bread and broke it, saying,

“Take this and eat it.  
This is my body, given for you.  
Each time you eat bread, remember me!”  
As the meal drew to a close, he blessed a cup of wine and passed it  
to them, saying,

“Take this and drink it.  
This is my promise in my life's blood  
that sins are forgiven.  
Each time you drink, remember me!”

So we eat, we drink, and we remember!  
Holy God, send your Spirit upon us, and upon these gifts,  
That they – and we – might truly be Christ's body –  
Alive in the world!  
Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ,  
In the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
All glory is yours, God most holy,  
Now and forever. **Amen.**

**All: O come, Desire of nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind;  
O bid our sad divisions cease,  
and be for us the Prince of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

We gather these and all of our prayers, O God, in the name of your  
Son, Jesus Christ, the One who is coming, who has taught us to pray  
together this prayer, saying:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy Kingdom Come, Thy will be done on earth as it is 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, and the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Cantor:**

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

The body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God for the bread of life.**

The blood of Christ.

**Thanks be to God for the cup of blessing.**

Friends, these are the gifts of God for the people of God.  
Come, for all things are now ready.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:**

**With this taste of the Bread of Life,  
With this taste of the Cup of Love,  
Send us into the world, God –  
So that we might whisper your coming,  
So that we might sing your Advent,  
So that we might live your birth,  
Now and forever. Amen.**

## GOING FORTH TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

\*HYMN:

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

#55VU

### PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE

Holy God, Dreamer of dreams,

We offer Cochrane Street United Church to you. We are your people, this is your church. We come to you seeking your guidance, your purpose, your vision. Align our will with yours, so that we will be willing to do whatever it takes to carry out your plan. We ask you to break through in new ways in our church. Show us the great ministry you have in store for us. Help us dream your dreams. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, giving us the vision, boldness, and confidence to do all that you call us to do. Amen.

### COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION: O Ancient Love

#17VU

O ancient love, processing through the ages;

O hidden love, revealed in human form;

O promised love, the dream of seers and sages:

O living Love, within our hearts be born,

O living Love, within our hearts be borne.

### POSTLUDE

## MEMORIALS

*From Jerry Riche:*

*In Memory of my brother, Dennis Riche,  
who was a member of your congregation.*

*In Loving Memory of Mother and Father,  
Irene and Walter Tucker, from daughters  
Linda Facey and Marilyn Pardy and Families.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Announcements:** If you wish to have an announcement included in the bulletin, please have it into the office by Wednesday at noon.

**NO SCENTS MAKES GOOD SENSE!** A friendly reminder that members of our congregation are sensitive to scented products. Thank you for helping create a safe environment in which we can all fully participate.

**OUR CHRISTMAS MAILOUT** is ready for pick up, located at the back of the pews. Please help us save on delivery costs by bringing envelopes to those who live in your neighbourhood. Your help is very much appreciated!

### NOVEMBER – DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DEC 1	(11:00 am)	–	Rev. Scott Parsons (Communion)
DEC 8	(11:00 am)	–	Rev. Heather Sandford (White Gift Service)
DEC 15	(11:00 am)	–	Oliver Dingwell
DEC 22	(11:00 am)	–	Oliver Dingwell (Lessons & Carols)
DEC 24	( 7:00 pm)	–	Oliver Dingwell (Family Service)
DEC 24	( 9:00 pm)	–	Oliver Dingwell, Rev. Karen Thorne (Communion Service)
DEC 29	(11:00 am)	–	Paula & Tim Reynolds (Christmas Fables & Hymns)



**SOUP Take-out & Bake Sale:** UCW will have a soup take-out and bake sale on Sunday, December 1, after church service. Soup and roll for \$5.00!

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Thursday, December 5	–	Yoga Flow, Cochrane Street UC (sanctuary), 12:30pm
Thursday, December 5	–	Cochrane Centre Annual General Meeting, 7:30pm <i>Community Room</i>
Monday, December 16	–	Beer & Hymns, Bridie Molloy's (7:00pm)

**Cochrane Centre Annual General Meeting:** Please mark your calendars for the Cochrane Centre AGM to be held on Thursday, December 5th at 7:30 pm. The meeting will take place in the Cochrane Centre community room.

**CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS:** Just a friendly reminder that Christmas memorials need to be received by the office by December 18.

**WHITE GIFT Service December 8:** The Sunday School Children will be leading the worship service for White Gift Sunday. During the service there will be a White Gift Offering of non-perishable food or financial donations for Bridges To Hope. If you provide a financial donation, please place it in an envelope and title the envelope as "Bridges To Hope Donation" then place the envelope in the collection plate. Thanks for your generosity which helps others and does important work in our community.

**CHRISTMAS MESSY CHURCH:** Council is attempting to hold a Christmas Messy church event for Saturday, **December 21**, at 4pm for the children of our church. To make this happen, we need volunteers to set up the space, do the gift bags for the kids from Santa, volunteers to cook and volunteers to clean up. If you wish to volunteer to make this event a festive time for the children of the church, please contact the church office (722-3023, [info@cochranestreetuc.com](mailto:info@cochranestreetuc.com)) or contact Stephen Jewczyk, congregation chair, at [sjewczyk@gmail.com](mailto:sjewczyk@gmail.com).

**BEER & HYMNS:** The next Beer and Hymns is Monday, **December 16**, at Bridie Molloys, 7pm. Bring a friend and sing some Christmas hymns!!

**COFFEE TIME HOSTS:** We urgently require volunteers to serve coffee after Church, in order to give a break to the few people who have done it for a long time. There is a list by the entrance to the community hall where you can enter your name for a specific Sunday. Your help is very much appreciated!

**GRIEVING: COPING WITH THE HOLIDAYS (for St. John's Region):** Eastern Health's Pastoral Care, Ethics and Bereavement Services Department invites you to one of the "Grieving: Coping with the Holidays" sessions on Monday, **December 2**. This event is designed to provide people who are spending their first couple of holiday seasons without a loved one with helpful information and suggestions. The afternoon session is from 2:00-3:30pm and the evening session is from 7:00-8:30pm. Location: Health Sciences Auditorium, St. John's.

**RECYCLABLES:** Drop off your recyclables at any Green Depot and use the Cochrane Street Code (our phone number) 7223023. Your empty containers will support the ministries of our congregation! Can't get your recyclables to the depot? **Call the church office and we will arrange to pick them up.** Thank you in advance for your help.

**ENVELOPES:** Do you need envelopes? If so, please contact Harold Grandy. Email: [hgrandy@nf.sympatico.ca](mailto:hgrandy@nf.sympatico.ca).

**ZATOUN OLIVE OIL** – The Church Council is again offering Zatoun Olive Oil for \$20 a bottle. If you wish to purchase this oil, please contact the church office at 722-3023 or [info@cochranestreetuc.com](mailto:info@cochranestreetuc.com).

Please join us at First United Church Mount Pearl on Sunday, December 1, at 7pm, for our annual **UCW Christmas Lights Service**. All are welcome!

**Hope for the Holidays – Christmas with The Salvation Army:** Show time, Saturday, December 14, 7 PM. The Salvation Army is excited to announce its second annual Christmas concert featuring NewFound Brass, The Salvation Army Festive Chorus and several performances by our Guest Star, Darrin Martin. Enjoy the sounds of the season in the comfortable surrounds of St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church, 1 Cornwall Crescent, St. John's! Tickets are \$ 25 and can be purchased at [holyhearttheatre.com](http://holyhearttheatre.com) or call the box office at 579-4424. Also available at The Salvation Army NL Division Office, Village Mall.

**The United Church Bookstore** (320 Elizabeth Ave) will hold its annual sale from December 3–5, 8:30am–4:30pm. Get that gift for a special someone. 20% off on most gift items. We will have a sale room this year with lots of great gifts to choose from – starting at 50% off! Refreshments will be served.

**The Avalon Chapter of MADD** (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) will be holding a Candlelight Vigil in the sanctuary of the Wesley United Church on Wednesday, December 4, beginning at 7 PM. This solemn and soulful vigil allows individuals who have been affected by impaired driving to come together for support and to remember loved ones. The vigil features readings, images and music. Those sharing music this year include Grace Dunsmore (flute), Matthew Cooper (tenor) and David Chafe (piano). All are invited to attend.

**Händel's Messiah:** A Christmas tradition; the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Marc David, together with the Philharmonic Choir of the NSO presents Händel's Messiah - set in the historic and captivating Basilica and presented by Cox & Palmer. The Messiah takes place at 8PM on Friday, December 6, 2019 and Saturday, December 7, 2019 at the Basilica of St. John the Baptist. Tickets are available at the ACC Box Office (729-3900), online at [artsandculturecentre.com](http://artsandculturecentre.com) and at the door.

**Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS):** This year on May 25 the Gray family of the South Brook area lost their family home and all their personal belongings to a fire. Because of their location is outside of the community, they were unable to acquire fire insurance. You can learn more about the fire by clicking on the links: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/family-home-fire-rodney-gray-1.5150907>

Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) has been active in helping the Grays rebuild their house. While things are progressing we are desperately in need of more volunteers in order to have the Gray's home finished before the weather gets any worse. We have accommodations available for anyone coming from across the province help us rebuild the Gray's home. Interested volunteers can call Rodney Gray directly at 709-572-1589 or Daniel A Garland at 709-381-1113, Cell 709-381-9950, or [danielgarland@live.ca](mailto:danielgarland@live.ca).

## NOTES FROM THE ARCHIVES

The report for the Sunday School for 1943 reported that 52 sessions of the school were held during the year. The membership of the school was 230 students with an additional 204 Cradle Roll members. The amount raised during the year was \$1,200 for the School, \$381 for Missionary and Maintenance Fund, and \$50 from the School's Thanksgiving session.