

# A Weird Christmas

An all-ages,  
inclusive, and fun  
community  
Christmas!

Rev. Ingrid Brown  
Nathan Hutton

Music by Gregor Schoenberg  
& Johannes VanKessel-Crozier

**Welcome! We are so glad you are here to join us. This is a place of welcome and love where there are no barriers to belonging.**



Wiggles and giggles are most welcome here, along with explorers and shy ones, enthusiastic caller-outers and closed-eyes reflectors. We are a community diverse in race, religious & spiritual understanding, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, age, and family systems.

If you wish to sing along, songs are printed in the bulletin and can be found in the red hymn book in the pews and on the shelf at the side of the church.

Weird Church is a charity that is run on the generous donations from the community and neighbourhood. Please help us keep this building open to the community with fully inclusive loving intent for all by making financial contributions or offerings of special skills and trades.

Contributions can be made by cash, e-transfer ([info@weirdchurchcumberland.com](mailto:info@weirdchurchcumberland.com)) or by credit card (QR code) and all gifts over \$20 will receive a tax receipt.



To give directly to the Cumberland Food Share please visit [ccssociety.org](http://ccssociety.org) and donate directly to our partner organization.

## **Opening Songs**

*"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" Voices United #44*

*"Oh Come, All Ye Faithful" Voices United #60*

## **Welcome**

## **Land Acknowledgement**

Weird Church and all of us stand on Kwakwaka'wakw territory, caretakers of this land of plenty since time immemorial.

## **Announcements**

## **Lighting the Advent Wreath**

*"I am Walking a Path of Love"*

*I am Walking a Path of Love x3, Lead me home x 2*

## **Gathering Words**

## **Song**

*"Angels We Have Heard on High" Voices United #38*

## **The Story!**

(this is a fully interactive story so don't be shy!)

## **Songs during The Story**

*"Hark the Herald Angels Sing" Voices United # 48*

*"Joy to the World" Voices United #59*

## **Prayer**

Loving God,

May we celebrate the coming of Love embodied today  
and every day.

May we know the joy of the angels,

The wonder of the wise ones,

The excitement of the shepherds

The trust of the animals,

and the faith of Mary and Joseph.

We thank you for Jesus, who taught us that you are  
with us, our Emmanuel.

Amen.

## **A Christmas Affirmation**

One: I believe in Christmas!

**All: I believe in Christmas!**

One: I believe that God sends light into the dark corners  
of our lives.

**That in the lonely and cold moments,**

**God comes with a message of good news.**

I believe that God's good news

has the power to change the world by changing lives.

I believe that:

**God brings hope in the midst of despair.**

God brings healing in the midst of illness.

**Peace in the midst of conflict and support to the  
mourning.**

Power to the weak, companionship to the lonely and  
family to the forgotten.

**Justice for the oppressed, liberty for the captive, new  
life in the midst of death.**

### **I believe in Christmas.**

I believe that God continues to work in my life today through ancient stories.

**I am a shepherd, startled to hear the good news of the angels, but eager to go and see for myself.**

I am Mary, aware that somehow God is using me to accomplish things too big to imagine.

**I am Joseph, not understanding fully that which I am called to do, but following as faithfully as I can.**

I am the innkeeper, busy and frazzled, but making some room, somehow, for God to be born. And yes, I am the angel, proclaiming in my own life, the glorious good news that God has come into the world and we shall never be the same.

### **I believe in Christmas**

**and with my life, today and throughout the year to come, I will live in the promise of love.**

**Amen.**

### **Songs**

*"Go Tell It on the Mountain" Voices United #43*

while singing, please get your candle ready for lighting!

*"Silent Night" Voices United #67*

We will dim the lights during this song

### **Blessing**

### **Postlude**

## Songs

### **"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" Voices United #44**

It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold,  
'Peace on the earth, good will to all,  
from heaven's all-gracious King!'  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come  
with peaceful wings unfurled;  
and still their heavenly music floats  
o'er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains  
they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o'er its Babel sounds  
the blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife  
the world has suffered long;  
beneath the angel strain have rolled  
two thousand years of wrong;  
and warring humankind hears not  
the love song which they bring.  
O hush the noise, and cease your strife,  
to hear the angels sing.

For, lo! the days are hastening on,  
by prophets seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years

shall come the time foretold,  
 when peace shall over all the earth  
 its ancient splendours fling,  
 and the whole world send back the song  
 which now the angels sing.

**“Oh Come, All Ye Faithful” Voices United #60**

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
 O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:  
 come and behold him, born the King of angels;  
     O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
     O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

God of God, light of light,  
 lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;  
 very God, begotten, not created: R

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
 sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
 glory to God in the highest: R

See how the shepherds summoned to his cradle,  
 leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
 we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps; R

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
 word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: R

**“Angels We Have Heard on High” Voices United #38**

Angels we have heard on high  
 sweetly singing o'er the plains,

and the mountains in reply,  
 echoing their joyous strains.  
     Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
     Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
 Why your joyous strains prolong?  
 What the gladsome tidings be  
 which inspire your heavenly song? R

Come to Bethlehem and see  
 Christ whose birth the angels sing;  
 come, adore on bended knee  
 Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. R

See him in a manger laid,  
 whom the choirs of angels praise;  
 Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
 while our hearts in love we raise. R

### **“Away In A Manger” Voices United #69**

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
 the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
 The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
 the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
 but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
 I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,  
 and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay  
 close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.



Bless all the dear children in your tender care,  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

**“Hark the Herald Angels Sing” Voices United #48**

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King,  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail the incarnate deity.  
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel! R

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth. R

**"Go Tell It on the Mountain" Voices United #43**

Go, tell it on the mountain,  
 over the hills and everywhere.  
 Go, tell it on the mountain  
 that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching  
 o'er silent flocks by night,  
 behold, throughout the heavens  
 there shone a holy light. R

The shepherds feared and trembled  
 when lo, above the earth  
 rang out the angel chorus  
 that hailed our Saviour's birth! R

Down in a lonely manger  
 the humble Christ was born,  
 and God sent our salvation  
 that blessed Christmas morn. R

**"Silent Night" Voices United #67**

Silent night! Holy night!  
 All is calm, all is bright  
 round yon virgin mother and child.  
 Holy infant so tender and mild,  
 sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!  
 Shepherds quake at the sight:  
 glories stream from heaven afar,  
 heavenly hosts sing Hallelujah,  
 Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.

Silent night! Holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

*Thank you for joining us tonight!*

*Remember to love one another*

Got Questions? Want to connect?

General inquiries

[info@weirdchurchcumberland.com](mailto:info@weirdchurchcumberland.com)

Rev. Ingrid Brown, Minister

[ingrid@weirdchurchcumberland.com](mailto:ingrid@weirdchurchcumberland.com)

Nathan Hutton, Youth Leader

[nathan@weirdchurchcumberland.com](mailto:nathan@weirdchurchcumberland.com)

Weird Church  
Nurturing the Spirit at the heart  
of Cumberland



Upcoming Events  
Sunday Service 4pm

Rest Sunday  
no service December 31

Weird Church in the Woods  
Saturday January 13 @ 4pm

Meditation & Soundbath  
Sunday January 21 @ 4pm

Community Potluck  
Sunday January 28 Service @  
4pm potluck to follow at 5:30pm

Weird Church Youth  
Friday community events  
Sunday programming