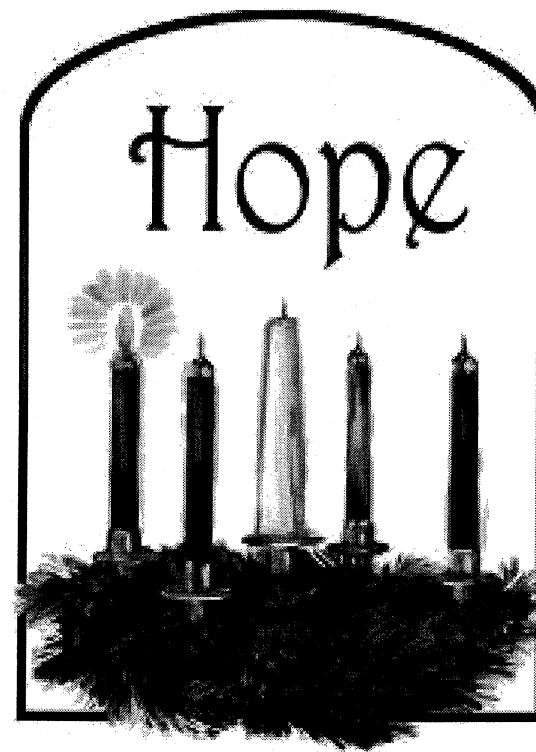


Selby / Empey Hill

Pastoral Charge



December 02, 2018

Selby Pastoral Charge
The United Church of Canada at Selby & Empey Hill
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 2nd, 2018

Minister: Rev. Mike Putnam
Selby Music Leader: Andrea Putnam
Empey Hill Music Leader: Marg Winter

We Gather Together

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**GATHERING SONG: LUYH#567 – HERE I AM TO
WORSHIP**

Lighting of the Advent Candle - The McConnell
Family (Selby) & The Russett Family (Empey Hill)

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

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsively)

Lift up your hearts, people of God, for the Lord has
looked favorably upon us and is sending us his be-
loved son.

**He is raising up for us a mighty savior in the
house of his servant David.**

God is showing the mercy promised to our ancestors
and has remembered his promises.

**We come before the Lord today, following John
the Baptist, to prepare the way of the Lord!**

Come, let us worship God and listen to the voice cry-
ing out in the wilderness.

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. Help us to recognize you moving in and through this season of anticipation. In Christ’s name we pray in hope. Amen.

Choir Anthem: “A Time For Advent”

A HYMN FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART: COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS

Theme Time with the Kids

Prayer of Confession

Redeeming 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#163 – NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD

The Word Among Us

Our Sacred Scripture:

Luke 1:57-80

Sermon: “Christmas Playlist” – “Zachariah’s Song”

Music for Reflection

THEME HYMN: VU#64 – O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

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.**

Prayer of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

CLOSING HYMN: PUT YOUR HAND IN THE HAND

Benediction

GOING OUT SONG (VU#958)

**Halle, halle, halle-lujah!
Halle, halle, halle-lujah!
Halle, halle, halle-lujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah**

Selby Pastoral Charge

Mike Putnam, Minister Jane Hughes, Secretary

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Announcements

We extended happy birthday wishes to the following people who are celebrating in the upcoming week:

Jim Donovan – December 07th
Emily Chadwick – December 08th

BIRTHDAY
wishes

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 am to 11:30 am. Please feel free to call, drop in or make an appointment. He can be reached on his cell phone at 613-539-9324. His email is pastor.mike.putnam@gmail.com.

Upcoming Services:

December 21st – Longest Night Service at Newburgh United Church. 7:00pm.

December 23rd – Christmas Pageant Service 10:30 am at Selby (No service at Empey Hill this Sunday).

December 24th – Christmas Eve Service 7:30 pm at Empey Hill United Church.

December 30th – Wassail Service 10:30 am at Empey Hill (No Service at Selby this Sunday) (Rev. Frank Hamper leading worship this Sunday).

January 7th – Communion Sunday – 9:45 am at Selby and 11:15 at Empey Hill.

Longest Night Service – December 21st

For many the Christmas season is especially challenging. If you are experiencing a time of grief, depression or loss, all the holiday hubbub can be particularly stressful. The Longest night service is quiet and contemplative service just for you. You will be invited to light a candle, to listen to some gentle music and to be enfolded in prayer. 7:00 pm at Newburgh United Church – Rev. Mike officiating.

Scottish Saints & Sights Tour

14 day tour starting July 25, 2019. For those of you with an interest in Celtic things, there are stops at Iona, Holy Island, Ladykirk Church, Culloden Moor, Glen Coe, Glasgow and many more, attending the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo on Day 12.

Price includes return airfare from Toronto, deluxe motorcoach transportation, Toronto airport transfers, 12 nights accommodation, 12 breakfasts, 12 dinners, all highlights listed, Tour Director, and all taxes.

Double \$6,295. Single \$7,995. For more information please contact Rev. Frank Hamper:

hampercamper49@gmail.com or 613-920-4010.

EMPEY HILL

U.C.W.

Will meet for their Christmas Dinner on Friday, December 07th, 11:30 am at O'Connor House in Deseronto. The meeting will follow at the church. There will be a carol sing for devotions and the South Group has the program. Please bring a gift for a resident in a nursing home (Friendly Manor and Village Green).

SELBY

"Three Chords and the Truth" In Concert

Join us for a special fundraising concert will be this afternoon at 2:00 pm. This will be an afternoon of Country Gospel and Christmas music! Free will offering and all funds going to the "New Basement Floor Fund" for Selby Church.

Poinsettias

Poinsettias have been placed at the front of the church by the following people:

Doug and Barb McConnell - in memory of our parents Birdie and Fred McConnell and Bernice and Harold Bell

Margaret, Kim and Tammy Nugent and families - in memory of Dean Nugent

Douglas & Shirley Jackson, Gary & Susan Jackson and Margaret Nugent and families - in memory of Dorland and Bernice Jackson and Marilyn Weese

Barbara Brookfield and family - in memory of Wray Brookfield

Glenda, Tricia, Jeff, Owen, Gabby, Foster; Jason, Shelley, Andrew, Ashley, Addyson - in memory of husband, father and grandfather Carl Hudgins.

Mildred Milligan and family - in memory of Albert Milligan, husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather

Lorne and Donna Jackson - in memory of their grandson Owen Kevin Jackson and their parents Homer and Mary Jackson and Ronald Lakins

Jane Hughes and family - in memory of Aubrey and Iva Asselstine and Judy Jarmin

Clarke and Lorraine Martin - in memory of their parents Claude and Helen Martin and Elvin and Marjorie Holland

Christmas Puddings, Gum Drop Cakes and Baskets

There are a few of the puddings, gum drop cakes and Christmas baskets left downstairs. If you are interested in purchasing any of these items please see Lorraine Martin.

U.C.W

Selby UCW ladies are going to the Lennox Community Theatre on Thursday, December 06th to see "Miracle on South Division Street". Show time is 8:00 pm. If we arrive early we should be able to sit as a group. Just give your name to whoever is working the counter. They have a list of ladies who are attending.

From the Selby Property and Finance Committee - Basement Floor Fund

Due to 143 years of moisture, dry-rot and sagging our basement floor is in need of replacing. This will be a major undertaking, requiring the entire floor and supports to be removed, and a new concrete floor to be poured. The estimate for this project is around \$30,000. Work will begin on the floor next summer when Selby is closed for the month of July. Would you consider budgeting an extra special gift for 2019 to make this important renovation possible? More details to come in the New Year.

SMILE

One evening I arrived home from work to find the lights out. My wife had prepared a lovely candlelit dinner and our two young sons, Garrett and Seldon, were dressed in their suits.

"Hey," I joked, "didn't we pay our hydro bill?"

A few months later, during the Christmas Eve candlelit procession, the church was packed and silent when Garrett asked, "Hey, Dad, did they not pay their hydro bill, too?"