



Carols by Candlelight

TRINITY ST. PAUL'S
UNITED CHURCH
FAITH JUSTICE ARTS



Carols by Candlelight Service

Sunday December 21, 2025 - 7PM

Trinity-St. Paul's United Church

trinitystpauls.ca

Bold lyrics invite everyone to sing along.

**Asterisks are an invitation to stand as you are able.*

Our Community

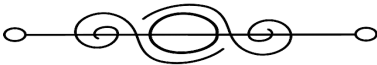
Welcome to Trinity-St. Paul's! We are an inclusive and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Canada. We strive to be a centre for faith, justice and the arts: where the Gospel is lived and shared; where voices are raised for peace and equity; where beauty, imagination, and creativity reveal God's presence. We worship together every Sunday at 10:30am. To learn more, scan the QR code or visit trinitystpauls.ca



I Will Light Candles This Christmas

I will light Candles this Christmas,
Candles of joy despite all the sadness,
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch,
Candles of courage for fears ever present,
Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,
Candles of love to inspire all my living,
Candles that will burn all year long.

-Howard Thurman



Prelude: *Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring*, BWV 147, by J. S. Bach (Cardinal String Quartet)

Processional Hymn: VU 34 *O-So-So (Come Now, O God of Peace)*

1 *Ososo ososo,*
 pyonghwauimgum,
 uriga hanmom
 iruge hasoso.
Come now, O God of peace,
 we are your people;
 pour out your spirit
 that we be one body.

2 *Ososo ososo,*
 somang,
 uriga hanmom
 iruge hasoso.
Come now, O God of hope,
 we are your people;
 pour out your spirit
 that we be one body.

Words of Welcome & Acknowledgement

Music: *Da Pacem Domine* by Arvo Pärt

Trinity- St. Paul's Church Choir (Music Director: Deborah Park)

Reading: *The Work of Christmas*, by Howard Thurman

Hye Lim Yoon

Music: *Candlelight Canon* by Andy Beck
 Festive Alleluia by Lyn Williams

Young Voices Toronto (Artistic Director: Carole Anderson)

***Opening Carol:** VU 50 *Il est né, le divin Enfant*

(R) *He is born, little Child divine;*
 play on the reeds while the lutes are
 strumming.
 He is born, little Child divine;
 join the song to announce the day.

1 **Through long ages of the past,**
 prophets have foretold his coming;
through long ages of the past,
 now the time has come at last! (R)

2 **O how lovely, O how pure**
 is this perfect child of heaven;
O how lovely, O how pure,
 gracious gift to humankind! (R)

3 **Lowly lodged in a stable poor,**
 laid on straw for his infant cradle.
Lowly lodged in a stable poor,
 God came down to our mortal aid. (R)

4 **Jesus, Light of all the world,**
 coming as a child among us,
Jesus, Light of all the world,
 grant to us your heavenly peace. (R)

Music: *See Amid the Winter's Snow* arr. by Dan Forrest
 Pat-a-Pan Traditional French Carol, arr. by Mark Burrows

Trinity- St. Paul's Church Choir

Reading: Isaiah 40:1-9

Sarah Redikopp

Music: *Behold! A Virgin Shall Conceive*
 O Thou Tellest Good Tiding to Zion from *Messiah* by G. F. Handel

Section Leads, Trinity-St. Paul's Church Choir

***Music:** *Hallelujah Chorus* from *Messiah* by G. F. Handel

Trinity- St. Paul's Church Choir

***Carol:** VU 73 *The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy*

1 **The virgin Mary had a baby boy,**
 the virgin Mary had a baby boy,
 the virgin Mary had a baby boy,
 and they say that his name is Jesus.

(R) *He come from the glory, (clap, clap)
he come from the glorious kingdom.
He come from the glory, (clap, clap)
he come from the glorious kingdom.
Oh, yes! believer! Oh, yes! believer!
He come from the glory, (clap, clap)
he come from the glorious kingdom.*

2 *The angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born,
the angels sang when the baby was born,
and they say that his name is Jesus. (R)*

3 *The shepherds came where the baby was
born,
the shepherds came where the baby was born,
the shepherds came where the baby was born,
and they say that his name is Jesus. (R)*

Music: *A King Is Born* by Sy Gorieb and Tim Hosman, arr. by Tim Sarsany

Tenor-Bass Sections, Trinity-St. Paul's Church Choir

Invitation to Offering

The offering tonight is being collected in support of the Trinity-St. Paul's Music Ministry. Thank you for your generosity.



Offertory Carol: VU 60 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (*rise for the last verse)

1 *O come, all ye faithful, joyful and
triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
come and behold him, born the King of
angels;*

(R) *O come, let us adore him, O come,
let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ
the Child.*

2 *God of God, light of light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten, not created: (R)*

3 *Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest: (R)*

***5** *Yea, Child, we greet thee, born this
happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
word of the Creator, now in flesh
appearing: (R)*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Reading: *Dove Stai Andando?* (Where Are You Going?)

Lina Medaglia

*You ask: Where do we seek joy in God's world, when the peace of angels
eludes us?*

*I answer: We are temporary, even with our feet firmly planted on the
ground. We are not of this world. Ask yourself, what is joy made of? The
satisfaction of a life well lived? Of having made the lives of others
better? Of having had the foresight to live well?*

*Joy is a scarce resource, a syllable, a whisper on open lips. You will
know when you have it. You'll shout out, "Oh Joy! I see you, the beating
of golden wings drawing thin shadows against a setting sun, an aria on
Gabriel's trumpet."*

I ask: Where are you going?

You answer: To seek hope, to seek joy. Far from here.

*From here, I have seen them abandon young and old, and fly to
unknown places filled with darkness. I could have taken them in flight,
then I thought better of it.*

*I will follow them. I will find where they nest, where they are buried
with worms and mushrooms, where they hide beneath the ocean, inside
rusted ships bedecked with pearls and algae.*

I ask: And what will you do when you find them?

*You answer: I will keep joy in a gilded cage. I will build her an altar
atop a mountain, beyond the reach of those malcontents who would*

ruin them out of pain or madness. I will keep them pure, intact, adored by worthy pilgrims.

I ask: And hope, where will hope be?

You answer: Hope will be the privilege of those who desire the joy that is unattainable to them.

I say: Joy and hope are for everyone, and if you possess them, you must share them as you share the pain of others. You cannot find them in flight or at the bottom of the sea. Joy and hope are not destiny, reserved for a fortunate few who pursue them. They cannot be locked away on a mountaintop. They must live in fragments and glimpses, on frozen

tundra and scorching deserts. They must find a home in the hearts and minds of God's creatures, even in calamities and tribulations.

You say: And joy? And hope?

I answer: Embark on your journey, to live your life as it comes. Come back to share what you've learned, and if anyone responds with joy and hope, let it spread, let it multiply tenfold in your story.

Joy and hope are not destiny... they are intention.

The sweetest songs...Light and shadow...

The seasons of the heart...The Eternal.

Musical Finale: *Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain* by Carolyn Jennings

Invitation to Candle Lighting

During the singing Silent Night, we pass the light of Christ from hand to hand, heart to heart, through the sanctuary. For those online, we encourage you to light a candle as well. May each flame remind us that Love has come, and the darkness cannot overcome it.

***Recessional Carol: VU 67 Silent Night**

1 **Silent night! Holy night!**
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in
heavenly peace.

2 **Silent night! Holy night!**
Shepherds quake at the sight:
glories stream from heaven afar,

3 **Silent night! Holy night!**
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Christ, at thy birth, Jesus, Christ,
at thy birth

heavenly hosts sing Hallelujah,
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the
Saviour is born.

Benediction & Extinguishing of the Candles

Postlude: *Ding Dong Merrily on High* arr. by Mark Mitchell (Organ duet: Christine Hanson, Deborah Park)



With thanks to our musical guests:

Trinity-St. Paul's Church Choir and Section Leads:
May Sadan (Soprano), Théa Nappert (Alto), Cameron Mazzei (Tenor), Charlie Sadler (Bass)

Young Voices Toronto, Artistic Director: Carole Anderson

Cardinal String Quartet:

Joelle Crigger (Violin 1), Junia Friesen (Violin 2), Diane Kim (Viola), Matthew Buczkowski (Cello)

Andrew Busch (Marimba, Percussion), Roberto Occipinti (Bass), Paula Nieuwstraten (Flute), Adam Mason (Hand Drum), Kenny Kirkwood (Conga Drums), Christine Hanson (Organ duet)



Trinity-St. Paul's United Church & Centre for Faith, Justice and the Arts

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