

This bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of
Roma Paul, a cherished mother,
November 30, 1938 – April 7, 2013
 from Nancy and Anthony;
 and in loving memory of
Murley Bursey, 1927 – 2012,
 ever remembered by Shirley and their children,
 Carolyn, Sherry, Joanne, Paul, Barry and their families.

St. James United Church

November 30th, 2014/First Sunday in Advent, Hope

Minister: Rev. Terrie Burry
 Minister of Visitation: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
 Minister of Youth/Christian Education: Susan Sheppard, DLM
 Choir: Senior
 Choir Directors: Amy Dalziel, Sophia WerdenAbrams
 Organists: Amy Dalziel, Sophia WerdenAbrams

Please remain seated comfortably until invited to stand.

Please turn off your cell phone during the Service.

Prelude

Welcome and Life and Work of St. James



Introit: *Hope Shines as the Solitary Star*

Choir

Call to Worship: (responsive)

One: The joy of God is all around us,

All: often in the midst of unexpected places.

One: In this time of stress and expectations, may we be surprised

All: as the true wonder of this season is revealed to us.

One: The joy of God is all around us.

Opening Prayer: (together) Holy One, in this season, bakings, cards and special music are family traditions that take us into our past. News of the day and the illness of an old friend make us wonder what the future holds. In this busy season, still us and help us to be present: present to the world's wonder and hunger; present to the needs of neighbors and friends; present to our own cries of pain and of joy. Go with us to Bethlehem to do our civic duty. Come with us to a crowded inn where some are turned away. Be with us as we gaze on a manger full of hope and new life. Amen.

Hymn: *Hope Is a Star*

7

Celebrating Relationships: Circle Song, Passing the Peace & Children's Time

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: The Candle of Hope

One: Today we light the candle of Hope. This is the Hope we search for: Hope found in times of a new beginning,

All: Hope for the coming of Jesus is clearly ahead of us,

One: Hope reflected in the smiles on our faces as we prepare and anticipate Celebration,

All: Hope found in a time for thinking things over,

One: Hope woven as we plan our Christmas carefully, Hope found in the coming of Jesus, Hope calling us to give generously and share freely.

[Candle of Hope is lit]

One: This is the candle of hope, hope for which we search. In its glow, the powerless, the downhearted, and the poor will take courage.

All: And we will take courage, too. Amen.

Hymn: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

1

Invitation to the Offering & Minute for Mission

Offering

Offertory Hymn: *In the Bleak Midwinter*

55

Offertory Prayer: (together)

O come to us, Emmanuel, and make our giving holy. For what is here is given freely, with hope and joy and love; let our small gifts join with others so that our world may become your dream of peace. Amen.

Scripture: Isaiah 64: 1-9

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 80, part 1

794

Hymn : *I Am the Dream*

MV106

The choir sings verses 1 & 3 followed by everyone singing all 3 verses.

Gospel: Mark 13 : 24-37

Anthem: *Good Christian Men, Rejoice!*

Choir

Sermon

Prayers of Thanksgiving & Concern

Closing Hymn: *People Look East*

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Blessing & Sending Forth

Choir Postlude: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, vs. 7*