

Commissioning & Benediction

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Thanks to Mary Lou Haskell for reading
and to the Faith Friends for hosting Coffee Hour this morning.

Happy Birthday this coming week to John Laken,
John Cafe, Mark, Coulbeck and Charlotte Cortese

Thank you to those who stayed after church last week for soup and
sandwiches. \$510.00 was added to the general fund!

Men's Club Steak Sale

Preorders - \$10 per 8 oz steak. Pick up on December 17th
Orders will be taken after church today.
Not limited to TUC folks. We welcome friends and family orders!

Street Help Advent 2023 Campaign

You can donate cash or listed items (on entry table) to provide
warmth and food. Let's Remember Street Help this Advent.

EMERGENCY APPEAL: Please donate online at: Donate to Humanitarian
Crisis in the Middle East Relief | The United Church of Canada (united-
church.ca), or write a cheque to Tecumseh United Church and mark it for
Middle East Emergency Appeal or **e-transfer to Tecumseh United Church**
at donations@tecumsehunited.com Indicate it is for the Appeal.

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Office hours ~ Wednesdays & Thursdays 10am - 2pm

Donations can be made by simple e-transfer to
donations@tecumsehunited.com



Tecumseh United Church

~ An Affirming Congregation ~

Sunday, December 10th, 2023 - 10:00 a.m.

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Attawandaron, Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples.

ADVENT TWO *Please stand as you are able

We Gather in God's Love

Lighting of the Advent Candles: (Dan, Emma, Patrick Milne, Barb Levy)
(light one candle)

The Second Sunday of Advent has arrived.

We join the dance of dark and light.

Imagine the sun setting in the western sky,
the darkness welcoming and embracing the sun,
guiding it into a peaceful night.

As the sun sets the wisdom of darkness enfolds it.

Darkness guides the light.

Orange and red, deep blues and purples
join the dance of light and dark.

And the peace of their dance settles upon us.

Light and dark, friends and companions.

One cannot exist without the other.

And out of their sunset dance burst forth peace:
the peace of God revealed.

May peace dance among us,

the peace we know through Jesus *(light a second candle)*

All sing:

Give me sunsets of peace, let the dark and light dance.

Give me sunsets of peace, I pray.

Give me sunsets of peace,

let the dark and light dance, let the dark and light dance today.

Peace is coming, peace is coming,

peace is coming on Christmas Day.

Christ is coming, Christ is coming,

Christ is coming shout "hooray!"

Call to Worship:

People came to the banks of the Jordan to see John the Baptist.

We are called to leave the Christmas preparations behind

and turn toward the spiritual challenge of Advent.

John told the people, "You have traditions to leave behind and sharing to begin because God's chosen one is coming to you."

We are challenged to change our actions and attitudes in the light of the coming Jesus Christ.

John refused to compromise with the leaders of his time; he would not accept the easy way.

We are called to engage with the issues of our day and make our stance for justice and truth.

Are we willing to go to the banks of the Jordan River to encounter John the prophet?

It will take courage to venture out, but the joy of Advent will be our reward.

Then, come, let us worship God.

***Hymn # 9 "People Look East"**

Opening Prayer:

We gathered this morning, God, waiting, anticipating. But we're not even sure what we are waiting for anymore. Yet we are here, ready to receive, to search, to ponder, and simply to be still in anticipation of something that will happen, that is happening among us now. Make us aware of the holy mystery that surrounds us always and keep us moving toward a deeper relationship with you. Amen.

***Hymn # 45 "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"**

Faith Friends Time/The Lord's Prayer

Hymn # 400 "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

We Listen to God's Word

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:1-8

***Hymn # 18 "There's a Voice in the Wilderness"**

Meditation

We Respond to God's Word

Choir Anthem

Offering Prayer / Prayers of the People / Prayer Book is read

We Go to Love and Serve God

***Hymn # 44 "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"**