

Selby | Empey Hill
Pastoral Charge



December 03, 2017

Selby Pastoral Charge

The United Church of Canada at Selby & Empey Hill
Advent 1 - December 3rd, 2017

Minister: Rev. Mike Putnam
Selby Supply Music Leader: Martha Henderson
Empey Hill Music Leader: Marg Winter

We Gather Together

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GATHERING SONG: 10,000 REASONS

Lighting of the Advent Candle -
The Cammaart Family

HYMN: VU#6 A CANDLE IS BURNING (Verse 1)

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: (Responsive)

Advent is a season of waiting.

But we do not wait alone.

God is with us.

**We gather with those who have seen the signs,
heard the whispers, felt the tugs in their hearts.**

God is birthing Hope into this waiting world.

Let us worship with hearts open to Hope.

Opening Prayer: (Unison)

**We enter, O God, into this season of preparation
and waiting, longing to skip ahead and celebrate
the coming of your light into our darkness—but**

**you would have us first slow down, breathe
deeply, and prepare ourselves to receive your
gift. We know that your Holy Spirit comes in
powerful and unexpected ways and so we pray
we might recognize you moving in and through
the season. In Christ's name we pray in hope.
Amen.**

HYMN FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART: THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

Theme Time with the Kids

Prayer of Confession

**Persistent God, sometimes it seems that the
stories of our faith have lost their power in our
lives. We have heard them so many times
before, that we head into this season as if it is
all "business as usual." We have replaced the
messages of life with all the empty promises of
a material kind of Christmas. Bring us back to
the sense of mystery, awe, wonder, excitement,
anticipation, and a belief that something special
is about to break into our everyday world. Help
us prepare our hearts, souls, and minds for the
coming of the Messiah. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

**GREAT HYMN OF THE FAITH: CSS#256 – IT IS
WELL WITH MY SOUL**

The Word Among Us

Our Sacred Scripture:

Isaiah 64:1-9

Sermon: "Hide and Seek God"

Music for Reflection

**THEME HYMN: VU#1 - O COME, O COME
EMANUEL (VS. 1, 3, 5, 7)**

We Respond to God's Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offering Hymn (VU#55)

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him – give my heart.**

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

CLOSING HYMN: MV#88 – OVER MY HEAD

Benediction

Selby Pastoral Charge

Mike Putnam, Minister

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Secretary

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Birthdays

We extend happy birthday wishes to the following people, who have or are celebrating birthdays:

Jim Donovan- December 07th

Emily Chadwick – December 08th

Happy birthday to you! Happy birthday to you
May God's richest blessings abide upon you.



Office Hours

Rev. Mike will be in the office Tuesday to Friday 9:30-11:30 this week. He will be out visiting and attending meetings most afternoons. If you or someone you know would appreciate a visit please contact him directly (613-539-9324).

Upcoming Worship Services

December 10 – Second Sunday of Advent

December 17 – Third Sunday of Advent

December 24 – Fourth Sunday of Advent and Family Service (Joint Service at Selby) – 10:00 am

December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
7:30pm

Have you considered PAR?

If you are a regular giver to the church, have you considered PAR? PAR stands for "Pre-Authorized Remittance" and it is a way to give your offering once a month without cheques or cash. If you pay any of your bills directly from your bank account you already know how PAR works. We started PAR two years ago, and more and more are joining! It has had a positive effect on our financial stability over the whole year.

Please consider giving by PAR. Brochures are available at the back of the church with more information as well as a form to be completed and submitted to the envelope secretary by placing the completed form on the offering plate. You can also speak to Rev. Mike or Lorraine Martin for more information.

Are you willing to serve?

Our ministry to our kids is the most important work of the church today. We are truly blessed to have so many gifted and able people who participate in this ministry in various ways. But, from time to time we need to call new people to join that ministry. Are you willing and able?

Cornerstone meets each Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. We sing songs, play games and have a "discovery time." Currently we have five very dedicated leaders – but sometimes one of us needs to be away and we run shorthanded. Would you be willing to be an "on-call" leader to help us when someone needs to be away? One of our leaders will be away for a month in Jan/Feb. Would you consider filling in?

The Rock is our Sunday morning kids program. Each week we have a teacher for the younger group (Grades JK-3) and the older group (Grades 4-6). Tricia Cammaart creates a schedule so teachers should only need to teach once a month or less. An excellent curriculum is provided, which makes planning lessons fun and straight forward. Would you be willing to join our amazing team of teachers?

Where would we be without people who feel God's nudge for them to get involved and give of themselves to serve others. Please consider how you can help. If you have any questions please speak to Rev. Mike or Ed McCaig for Cornerstone or Tricia Cammart or Rev. Mike for The Rock.

Christmas Study Group - December 05th

A remarkable gift can arrive in an unremarkable package. One did in Bethlehem more than 2,000 years ago. No one expected God to come the way he did. Yet the way he came was every bit as important as the coming itself. The manger is the message. In this four-session video Bible study, Max Lucado explores how the One who made everything chose to make himself nothing for us. Because of Bethlehem, we no longer have marks on our record ... just grace. We have the promise that God is always near us, always for us, always within us—and that we have a friend and Savior in heaven. Long after the guests have left, the carolers have gone home, and the lights have come down, these promises endure.

Mitten Tree

At both churches, there is a 'mitten' tree. We will be collecting mitts, toques, scarves, warm socks over the next three weeks. The items will then be donated to local charities. Lets cover the trees!!!

Gifts With Vision

There are booklets at the back of each church entitled 'Gifts with Vision'. This is an additional way to support the work of the United Church of Canada's Mission and Service partners in Canada, Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean and the Middle East. Please take a booklet if you are interested.

SELBY

U.C.W.

Will meet on Thursday, December 07th at 7:30 pm. Jane Hughes has the worship and Carolyn Pringle has the program. The roll call is bring a white gift and bring your favourite Christmas ornament for show. Everyone to bring a small plate of goodies to share for lunch. The Nominating Committee report is also due at this meeting.

Christmas Puddings & Gift Baskets

There are still a very few Christmas puddings and gift baskets left (baskets are on display downstairs). If you are interested please see Lorraine Martin.

Poinsettias

The poinsettias at the front of the church are placed there by:

Betty and Bruce O'Brien in loving memory of their parents **Dorothy and Albert O'Brien** and **Isabelle and Russell Saunders** and their sons, **Russell and Eric O'Brien**

Lois Thomlison & family in loving memory of our husband, father and grandfather **Doug Thomlison;** son, brother and uncle **Alan Thomlison;** daughter, sister and aunt **Helen Thomlison**

Bonnie, Steve, Joanne, John, Tammy, Ethan, Brooklyn, Kelly, Vince, Michaela in loving memory of husband, father and grandfather **David Winter**

Mildred Milligan and family in loving memory of husband, father and grandfather **Albert Milligan**

Glenda, Jason, Shelley, Andrew, Ashley, Addyson, Tricia, Jeff, Owen, Gabby and Foster in loving memory of husband, father and grandfather **Carl Hudgins**
Lorne and Donna Jackson in loving memory of their grandson **Owen Kevin Jackson** and their parents **Ronald Lakins**, and **Homer and Mary Jackson**

Barb Brookfield and family in loving memory of husband, father and grandfather **Wray Brookfield**

Margaret, Kim, Tammy and families in loving memory of husband, father and grandfather **Dean Nugent**

Clarke and Lorraine Martin in loving memory of **their parents**

Douglas & Shirley, Gary and Susan, Margaret and families in loving memory of our father & Mother **Dorland & Bernice Jackson** and their sister **Marilyn Weese**

Barbara and Doug McConnell in loving memory of their parents: **Fred & Birdie McConnell and Harold and Bernice Bell**

SMILE

My husband and I purchased an old home in Northern New York State from two elderly sisters.

Winter was fast approaching and I was concerned about the house's lack of insulation. "If they could live here all those years, so can we!" my husband confidently declared.

One November night the temperature plunged to below zero, and we woke up to find interior walls covered with frost.

My husband called the sisters to ask how they had kept the house warm. After a rather brief conversation, he hung up. "For the past 30 years," he muttered, "they've gone to Florida for the winter."

Our Mission Statement

Our purpose is to come together as a community to worship and celebrate our faith in God, as seen in Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. In the future we will grow and change, but keep our core value of faith and our commitment to supporting each other, the wider community and providing opportunities for people of all ages to learn and engage in Christian fellowship.