

Advent 3:

What is revealed in the darkness?

Emmanuel: God's Holy Darkness

Brougham Place Uniting Church

December 15, 2024

Advent 4. Purple

Kardlayirdi Karnungga

A Light on the Hill

We acknowledge the Kurna people as the traditional carers of the land on which our church is built.

Welcome! As you wait for worship to begin, please turn your phone to silent.

Prelude

“The People that Walked in Darkness” from The Messiah.

- G.F. Handel.

Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country

Naa marni?

(Are you all good?)

Marni Ai!

(Good I am)

Call to Worship

In this time of Advent,
in this time of waiting,
in this time of preparation,
may we listen for the signs,
may we be ready to hear words passed on
from generation to generation,
may we prepare our hearts with hope and love.
Amen.

Introit

O What a Gift. *Pat Uhl (Howard). Together in Song 278. Vs. 1.*

Lighting of the Candles

Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world'.
We are waiting for the day when we will celebrate the Christ child
born in the night.

The first candle reminds us to pray for the world to know Hope.
The second candle reminds us that God's Love surrounds us.
This week we add the third candle – the pink candle. As it is lit, we
remember times of Joy and happiness and give thanks.
**God of Joy, may we know your presence in the light and the holy
darkness.**

We Sing: *Light One Candle*

Please remain seated

1. Light one candle for joy
one bright candle for joy.
He brings joy to every heart.
He comes! He comes!

*Together in Song 286. Natalie Sleeth 1930-92 words and music Hinshaw Music USA.
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Prayer of Praise

Inspired by Isaiah 12:2-6

We give our thanks and praises to God
who is the one who saves us.

We can trust in God and not be afraid.

It is with great joy that we can
give thanks to our God.

We can call on God's name.

We can share all the good things that God has done
so that everyone knows
why we have this joy inside of us.

Let us sing our praises to God.

Let us shout aloud and sing for joy.

For our God is good!

We Sing: *Lord of All Hopefulness*

1. Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,
be there at our waking and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
2. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
be there at our labours and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
3. Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
be there at our homing and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
4. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
be there at our sleeping and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

*Together in Song 613. Joyce Placzec ('Jan Struther') 1901-53.
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Prayer of Confession

Word of Grace

Gracious God,
thank you for making us who we are.
Thank you for loving us as we are.
Thank you for this opportunity to trust in your forgiveness.
Amen.

Passing of the Peace

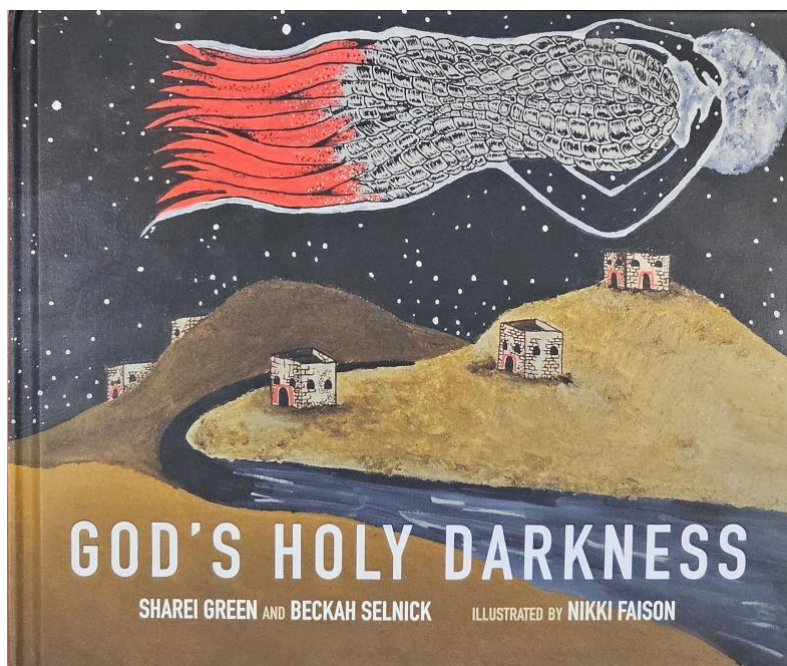
The peace of our God be with you.
And also with you.

Community News and Notices

[Go to our website to view current or previous issues of BP E-news and to sign up to receive BP E-news by email.](#)

Creative Offering: *Subtle Bricks*

Children's Time





From: *God's Holy Darkness* by Sherei Green, and Beckah Selnick and illustrated by Nikki Faison. Reproduced by Permission of Augsburg

Children are invited to go downstairs for Sunday School and the Happy Birthday Jesus Party. Parents, you are welcome to join your child in Sunday School if you feel your child may need your assistance.

Anthem

Blessed Night, Blessed Light. Craig Mitchell. Allan Hoare.

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 1:10

Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!"

and he said, "Here I am!"

and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me."

But he said, "I did not call; lie down again."

So he went and lay down.

The Lord called again, "Samuel!"

Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me."

But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again."

Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time.

And he got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me."

Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'"

So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

May the Spirit of God open our eyes to see, our ears to hear,
and our hearts to understand.

Reflection: "The Night is Not Silent"

Message

We sing: *Star Child*

1. Star-Child, earth-child, go-between of God,
love Child, Christ Child, heaven's lightning rod:

Refrain

*This year, this year, let the day arrive
when Christmas comes for everyone,
everyone alive.*

2. Street child, beat child, no place left to go,
hurt child, used child no-one wants to know:

Refrain

3. Grown child, old child, memory full of years,
sad child, lost child, story told in tears.

Refrain

4. Spared child, spoiled child, having, wanting more,
wise child, faith child knowing joy in store:

Refrain

5. Hope-for-peace Child, God's stupendous sign,
down-to-earth Child, Star of stars that shine:

Refrain

Shirley E Murray, Carlton R Young

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Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Offering



To give electronically towards the ministry of Brougham Place, please go to bpuc.org/give

Alternatively, there is an offering bowl near the lectern on the left-hand side at the front of the church.

Offering Prayer

We sing: *Tell Out My Soul*

1. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of God's word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.
2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of God's name!
Make known God's might, the deeds God's arm has done;
God's mercy sure, from age to age the same;
God's holy name – the Lord, the Mighty One.

4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of God's word!
Firm is God's promise, and God's mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

*Together in Song 161. Words © 1962 Timothy Dudley-Smith 1926- Based on Luke 1:46-55
in The New English Bible., renewal 1990 by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL60188.
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Sending Forth and Benediction

May the peace of God be with you
and may you know God's presence with you
in the light of this day and the darkness of this night.

**We will go,
knowing God is with us,
and sharing God's love with one another.
Amen**

Choral Blessing

With Prayer and Supplication. *Amy Beach.*

Extroit

*Come and share morning tea together, in the basement.
There are stairs behind the organ and a ramp between the church
and the car park leading to the basement.
You are welcome!*

This service has been prepared with assistance from
Liturgy Learning & (Purposeful) Life (L3) (Michelle Eastwood)
Words for Worship (Mediacom)

The Scripture Reading is from the
New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition



www.bpuc.org