

**Visions United Spirit Gathering
November 28th, 2021
The Inn - Housing the Holy
Advent 1: "Making Room (Hope)"**

* *Stand as able*

Our Community Gathers

Gathering Music/Prelude

Hope is a Star / Hope Shines as the Solitary Star

Daphna Pearson, Piano

Words: Brian Wren ©1985; Music: Joan C. Fogg ©1984 Hope Publ. Co.

Words: Catherine Faith MacLean © 2007; Music: Janet B. Tissandier © 2007.

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Welcome & Acknowledgement of Land

Shawn Redden

God's Doors Are Open to All!

Open Doors · Open Minds · Open Hands · Open Hearts

Visions United seeks to be a safe place for people of all
races, creeds, ages, cultural backgrounds,
sexual orientations and gender identities to worship.

A Moment to Acknowledge Our New Space

Shawn Redden

Sharing of WOW moments

Shawn Redden

We Open the Door

Hope Waits for Us at Advent

Soloist: John Foster

Words/Music: Amanda Udis-Kessler

Lighting the Advent Candle: Hope

Song

Hope Waits for Us at Advent

Words/Music: Amanda Udis-Kessler. Used with permission

Hope waits for us at Advent

Hope waits for us to trust.

Hope waits for our commitment
to a land that's kind and just.

In this time of preparation
for the work of co-creation,
for the birthing of a world
that heals the ones in pain.

Hope is born in us again!

The Peace

The Hope of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

***Carol**

VU#5 All Earth is Waiting

Words/Music: Catalanian, Alberto Taule' ©1993.

Cento de Pastoral Liturgica. Harm: Skinner Cha'vez-Melo ©1989.

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We Listen for Wisdom

Theme Conversation for All Ages

Brian Botten

Response - "We make room for Jesus"

Song

Words: © Mark Burrows. Tune: The First Nowell, refrain. Public Domain

Make room for hope.

Make room for hope.

Jesus is coming, make room for hope.

(Children's Advent program begins)

Wisdom Reading

Jeremiah 33: 14-16

Brian Botten

Special Music Video

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Words: Adrian Marchuk © 2021; Music: 15th century plainsong melody.

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Video: UCC Advent Unwrapped

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQDu-SgFb3RjsK9BdbbYkwAvl_3hLsUn-

O come and be the hope in all our lives
Though chaos and confusion still survive
We know the path of hate all too well
We need our God with us, Emmanuel!
Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to us
And all things shall be well

Reflection

Shawn Redden

Poem

“An Open Space” by *John van de Laar*

We Respond with Prayer and Gratitude

Prayers of the People

Sung Response

Make of My Heart a Stable

Lead; Bill Peters

Words/Music: Amanda Udis-Kessler ©2020. Used with permission.

**Make of my heart a stable,
a house for the holy,
a warm and sturdy place
for hope to live and grow.**

Spoken Prayer

Shawn Redden

Sung Response

Make of My Heart a Stable

Lead; Bill Peters

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**Make of my life a stable,
a house for the holy,
a warm and sturdy place
for hope to live and grow.**

Spoken Prayer

Shawn Redden

Sung Response

Make of My Heart a Stable

Lead; Bill Peters

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**Make of our church a stable,
a house for the holy,
a warm and sturdy place
for hope to live and grow.**

Spoken Prayer

Brian Botten

A Story of Inn-keeping: Invitation to Generosity & Blessing of Our Gifts
(Gifts brought forward)

Shawn Redden

Announcements

We Go Forth to Be a Blessing

Story of A Christmas Carol

Brian Botten

“Where children pure and happy
Pray to the blessed Child,
Where misery cries out to thee,
Son of the Mother mild;
Where charity stands watching
And faith holds wide the door,
The dark night wakes, the glory breaks,
And Christmas comes once more.”

***Carol** VU#64 O Little Town of Bethlehem (v.1, new v.2, v.4)

Note: verse 2 is printed above under "Story of a Christmas Carol"

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Blessing

Shawn Redden

Postlude Music for the Journey

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Daphna Pearson

Music: Lewis H. Redner © 1977 Communique Music,
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Thank You for Joining Us!
May Each of Us Carry the Spirit into the world with us.