

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - HOPE**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017**

Proclaiming the Word:

Jane Walker

**VOLUNTARY:**

**WE GATHER TOGETHER**

**WORDS OF WELCOME**  
**LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH**

**WE APPROACH GOD**

*(The \* is an invitation to rise in body or in spirit)*

**PRELUDE:**

\* **HYMN:** 18 "There's a Voice in the Wilderness"

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: God is here! Let's come together and praise our Creator.

**All: *Let's be open to the Spirit in our midst and to one another as we worship God in this place.***

One: As we come into the Season of Advent we are called to prepare ourselves to celebrate the coming of the Christ Child.

**All: *We look forward to re-discovering the gifts that Jesus brings and the gifts that we, too, can share.***

One: As we sing and pray, as we listen and learn, as we come to the table - may we be open to the One whom God sends.

**All: *Come, Lord Jesus, Come!***

**PRAYER OF APPROACH**

**WE LIGHT THE CANDLE OF HOPE - Lynn Danby & Evelyn Gibson**

**SUNG RESPONSE:** 7 "Hope is a Star" (vs. 1)

*Hope is a star that shines in the night  
leading us on till the morning is bright.*

*When God is a child, there's hope in our song.*

*The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,  
and none shall be afraid.*

**THE GIFT ONLY YOU CAN GIVE: Andrew Crawford**

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

**CHILDREN'S HYMN:** 27 "Tomorrow Christ Is Coming" (vs. 1,2)

**LEARNING WITH GOD'S CHILDREN AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**CHILDREN'S HYMN:** 27 (vs. 3,4)

**ANTHEM:** Lux Aurumque

Whitacre

*Lux,*

*Calida gravisque pura velut aurum*

*Et canunt angeli molliter*

*Modo natum.*

*Light,*

*warm and heavy as pure gold*

*and the angels sing softly*

*to the new-born baby.*

**SCRIPTURE:** Mark 13:24-37

One: For the Word of God in scripture, among us and within us.

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

**REFLECTION:**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD**

\* **HYMN:** 1 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (vs.1,2)

**PRESENTATIONS OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

\* **OFFERTORY RESPONSE AND PRAYER:** 539

*God of all good, our gifts we bring to you,  
use them your holy purpose to fulfil;  
tokens of love and pledges brought anew  
that our whole life is offered to your will.*

**THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION**

**The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

One: God is with us.

**All: *We are not alone.***

One: Christ is present here.

**All: *The Spirit moves within us.***

One: Let us give thanks to God.

**All: In memory and in hope.**

( the prayer continues...)

One: And also we lift our voices in song, singing together the praises of ages:

All: **Holy, holy, holy, (Pg. 941, Sung)**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.**

**Hosanna in the highest.** ( the prayer continues...)

One: And in our remembering we sing the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!**  
**(Pg. 942, Sung)**

(the prayer continues...)

## SHARING THE GIFTS

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

\*HYMN: 1 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (vs.6,7)

\* COMMISSIONING & RESPONSE: #298

**When you walk from here,**

**when you walk from here,**

**walk with justice, walk with mercy,**

**and with God's humble care**

## POSTLUDE:

**Welcome Visitors:** We welcome those of you who are visiting with us today and invite you to sign our guest books located on the back tables. If you wish office attention, please sign one of the Pew Cards and place it on the offering plate. After the service, please join us downstairs in the Social Hall for coffee, served by Unit #1.

**The flowers in the sanctuary** this morning are being placed in memory of Joan McCabe, loving wife, mother and grandmother, by Doug and family.

**We give thanks** for the Life and Witness of Betty Read, who entered the presence of her Lord on November 29, 2017.

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**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017**

**TODAY**

***Wesley-Knox will be hosting a Blood Donor Clinic*** on Wed. Dec. 13 from

3:30-6:00 p.m. Sign up today to give the gift of life, or come out on the 13th to encourage and support those who do! Details about donating blood are available today.



***The senior youth group*** is selling "Cookie mix jars" after church today. One jar costs \$8 or you can buy two for \$15. The money raised will be donated to Hannah Haworth to support her trip to South Sudan.

**THIS WEEK**

***In your personal prayers this week***, please pray for our college students who are returning to classes and facing the challenges of a shortened term, and our university students who will be finishing semesters and writing exams. Pray that they know that they are on the hearts of their faith family at Wesley-Knox. We look forward to welcoming many of them home for Christmas.

Monday, December 4 -

Tuesday, December 5 -

**Moms & Tots** - 9:30 a.m. - SS Room

**Shine** - 6:30 p.m. - SS Rm

**Finance, Trustee** - 7:00 p.m. - Parlour

Wednesday, December 6 -

**Pastoral Care** - 10:00 a.m. - Chapel

**Senior's Connection** - 1:00 p.m. - Parlour for cards

Thursday, December 7 -

**Primary Choir** - Gr. 1-3 - 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

**Junior Boys' Choir** - Gr. 4-7/8 - 4:45 - 5:30 p.m.

**Junior Girls' Choir** - Gr. 4-7/8 - 5:15 - 6:00 p.m.

**Mysterium** - 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Grade 9- University

**Senior Choir** - 7:30 p.m. - Parlour

**Worship** - 6:00 p.m. - Chapel

Friday, December 8 -

**Moms & Tots** - 9:30 a.m. - SS Room

**Movie Night** - 7:30 pm. - Parlour; "The Muppet Christmas Carol"

**GENERAL**

***Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal!***

Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. for Toddlers and Preschoolers through to Grade 8.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Pageant Sunday is Sunday December 10<sup>th</sup>.

For more information please contact Kim Stark.

[Wesleyknoxchildrenandyouth@gmail.com](mailto:Wesleyknoxchildrenandyouth@gmail.com) 519-673-4802 ext.203

***The Gifts That Only You Can Give: This Advent and Christmas what are the gifts that you can give from your heart?*** As we reflect on the gifts that come to us in Jesus, what are the gifts that we can share with God's world as we seek to make Christ's presence known?

*Perhaps*, invite someone to worship with you. Offer someone a ride to church during the Christmas Season. Help give life as you donate blood. Sign up for the Salvation Army Kettle. Give a gift from the "Gifts With Vision" catalogue. Take part in the "Forget-Me-Not" program by sending notes to those who are on our hearts this Christmas. Knit some mittens. Donate your gently-used coats, boots to Mission Services. Pray for those who are seeking hope and peace this year. **YOU** have so much to give!

***What do spoons, granola bars, V8 juice and ready-to-eat tuna have in common?*** They are all great staples that are put in our Wesley-Knox Care Packages that are offered to those who come to our door in search of something to eat. On Sunday Dec. 17th after worship you can give the gift of your time as you help to pack up these bags. We are also looking for donations of non-perishable, individual serving: juices, crackers and cheese, granola bars, tuna snack-kits, pudding, apple sauce, protein and fruit/veggie snacks. Please bring these to the church before the 17th and join in the fun!

***Thank you to everyone*** for your contribution to a

very successful bazaar! Your time and contributions were key to our success! There will be baking and frozen foods available after church while supplies last! Thank you again!

Wesley-Knox United Church Women

**Karen and the Choirs** want to thank all who supported by attending the blissful Christmas Concert last night. We wish one and all Feliz Navidad!

**Apple Pies** are available to pick-up in the Social Hall. Last batch before Christmas.

**Cheese pickup**, Thursday December 7<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 - 7:00 pm in the parlour.

**Hockey Tickets!** Our amazing Boys' Choir will be singing 'O Canada' AND the 'Star-Spangled Banner' at the London Knights Hockey Game on Sunday, December 10 at 2:00. We have 100 tickets to sell for this game against the Erie Otters. This is a MAJOR fundraiser for our choir programs. Tickets are at a discount for \$20. See the Boys' Choir rep, Maggie Logan, downstairs at Coffee Hour!

**Get your Rheo Thompson Chocolate Mint Smoothies** for only \$2.50 each after church at coffee hour! An important fundraiser for the Children's Choir Program, they make great little Christmas gifts!

**The donation candy cane** is now up to receive your knitted or purchased donations. These articles are distributed to the clients at the Community Breakfast and Out of the Cold Meals at Wesley-Knox.

**On November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017, a congregational meeting** was held following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting was to vote on a motion to accept the proposed Governance Model - "Renewing our Vitality" to be piloted by Wesley-Knox United Church starting February 2018 for one year. The Meeting was well attended. 98 votes were cast with 94% in favour of the pilot. Very few questions were asked. A nominations committee was formed comprising the current Transition Team members (TT): Marilynne McNeil, Carl Hearn and Liz Phoenix. Nominations from the floor were: Ian Hardie and Cathie Banks. A second motion was accepted; that the TT will organize training sessions for the new Leadership Council candidates and current standing committee chairs in January 2018 to prepare them for their new roles.

**For Pastoral Care concerns**, please contact Lisa Morris, our Pastoral Care and Membership

Coordinator, by Confidential Phone 519-673-4803, **ext 204** or [wesleyknoxpastoralcare@gmail.com](mailto:wesleyknoxpastoralcare@gmail.com)

### **Events in Worship**

December 10	Pageant
December 17	Choir Christmas Sunday, All Choirs Night Passed Service at 7:00 p.m.
December 24	Advent 4 Service 10:30 a.m. Christmas Eve Service with candles & carols at 7:00 p.m. Late Christmas Eve Service with Communion at 10:00 p.m. John McFall, Soloist

**There are activity packs** for children who wish to colour during the service. Please return the packs to the table after the service, Thank you!

### **WESLEY-KNOX UNITED CHURCH**

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