

Port Wallis United Church

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Minister: *The Rev. Ivan Gregan*, BA, MDiv. Assisting Min: *The Rev. Blake Caldwell*, BTh.

Secretary: *Cheryl Settle* Custodian: *Judy Zinck* Student Minister: *Tamsin Michael Robson*

Musician: *Adam Johnson*, BA, M.Mus., Mus.Ed.

* Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος * In the beginning was the Word * Au commencement était la Parole * An toiseach bha am Focal * Al principio, c'era colui che è "la Parola

Second Sunday of Christmas

02 January 2022

**Port Wallis United Church
is an open Congregation
that affirms you as a child of God,
made in God's Image,
and loved by God.**

WORDS OF WELCOME / BIENVENUE / FAILTE / PJILA'DIK

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND

We acknowledge that we are meeting in Mi'kma'ki,
the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People.

LIGHTING OF A CHRIST CANDLE *(for use at home and together on Sunday morning)*

You, O God, are light shining in the darkness of the universe,
guiding us onward from what was to what can be.
Your Light from heaven shines out to us in Jesus Christ our Lord.
May this candle, whether lit or unlit,
remind me of your presence and bring me comfort in every day.
In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

A new day, a new week, a new year
Today is a new beginning!
A new chance, a new start, a new life,
Today is a new beginning!
New thoughts, new actions, new ministries,
Today is a new beginning!
God is calling us to start again!
Let us worship God.

GATHERING MUSIC *(tune at # 35 in Voices United)*

Good Christian friends, rejoice! With heart and soul and voice!
Give ye head to what we say, News! News! Jesus Christ is born today!
He has opened heaven's door and we are blessed forever more!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!!!

PRAYER OF APPROACH and the LORD'S PRAYER

Dieu de l'univers, présente pour nous en Jésus-Christ notre Seigneur,
You have called us forth on a journey into the unknown,
 Like those who have travelled through the uncharted territories of the past,
give us courage to face new challenges
and bravely go where no one has gone before.
 Like those who have known the uncertainties of what lies ahead,
give us the confidence to know that You are travelling with us.
 As You taught us, we are bold to pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father..... Notre Père..... Ar n-Athair.... 주님의 기도 Fader vår....
Ons Vader.... Onze Vader... Vater unser... Padre Nostro... Padre nuestro...
主の祈り 主禱文 أبانا Isä meidän Πάτερ ἡμῶν Baba yetu

HYMN # 89 (VU) FROM A DISTANT HOME

From a distant home the Savior we come seeking,
 using as our guide the star so brightly beaming.

Lovely eastern star that tells us of God's morning,
heaven's wondrous light, O never cease thy shining!
Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven,
and upon the earth be peace and love to all.

Glowing gold I bring the new-born babe so holy,
 token of his power to reign above in glory.

Lovely eastern star that tells us of God's morning,
heaven's wondrous light, O never cease thy shining!
Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven,
and upon the earth be peace and love to all.

Frankincense I bring the child of God's own choosing,
 token of our prayers to heaven ever rising.

Lovely eastern star that tells us of God's morning,
heaven's wondrous light, O never cease thy shining!
Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven,
and upon the earth be peace and love to all.

Bitter myrrh have I to give the infant Jesus,
 token of the pain that he will bear to save us.

Lovely eastern star that tells us of God's morning,
heaven's wondrous light, O never cease thy shining!
Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven,
and upon the earth be peace and love to all.

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

As we begin a new year, let us confess our past sins to God and pray for a new beginning.

**Eternal God, who knows all and still loves all,
We confess the times we have dismissed your call,
we confess that we have let discouragement make decisions for us,
we have let exhaustion become inaction,
and we have let disease become our excuse.
Set us free to see the world in a new light,
to perceive your call as an opportunity
and to set a new course for a better world – envisioned in Christ our Lord.**

Hear now our silent confession that we make in the Presence of Jesus Christ our Lord.

SILENT CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 2: 1 – 12

A TEACHING TIME (*a time of learning for younger folk*)

TEACHING PRAYER

In peace, dear God, I come to You through Jesus Christ who makes me new
And while I run or play or rest, be with those whom I love best,
Guide me in your Holy Way, as You walk with me each day, AMEN.

HYMN # 46 (VU) GENTLE MARY LAID HER CHILD

Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;
there he lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger.
Such a Babe in such a place, can he be the Saviour?
Ask the saved of all the race who have found his favour.

Angels sang about his birth, wise Men sought and found him;
heaven's star shone brightly forth, glory all around him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, heard the angels singing;
all the plains were lit that night, all the hills were ringing.

Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;
he is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth, beautiful the story;
praise his name in all the earth; hail the King of glory!

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REFLECTION

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We are not alone. We live in God's world.

We believe in God:

Who has created and is creating,

Who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,

To reconcile and make new;

Who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church;

To celebrate God's Presence,

To live with respect in creation,

To love and serve others,

To seek justice and resist evil,

To proclaim Jesus,

Crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Almighty and ever-present God, You have given your Son to this world, incarnated in the flesh of humanity and born with the breath of your Spirit, we offer to Christ our gifts,

both visible and invisible,

and use them and us

for Your Glory and the good of all people.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN # 76 (VU) SEE AMID THE WINTER'S SNOW

See amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below,

see, the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.

**Hail, thou ever-blessed morn; hail, redemption's happy dawn;
sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

Lo, within a stable lies God who built the starry skies,

who enthroned in height sublime sits amid the cherubim.

**Hail, thou ever-blessed morn; hail, redemption's happy dawn;
sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

Say, ye humble shepherds, say what your joyful news today;

wherefore have ye left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep?

**Hail, thou ever-blessed morn; hail, redemption's happy dawn;
sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

"As we watched at dead of night, lo, we saw a wondrous light;
angels singing 'Peace on earth' told us of a Saviour's birth."

**Hail, thou ever-blessed morn; hail, redemption's happy dawn;
sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

Sacred infant, all divine, what a mighty love was thine,
thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this!

**Hail, thou ever-blessed morn; hail, redemption's happy dawn;
sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

PARTING PRAYER *(in unison)*

Bless to us, O God, this day,

The doors we open, the thresholds we cross, and all the roads that lie before us.

Go with us always as we go, and, at the close of our day, welcome us home.

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLE

*We are reminded that the Light of Christ is not in candles nor institutions
but within each of us. We are the Light of the World*

EXCHANGING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Mention someone's name and hold them in your heart.

HYMN # 43 (VU) GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Saviour's birth

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent our salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

COMMISSIONING and BENEDICTION

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We will continue with the Virtual service option using the same links and registration process
as we have in place now. Register at www.portwallisunitedchurch.ca/virtual.