

**SALT SPRING ISLAND UNITED CHURCH**

We are more than Sunday.  
We celebrate God's love every day.  
We are guided by the teachings of Jesus.  
We accept the challenges of the Spirit.  
We are an affirming congregation.  
We welcome all.

**November 27th, 2011**  
**1st Advent (B)**

<b>Ministers:</b>	Rev. Ruth Cairns and the Congregation
<b>Music Director:</b>	Shirley Bunyan
<b>Lector:</b>	Bryan Adderley

*\*Denotes places in the service where the congregation is invited to stand, if able.*

**Prelude**

**Banner of Hope**

**Welcome, Introductions, Announcements**

**Passing the Peace**

**Introit:** Prepare the Way of the Lord *-Michael Burkhardt*

**Opening Words:** *(responsive)*

One: Wouldn't it be wonderful if Advent came filled with angels and alleluias?  
**All: Wouldn't it be perfect if we were greeted every December morning with a hovering of heavenly hosts?**  
One: Wouldn't it be incredible if their music filled our waking hours with the promise of peace

on earth and if each Advent night we dreamed of nothing but goodwill?  
**All: But in lieu of that perhaps we can give thanks for the good earthly joys we have been given and for the earthly "Angels" that we know who do such a good job of filling our Advent with alleluias.**

*-from "Kneeling in Bethlehem" by Ann Weems*

**\*Hymn:** VU #2: Come, Thou Long Expected

**Lighting Advent Candle of Hope**

**\*Hymn:** MV #220: Hope Shines as the Solitary Star

**Prayer for Grace:** *(in unison)*

Holy Mystery, in this season of waiting help us to be alert, to see, hear and feel the signs of hope in these uncertain times. May we have the patience to seek the meaning in these busy days, the courage to wait in times of trouble and the faith to wait even when we cannot hear the angels singing.

**Silent Prayer**

**Assurance of Grace**

**\*Hymn:** VU #4: God of All Places

**Hebrew Scripture:** Isaiah 2: 1 - 5

Reader: This is the witness of the Hebrew people.

**All: May we be guided by their wisdom.**

**Responsive Psalm:** #80, part 2: pg. 794

**Gospel Reading:** Mark 13: 28 - 37

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**All: May the Spirit enable us to grow in love.**

**Anthem:** Prepare the Way of the Lord -*Benjamin Harlan*

**Sermon:** Hoping for Transformation

**\*Hymn:** VU #7: Hope is A Star

**Offertory**

**\*Sung Response:** VU #544 (tune 44)

In gratitude and humble trust  
we bring our best today  
to serve your cause and share your love  
with all along life's way.  
O God, who gave yourself to us  
in Jesus Christ, your Son,  
teach us to give ourselves each day  
until life's work is done.

**\*Dedication**

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer:** VU #960

**\*Hymn:** VU #1: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

**\*Commissioning and Benediction**

**\*Choral Amen**

**Postlude**

**Pray for our Church**

This week, let us pray for:

*~Calling Lakes and Naramata centres~*

**Custodian:** Ann Heggeler  
**Secretary:** Caroline Bracken

Church Office: 250-537-5812  
Open Tuesday -Friday, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

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**November**

**27th -10 a.m.**

**Sermon:**

***Hoping for  
Transformation***