



*Calling all Angels!*

ADVENT 4

**Brougham Place Uniting Church**

December 21, 2025

Preacher: Rev Linda Driver

Advent 4. Purple

***Kardlayirdi Karnungga***

***A Light on the Hill***

Welcome to Brougham Place Uniting Church.  
We acknowledge the Kurna people as the traditional carers of the land on  
which our church is built.

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

Prelude

## Candle of Remembrance

### Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country

Naa marni? *(Are you all good?)*

**Marni Ai!** *(Good I am)*

### Introit

*Angel Voices Ever Singing (Pott/Monk) CH 498*

### Call to Worship

Here in worship—  
**we pray together,**  
we stand together,  
**we sing together,**  
we listen together.

Here in worship—  
**we are not alone.**  
So when life gives you reason to grieve, to fear, or to worry,  
remember this moment.  
**We are not alone.**  
Let us worship our with-us God.

### Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Advent candles decorating our Sanctuary are a sign that Christmas is near. Each Sunday in Advent we have been lighting one more candle. We have already lit the candles of hope, peace and joy. Today, we are going to light the candle of love.

In a world where fear and anxiety is present, where do you see the presence of love?  
**We see love all around us.**

We see love when people hold open the door. We see love in a warm embrace, a plate of homemade biscuits, a phone call after a long day. We see love in random acts of kindness and intentional acts of empathy.

**We see love all around us.**

Yes! Love is all around us.

Today we light the candle of love as a reminder of this good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that even in a fearful world, love is here. Love is world-changing. Love is shining bright. We only have to look for it.

*The candle is lit.*

**Thanks be to God for a love like that!  
Amen.**

We sing: *Angels from God*

1. Angels bringing, Angels giving  
love to us from our God who cares.  
Angels bringing, Angels giving  
love to us from our God who cares.

*Angels are around us -  
Let us be aware  
Angels sent to comfort  
from a God who cares.*

2. Angels bringing, Angels giving  
love to us from our God who cares.  
Angels bringing, Angels giving  
love to us from our God who cares.

Prayer of Confession

God of grace,  
for the times when we limit your compassion and grace  
to the boundaries of our human imagination,  
Lord have mercy.  
**Lord have mercy.**

For the times when we feel your life and hope

are impossibly distant and unreachable,  
Christ have mercy  
**Christ have mercy.**

For the times when we forget the breadth and depth of your love  
and judge others with human eyes and hearts,  
Lord have mercy,  
**Lord have mercy.**

### Words of Grace

God is with us, Immanuel.  
God's love and grace  
are before us, behind us,  
within us and around us.  
We are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### We sing: *Joseph Heard the Troubling News*

1. Joseph heard the troubling news: Mary was expecting!  
What should he, a just man, do? He sought God's directing.  
Joseph thought to send her home — leave her, without blaming;  
Then an angel in a dream spoke of joy, proclaiming:
2. "Go, take Mary as your wife; Joseph, don't you fear it —  
God has formed a precious life by the Holy Spirit!  
Mary soon will bear a son; you shall name him Jesus.  
When the prophet spoke of him, he said, "God is with us!"
3. God of love, we too may face times of doubt and trouble.  
May we know your daily grace, even when we struggle.  
Just as Joseph answered, "Yes!" with new dedication,  
We rejoice, for we've been blessed by your incarnation.

### Passing of the Peace

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

## Community News and Notices



You can [sign up](#) to receive BP E-news by email and [read past issues](#) on our website: [www.bpuc.org](http://www.bpuc.org)

### Children's Time (Exploring the Theme)

*Children and Youth may go downstairs. Today the Sunday School will be having their Happy Birthday Jesus Party. Parents of young children, you are welcome to join your child if you feel they may need your assistance. Alternatively, you may wish for your child to remain with you for the duration of worship. Activity packs are available at the entrances.*

### Choral Anthem

*Sing of a Promise (Craig Mitchell and Allan Hoare)*

### Scripture Reading: *Matthew 1:18-25*

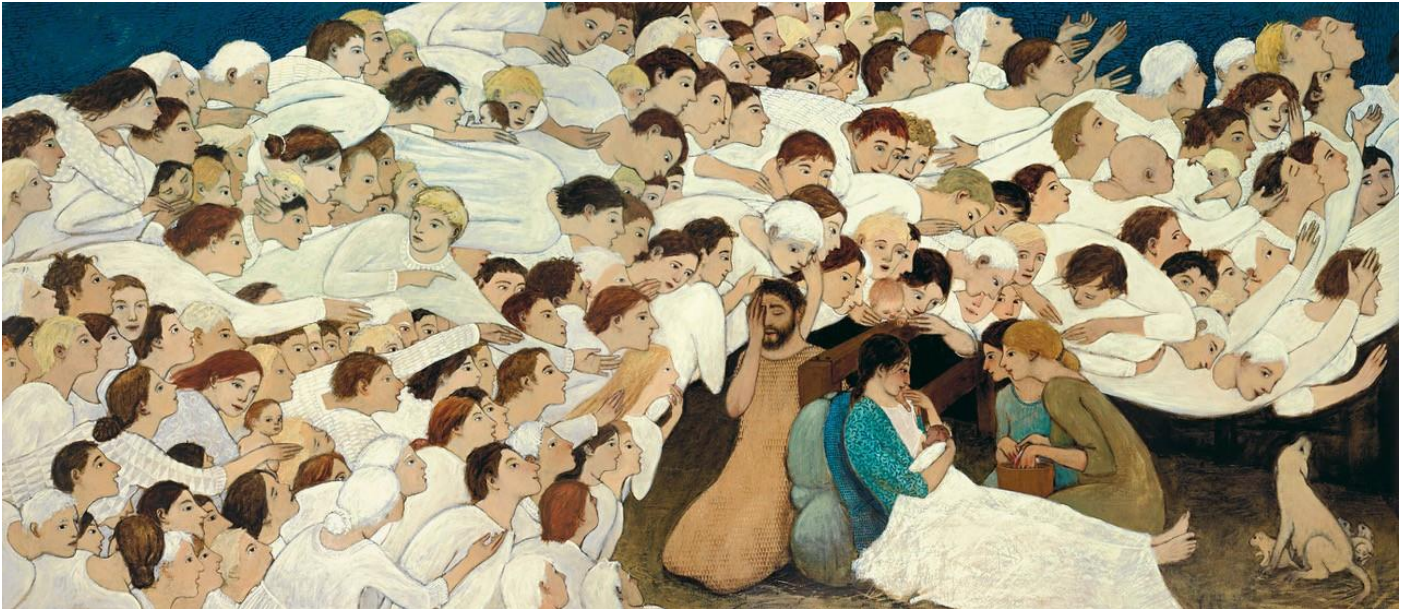
Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall become pregnant  
and give birth to a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of Christ, Light of the world.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Message



*Nativity © 2006, Brian T. Kershisnik, used with permission*

We sing: *Love Came Down At Christmas*

*Together in Song 317*

1. Love came down at Christmas,  
Love all lovely, Love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas,  
star and angels gave the sign.
2. Worship we the Godhead,  
Love incarnate, Love divine;  
worship we our Jesus:  
but wherewith for sacred sign?
3. Love shall be our token,  
love be yours and love be mine,  
love to God and neighbours,  
love for plea and gift and sign.



## Prayers of the People

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

With hope for a better tomorrow, we pray the words your son taught us to pray, saying...

**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 please go to [bpuc.org/give](https://bpuc.org/give)

Alternatively, there is an offering bowl near the lectern on the left-hand side as you exit the church.

### Offering Prayer

## We Sing: *Doxology*

*Tune: O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God, all Spirit messengers below.  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

*Rejoice! Rejoice!*

*Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## Sending Forth and Final Benediction

As you go into this week, remember:  
When you feel anxious or afraid,  
may you look for God's spirit,  
may you reach for each other's hands,  
may you choose courage whenever you can.  
And in all things, may you remember  
that good news is louder than fear.

In the name of the one who calls,  
the one who sends,  
and the one who journeys with—  
go in peace and  
be not afraid.  
Amen.

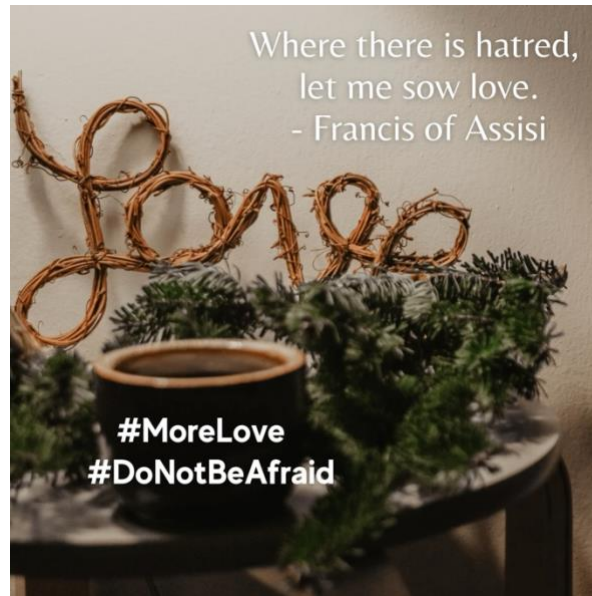
## Choral Blessing

*Amazing Babe of Bethlehem (Bray/Nairn)*

## Extroit

*You are welcome to depart as the music continues*





*#BPUCChristmas #CallingAllAngels #morelove*

*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. All are welcome!*

*Thank you for joining us for worship!  
If you would like to get in touch or request a prayer, please make use of the Contact Cards in the pews and next to the Offering Bowl. Alternately, you can email our Minister, Rev Linda Driver: [lindad@bpuc.org](mailto:lindad@bpuc.org)*

*This service has been prepared with assistance from*

Liturgy, Learning, & (Purposeful) Life (L3)  
Rev. Dr Cathie Lambert  
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Words for Worship  
for advent–epiphany  
Prayers by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC |  
sanctifiedart.org

“Angels Among Us”  
Worship Design Studio

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*Congregation Hymns/Songs:*

Angels From God  
Copyright words and music: Doris Henderson March 2004  
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Joseph Heard the Troubling News  
Tune: TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM 7.6.7.6 D (Good King Wenceslas)  
Text: Copyright © 2010 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

Love Came Down at Christmas  
Together in Song 317  
Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830-94 alt. Public Domain.

Doxology  
Words: “Angels Among Us” Worship Design Studio



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