

Seeking the peace and well-being of the city

December 31, 2023 11:00 a.m.





PRELUDE In dulci jubilo

Various Arrangers

GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

CALL TO WORSHIP

***PROCESSIONAL CAROL** #182 O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

*INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Covenant Service of the Methodist Church) For the sin that has made us slow to learn from Christ, reluctant to follow him, and afraid to bear the cross: Lord, have mercy.

For the sin that has caused the poverty of our worship, the formality and selfishness of our prayers, our neglect of fellowship and the means of grace, and our hesitating witness for Christ: Lord, have mercy.

For the sin that has led us to misuse your gifts, evade our responsibilities, and fail to be good stewards of your creation: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the sin that has made us unwilling to overcome evil with good, tolerant of injustice, quick to condemn, and selfish in sharing your love with others: Lord, have mercy.

(Silence for personal reflection and confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI R. Goodson Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and Ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

FIRST TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 148 Pages 645-646, 1st half of the NRSV Bible Response to the reading: **"Thanks be to God"**

RESPONSIVE READING

One: In this Christmas season, we join Mary in praising God. Many: God's mercy is for all generations. One: We join Zechariah in praising God. Many: God has looked favourably on God's people and redeemed them. One: We join the angels in praising God. Many: Glory to God in the highest heaven. One: We join Simeon in praising God. Many: We have seen God's salvation. All: Praise the name of the LORD, for God's name alone is exalted.

*CAROL OF PRAISE

#188 Angels We Have Heard on High

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*CAROL OF MEDITATION #208 Oh, How Joyfully

SICILIAN MARINERS

GLORIA

SECOND TESTAMENT READING

Luke 2:22-40 First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament Response to the reading: **"Thanks be to God"**

SERMON "Faithful Mentoring Voices"

Rev. Dr. Ryan Sato

arr. N. Rawsthorne

CELEBRATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS Offertory

Of the Father's Love Begotten

*Offertory Response So, bring him incense, gold and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary! *Prayer of Gratitude

*CAROL FOR THE JOURNEY #179 Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

*THE BLESSING OF THE COMMUNITY Leader: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. People: And also with you.

*The Sending of the Community

*Congregational Amen The service of the church into the world - - begins again this week

*POSTLUDE Sussex Carol

arr. D. Wood

*Please stand, as you are able

We are grateful for those who serve with us today: Writing & Worship Leading - Jo-Ann Badley, Debbie Benson; Prayers of the People - Grant McIntyre, read by Allan Effa; Readers - Ken Badley, Christina Ward; Guest Organist - Lori Klingbeil; Video & Sound Technician - Evan Adnams.

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FBC Ministry Staff: Rev. Dr. Ryan Sato, Senior Minister Rev. Jeremy Keay, Minister of Youth, Young Adults, Outreach Dawn Stiles, Minister of Children and Families Dr. Evelyn Grieger, Minister of Music Jerrold Eilander, Organist, Choir Accompanist

As we attempt to provide comfortable spaces for all and we have some members who have severe scent sensitivities, we ask that people refrain from wearing perfumes and colognes on Sunday morning to church. Thank you for helping us care for one another. — FBC Council

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