

Eramosa Pastoral Charge

Barrie Hill and Speedside United Church of Canada
Congregations

Welcome to our guests today. We're glad you're here.



* Indicates an invitation to stand, as you are able

If there are words in **bold**, we invite you to participate by saying them out loud.

Gathering

THE PEOPLE JOURNEY TOGETHER RESPONDING TO GOD'S CALL

Prelude Good King Wenceslas John Mason Neale & Thomas Helmore by request,
played by Mykala Kent and Terry Knierim

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Greetings in the name of the Creator, Redeemer and sustainer

A new day is coming!

O God, we lift our hearts to you.

A new day is coming !

We offer our burdens to you !

Carry our burdens , God, as we follow in your Way.

We are your people, and we follow you.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

**May the God who assumes and transforms them to life giving and liberated living,
carries our burdens with love and care and transforms us every moment of our living
be with us in our together time today.**

Opening Prayer and Prayer of Confession

We enter into this quieter time after Christmas forgiving God , with hopeful feelings.
For some of us it may seem that the joy of the post Christmas season is not for us this
year as we grieve losses in our families and communities or we remember we carry
lifelong burdens – comfort us, Lord.

**Strengthen us , God, supporting us begin our pilgrimage thru 2021 taking with us the
hope and expectation, that belong to the new year**

Open us to the wondrous healings and miracles you have in store for us.

If we feel carried away by all we have to do, help us to unburden , and be present in the
moment.

Help us to see the real world around us, which waits anxiously for Christs return

Help us to make room for the Christ to be our guide on the way .

When we become overwhelmed with emotions and experience the weight of burdens
we carry , forgive us, O God, and return us to a state of grace prepared for a new part of
our journeys

All these things we ask in the name of the son of God.

Words of Assurance

If we turn to God with hopeful and honest hearts, and hand over our burdens that weigh us down, God forgives us, and lets us begin again this pilgrimage into new life, So be assured that your burdens are taken up by the Holy one. Your sins are forgiven

All: Thanks be to God!

Hymn MV 87 Water Flowing sung and played by Shirley McFarlane

A time for the young and young at heart Bethany Parkinson

Song Colour by Bright City sung and played by Mary Meads

Word

WE OPEN THE BIBLE. WE RECEIVE THE WORD.

Prayer for Understanding & Grace

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of all our hearts be acceptable in your sight O God.

Gospel **Mark 1 : 1- 9**

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

1 The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah,^[a] the Son of God,^[b] **2** as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way”^[c]—

3 “a voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.’”^[d]

4 And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. **5** The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. **6** John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. **7** And this was his message: “After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. **8** I baptize you with^[e] water, but he will baptize you with^[f] the Holy Spirit.”

Message

Hymn MV 1 Let us Build a House

Thanksgiving

WE OFFER OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

Prayers of the people

The 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.

Sending Forth

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

* Commissioning and Blessing

Postlude

MV 215 Peace be With You

Adapted from Gathering Year C 2018, Whole People of God wpog.org Advent Year C, Advent Unwrapped by Alydia Smith, Program Coordinator, Worship Music and Spirituality General Council Office.