



**God Bless
ALYVIA DORA LYNN MELOCHE
as she is baptized today.**

Parents: Amber & Aaron Meloche



OFFERING ENVELOPES 2018

Please take a moment to pick up your 2018 Offering Envelopes at the back of the church.



2018 CALENDARS

We will be collecting 2018 calendars for Hiatus House. If you have an extra one at home that you will not be using, please leave it at the back of the church.



If you are interested in becoming a **member** of Emmanuel United Church please fill out a little **blue card** in the pews and place it in the offering plate.



CHRISTMAS FAMILY

Thank you to everyone that contributed to our Christmas family this year. A total of **\$1,345** was raised. Much needed items on the family's list were purchased along with gift cards for food for other CAS families. Thank you to Bill Nanson for all the organizing and shopping.

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EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

**December 31, 2017
10:30 am**



**MINISTER
Rev. Sadekie Lyttle-Forbes**

**MUSIC DIRECTOR
Nicholas Morvay**

**MINISTER EMERITUS
Rev. Dr. John Palmer**

We are a Christian community gathered together to worship and celebrate God and to serve Him through Jesus Christ. Our church is accessible and welcoming to all persons for fellowship, learning, sharing and teaching. We strive to show our love through service to all humanity.

ORDER OF SERVICE
December 31, 2017
NEW YEARS EVE SERVICE

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: In the beginning was the Word.

P: And the Word was with God and the Word was God.

L: In him was light.

P: And the light was the life of all people.

L: The light shines in the darkness.

ALL: And the darkness has not overcome it.

OPENING HYMN: VU 345 Come, Children
Join to Sing

PRAYER

L: Holy and loving God, you stir in our hearts and bring joy to our lives; you stir in our minds and bring wisdom to our thoughts; you stir in the world and bring hope to our future. You came as a little child stirring up our praises so now we come. Compassionate God, trusting in your love for us, we bring our prayers of confession.

ALL: God of grace and truth, you give the gift of yourself, but we are often caught up in our own gifts given and received. You offer us new life in the baby born in Bethlehem, but we cloak that birth in sentiment and ignore the cost of new life. You shine in the world,

but we choose dwell on the darkness, for light on us requires us to do good in the sight of others; You came to us in flesh and blood, but we often fail to see you in the human lives around us. Forgive what we have been, shape who we are, and direct who we shall be. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN'S HYMN: VU 443 God, We Pray at This Beginning (**Children come forward during singing. We sing verses 1 and 2**)

INFANT BAPTISM:

Alyvia Dora Lynn Meloche

Congregation's Response (when prompted during ceremony): *With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ. We will make ourselves available to give nurture and support. We pray that the steadfast love of the Lord will surround the family and keep them in the faith that leads to eternal life.*

VU 443 God, We Pray at This Beginning
(**sing verse 1 as the children leave**)

OFFERTORY INVITATION:

L: The Lord did not hold back even His Son so that we would have eternal life! Let us therefore find joy in giving to the ministries and work of this church in our world for the sake of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen

OFFERTORY DEDICATION: VU 236 Now
Thank We All Our God

ALL: In Christ's service, we offer these gifts and ourselves to your work, through Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayers of the People: VU617 I Love You God, Who Heard My Cry

L: As you came to us in love as the Christ child in Bethlehem, so we come to you with love and concern for the world. In this time of quiet and contemplation we remember:

P: families that live close to the edge of survival, worrying about where their next meal will come from, and where they will find shelter;

L: those who spent Christmas alone, or in hospital, or weighed down by grief;

P: those who work today while we rest;

L: those who have lost their sense of joy and wonder and whose vision is clouded by cynicism or despair;

P: those who celebrate the birth of a new life, a new love, or a new way of being;

L: those whom we have loved and who loved us, who now dwell in the eternal joy of your presence. We bring you our thanks and worries expressed and unexpressed; and ask you to relieve us of them or help us cope. My prayer is..

L: In deep gratitude for all the gifts of this life, we gather our voices and pray the prayer that the child of Bethlehem taught us:

ALL: Our Father...

WORD

Preparing to Listen: "Ancient Words" M. Smith

1. Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world, they resound with God's own heart. Oh, let the ancient words impart Words of Life, words of Hope, give us strength, help us cope. In this world, where e'er we roam ancient words will guide us home

Chorus: Ancient words, ever true, changing me and changing you, we have come with open hearts. O let your ancient words impart.

SCRIPTURES

NT: Galatians 3:23-26; 4:1-7

Last reader: These are the words from the scriptures we love

ALL: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

THE MESSAGE: "Before and After"

Closing Hymn: VU 635 All the Way My Saviour Leads Me

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

L: Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him. And may the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord be kind and gracious to you. May the Lord look upon you with favour and give you peace. AMEN

CHORAL BLESSING (sung together)
Go now in peace. ccli#262153