



RIVERBEND UNITED CHURCH

14907 45th Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB
T6H 5K8 Phone 780.430.7275
E-mail: contactus@riverbendunited.org
Website: www.riverbendunited.org



December 15, 2019

Third Sunday in Advent: Joy Children and Youth Christmas Program

We Gather Together

Prelude

Andrew Sims

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Candle Lighting Litany (Raney) *The Candle of JOY*

Sung Response (Congregation):

**Voices cry out from a world in grief:
Prayers of those who seek relief.
End their darkness, hear their call
For peace on earth, good will for all.**

Litany (Congregation reads the bold print) (Raney)

Advent is a time to celebrate the joy of living.
Lord of light, we thank you for the gift of life.
Advent is a time to celebrate the joy of relationships.
Lord of light, we thank you for our friends and family.
Advent is a time to celebrate the earth we all share.
Lord of light, we thank you for providing for our needs.
Advent is a time to celebrate eternal life.
Lord of light, we thank you for sending a Saviour.

A Reading / Lighting the Candle of JOY

Sung Response (Congregation) (Please see above)

Opening Prayer (in Unison) (Raney)

God of light, we thank you for the many gifts you have given us, and we pray today that you will teach us to be truly joyful. Help us remember that you supply our needs and fill our lives with meaning. Fill our days with keen awareness of your presence, and fill our hearts with praise as we celebrate this joyful Advent season. Amen.

*Opening Hymn *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* vss. 1, 2, 4 **VU 36**



We Listen for the Story

(See Children's Pageant insert -
'Twas the Night Before Christmas)

We Share our Gifts and our Lives

Offering Our Gifts / Offering Prayer

Andrew Sims

*Parting Hymn *Once in Royal David's City* vss. 1, 2, 4 **VU 62**

*Benediction

Come, child of Joy.
We await your birth with eagerness.
Come, child of Joy.
Send us into this day refreshed and ready to welcome you!

*Response *Hope is a Star* vs. 3 **VU 7**

**denotes you are invited to stand as you are able and inclined
VU refers to the red hard-bound hymnal called Voices United
MV refers to the smaller coil-bound hymnal called More Voices*

Welcome!

If you are new with us, we're glad you're here and we would love to meet you. Please also feel free to fill out a Contact Card found in the pew rack if you would like to receive our weekly email updates.

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**Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
Christmas Eve Services**

- 5:00 pm** Candlelight Service with Choir
- 7:00 pm** Candlelight Service with Choir & Handbells
- 9:00 pm** Candlelight Service with Communion