

**Visions United Spirit Gathering
December 19, 2021
The Inn - Housing the Holy
Advent 4: "A Room with a View (Love)"**

Our Community Gathers

Gathering Music/Prelude

Mary, Did You Know?

Daphna Pearson, Piano

Music: Mark Lowry & Buddy Green; Arr. Bruce Greer
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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.

Sharing of WOW moments

Shawn Redden

We Open the Door

Love Waits for Us at Advent

Visions' Choir
Words/Music: Amanda Udis-Kessler

Lighting the Advent Candle of Love

Candle lighter Reader: Linda Higgins

Song

Love Waits for Us at Advent

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

Love waits for us at Advent
Love waits for us to care.
Love waits for our compassion
freely offered, freely shared.
In this time of preparation
for the work of co-creation,
for the birthing of a world
where faith shapes all we do.
Love is born in us anew!

The Peace

The Love of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

Carol (standing)

VU#46 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Words: Joseph S. Cook ©1919;
Music: Alta L. Cook. Arr: Scott Wilkinson. Hinshaw Music Inc.
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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 love.
Make room for love.
Jesus is coming, make room for love.

(Children's Advent program begins)

Wisdom ReadingLuke 1: 26-45-55 (*selected verses*)**Reflection***Shawn Redden***Special Music Video**

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (vs 1-4)

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-*Verse 1*

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

Verse 2

O come and bring your peace upon the earth
 That even now still longs for its rebirth
 We seek to move and live in your ways
 Guide us to peace and justice all our days
 Rejoice, rejoice!
 Emmanuel shall come to us
 And all things shall be well

Verse 3

O come to us like joy of heaven's dawn,
 From Mary's womb a faithful paragon
 Brought forth into this world by love's power
 Your Spirit through her labors in that hour
 Rejoice, rejoice!
 Emmanuel shall come to us
 And all things shall be well

Verse 4 (add for Advent 4)

O come you source of Love unto us all
 Enlighten us and help us hear your call
 To bear your Love out into the wild
 And celebrate God's wondrous holy Child!
 Rejoice, rejoice!
 Emmanuel shall come to us
 And all things shall be well

We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

An Invitation to Gather at the Table and Sharing our Gifts

Song Come and Gather at the Stable (v.1&2)

Words: © Catherine MacDonald, 2005
Music: attr. Benjamin Franklin, Harm: Ronald A. Nelson
©1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. CCLI # 11077526

Come and gather, at the stable
They have journeyed far from home
Mary, Joseph, young and able
Travelled ways as yet unknown
With a dream of untold promise
That great things would come to pass
In the sureness of God's blessing
They found peace and rest at last.

Come and gather, round the manger
Where the Christ child gently lays.
Open up our hearts to wonder
At the glory of that day.
Visit him with thanks and promise,
Peace and hope and love and joy
Take them daily into living
Wrapped up in a baby boy.

Great Thanksgiving Prayer

One: May the God of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: You formed us...*(prayer continues)*
... With your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join the unending hymn:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, 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 the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Remembering the Story

Together, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Prayer for the Spirit

Prayers of Intercession

Sung Response Come and Gather at the Stable (v.3)

Come and gather, at the table
 Where we seek him once again
 Let us enter into mystery
 Needed now as much as then.
 In the breaking of the sweet bread
 In the pouring of the wine,
 We meet him again among us
 With a love so dear, divine.

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup**Sharing of the Bread & Cup**

You will be served bread & a grape during the instrumental special music.

Please wait until everyone is served.

When instructed, you may briefly remove your mask to consume the elements.

Sung Prayer after Communion Come and Gather (v. 4)

Come and gather, in his footsteps
 We will tread where he once went
 With the lost and lonely people
 Now to them we're also sent
 Loving, working, tending, caring
 In our Saviour's name we pray
 In our work and in our worship
 We find hope in every day.

Announcements

Shawn Redden

We Go Forth to Be a Blessing**Story of A Christmas Carol**

Brian Botten

***Carol (standing)**

VU# 60 O Come, All Ye Faithful (vs. 1, 2 & additional verse below)

Words: English trans. Frederick Oakeley, 1841

Music: John F. Wade, ca.1743. © Public Domain

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Child, for us sinners
 poor and in the manger,
 Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love:
 Who would not love thee,
 loving us so dearly?
 O come, let us adore him.
 O come, let us adore him.
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Blessing

Shawn Redden

Postlude Music for the Journey

Thank You for Joining Us!
May Each of Us Carry the Spirit into the world with us.