

*Selby | Empey Hill
Pastoral Charge*



December 17, 2017

Selby Pastoral Charge

The United Church of Canada at Selby & Empey Hill
Advent 3 – December 17th, 2017

Minister: Rev. Mike Putnam
Selby Supply Music Leader: Eric Munday
Empey Hill Music Leader: Marg Winter

We Gather Together

GATHERING SONG: HERE I AM TO WORSHIP

Lighting the Advent Candle

HYMN: VU#6 A CANDLE IS BURNING (Verse 3)

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive)

We gather to worship with expectations.

In worship, God comes to us in real time.

Sometimes God's presence is hard to take in –
difficult to perceive.

Oh God, we long to perceive you.

God is present here.

**Then let us praise God and let our hearts be
filled with joy!**

Opening Prayer (Unison)

**Holy God of Advent, the world in which we live
is as terrifying as it is wonderful. We need Jesus
as much today as in times of old. Many sow in
tears, and go out weeping. Replenish our lands,
fill our hearts with gladness, restore our faith in
you and each other, and wipe away the tears of
despair. As we worship today, we wait to hear
your messenger, the voice of the one calling in
the wilderness. Speak to us today. Amen.**

Solo: "Mary Did You Know?"

HYMN FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART: OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART, LORD

Theme Time with the Kids

Prayer of Confession

**God of hope, peace and joy, we confess that we
have not been people who are quick to pray.
Help us to remember that you are always ready
to hear and respond to all our prayers. Remind
us that even though we have often failed to
witness to your love and live as people of
compassion and faith, you love us
unconditionally. Forgive our stubbornness and
willfulness. Cleanse our souls and spirits and
make us truly ready to receive your light. In
Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

GREAT HYMN OF THE FAITH: CSS #84 – TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS

Word Among Us

Our Sacred Scripture:

John 1:6-14, 19-28

Sermon: "Expecting Christmas"

Music for Reflection

**THEME HYMN: VU#1 – O COME, O COME,
EMMANUEL (Verses 2, 4, 6 and 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: VU#43 - GO TELL IT ON A
MOUNTAIN**

Benediction

Choral Blessing (MV#33)

**Jesus came bringing us joy, Jesus came bringing
us joy, Jesus came bringing us joy, hallelujah
for ever more!**

**Go out sharing Christ's joy, Go our sharing
Christ's joy, Go out sharing Christ's joy,
hallelujah for ever more!**

Selby Pastoral Charge

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Birthdays

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

Paige Keirstead– December 21st



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

December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service -7:30pm (At Empey Hill Church)

December 31 – Wassail Service – 10:30 am – Empey Hill (No service at Selby this Sunday). Bring some leftover Christmas treats to share.

Mary Stafford's 90th Birthday

You are invited to join with friends and family to celebrate Mary's 90th Birthday at the Lonsdale Women's Institute Hall, this afternoon (1:00 pm – 4:00pm).

Christmas Candlelight Service

Trinity United Church in Napanee is holding a Christmas Service this afternoon at 4:00 pm. This will be a evening of seasonal song celebrations around the Christmas story. Free will offering for Morning Star Mission and Trinity's Music Ministry.

EMPEY HILL**Pointsettias**

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

Helen McRae and her family Lois & John McGrath and Linda & Wayne Garrison in loving memory of husband and father **Alvin McRae**.

Audrey McRae in loving memory of her husband **Claude McRae**.

Ed Fuller in loving memory of his wife **Shirley Fuller**.

David and Linda Stapley in loving memory of their parents **Roy and Betty Stapley** and **George and Winnefred and Helen Marshall**.

SELBY**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.

Food Bank

Items for the food bank are collected each Sunday. Please leave them at the back of the church. This is a busy time of year for the food banks and donations are greatly appreciated.

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**

Brian Hudgin in loving memory of his parents **Ralph and Mary Hudgins**

Margaret Martin in loving memory of her husband **Glen Martin** and her daughter **Cindy Huntley**

Jane Hughes in loving memory of her parents **Aubrey and Iva Asselstine** and her sister **Judy Jarmin**

John and Linda Williams and family in loving memory of their parents/grandparents **Stan and Florence Williams** and **Claude and Helen Martin.**

Byron and Fern Perry and family in loving memory of their parents **Alice and Wilfred Winter** and brother **David Winter**

Dean and Joan Dickerson in loving memory of their **family members**

SMILE

Lee, a seven-year-old boy, was asked to say thanks for the Christmas dinner. The family members bowed their heads in expectation.

Lee began his prayer, thanking God for his Mommy, Daddy, brothers, sister, Grandma, and all his aunts and uncles.

Then he began to thank God for the food. He gave thanks for the turkey, the stuffing, the Christmas pudding, even the cranberry sauce. Then Lee paused, and everyone waited ... and waited.

After a long silence, the young fellow looked up at his mother and asked, "If I thank God for the Brussels sprouts, won't he know that I'm lying?"

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.