

**ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH (Williams Lake)**

November 20, 2022

10:00 am

**Reign of Christ Sunday**

Ministers of the Gospel: Everyone!

Minister of Word, Sacrament & Pastoral Care: Rev Nancy Colton

Music Director: Rocco Catalano

Pianist: Michael Bruce

Guest Pianist: Cathy Walsh

Stand Up Bass: Hal Giles

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**Order of Service**

**Welcome and Land Acknowledgement**

**The Peace**

One: In the name of Jesus, who is alive in each of us, peace to you.

**All: And also to you.**

**Centering for Worship**

**Hymn – *Open Our Hearts***

MV 21

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

One: As the cycle of the year comes to a close,  
and we get closer to Advent-tide,  
the nights get longer,  
and cooler.

**All: The snow begins to fall,  
and the clouds seem to blanket the sky.**

One: We look for light to brighten our day.  
We look for a beacon to lead us on.

**All: With this flame, alight in our hearts,  
we go where Christ's light shines!**

One: Alleluia!

**All: Alleluia, amen!**

**Call to Worship**

One: We have come to the end of a journey.

**All: A full year has passed since  
we first began to wait in hope for God's reign.**

One: We looked for baby Jesus in palace.

**All: But Jesus was not there.**

One: We looked for Jesus in all the respectable places.

**All: But Jesus was often associating in places less accepted by  
society.**

One: We looked for Jesus in the tomb.

**All: But Jesus was not there; he had been raised.**

One: We continue to look for Jesus.

**All: And we find him, in the midst of our daily lives and often  
in unexpected places.**

One: Let us open ourselves to the presence of the Holy in this  
place today.

**Opening Prayer (unison)**

**God of tender mercy, we thank you.**

**We live in difficult times.**

**There are moments when your kingdom seems to be far away.**

**Many of us face struggles in our lives and need what your  
kingdom promises.**

**Yet in this time of prayer, you are close to us.**

**Your presence touches us and invites us to have hope,  
hope grounded in the wonder of being loved by you.**

**Amen.**

**Hymn – *Rejoice, the Lord is King***

VU 213

**Prayer of Confession**

One: When we live our lives following the risen one,  
Jesus the Christ, God knows we are not perfect.  
With this understanding, let us now pray together  
the prayer of confession:

**All:** God, you have called us to be one, but at times, we seem to be divided. We are divided because of fear, anger, jealousy and uncertainty. Sometimes we are divided by the words we speak to each other or actions we direct toward one another. God of understanding, please forgive us for the times when we have sinned against each other, and thus against you. Draw us closer to each other and to you, once again. Amen.

### Words of Assurance

One: God has heard our confessions.  
As a loving parent, God has promised to love us unconditionally. Knowing this, we can live together as a forgiven people.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**New Hymn Review – *Creator God You Gave Us Life*** MV 27

### Scripture Readings:

Jeremiah 23:1-6 God will raise up new shepherds for Israel,  
God's flock

Luke 1:68-79 The Song of Zechariah (sung refrain) VU p. 900

Colossians 1:11-20 In Christ, all the fullness of God was  
pleased to dwell.

Luke 23:33-43 "Remember me when you come into your  
Kingdom."

**Hymn – *You, Lord, are Both Lamb and Shepherd*** VU 210  
(Tune Westminster Abbey #325)

### Sermon

**Hymn – *I Have Called You by Your Name*** MV 161

**Offering Invitation**  
**Offering Prayer**

### Prayers of Thanksgiving and Concern

**The Lord's Prayer** (sung) VU 959

**The Life and Work of our Congregation\***  
**Minute for Mission**

**Hymn – *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*** VU 2

### Commissioning and Benediction

One: Be patient, beloved ones,  
and let your hearts be strong,  
for the coming of the Lord is near.  
Bless the Lord with all your soul.

**All: May God's blessing be with us all. Amen.**

**Closing Song – *Go Now in Peace*** VU 964

*Full credits & acknowledgments  
are in the Presider's copy of the service.*

### **The Life and Work of the Congregation**

**Thank you** for being with us this morning, in the sanctuary or in your home, I'm so glad you've chosen to come. Thank you for continuing to support the congregation with your offerings of time, talent, and treasure.

**United Church Calendars for 2023** – The 2023 calendars are available.  
\$7.49 each.

**Salt of the Earth Liturgical Calendars from U Hill UC** – the 2022-2023 liturgical calendars (Advent through Reign of Christ Sunday) are available now. \$17.95 each.

**From the Offering Counter Coordinators - Heather & Ken Awmack**

Thank you to the 10 people who signed up to be offering counters this year! Special thanks to Ros Giles, Debbie Sykes, and Alison MacLise who

counted the offering in October and to Darlene Campbell and Ross McCoubrey who are counting the offering for November.

Your offering is greatly appreciated to assist in the life and work of the church! There are many ways to give -- by PAR, by leaving your offering in the basket on the table at the back of the sanctuary, or online ([www.wlunitedchurch.ca](http://www.wlunitedchurch.ca) --> Donations --> Donate now). Thanks for your gifts.

**Next Sunday (Nov 27) – Sunday School (in person)** during the church service to celebrate the first Sunday of Advent together. Please help spread the word and welcome the children back!

### **Upcoming Worship:**

**November 27 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent** - in person worship and on Zoom. Communion service. Rev Nancy leading worship. Happy church year New Year!

**December 4 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent** – in person worship and on Zoom. Rev Nancy leading worship.

**December 11 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent** – in person worship and on Zoom. Rev Nancy leading worship. *There will be a meeting following worship; more details to follow. Rev Victoria Andrews is scheduled to be with us, representing the Pacific Mountain Region on this Sunday.*

**December 18 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent** – in person worship and on Zoom. Rev Nancy leading worship. This will be a communion service.

**December 24 – Christmas Eve** – Candlelight Service – in person and on Zoom. Rev Nancy leading worship.

**December 25 – Christmas Day** – no worship service at St. Andrew's.

**January 1 – New Years Day** – in person worship only; no Zoom service. John Christoffersen leading worship. Happy secular New Year!

**St Peter's Anglican Parish invites you** – to join them for worship on *Christmas Day Morning* – December 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.