Holiday Playlist Shared by CUC Board and Staff

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Casey Satinsby's pick:

 <u>Sufjan Stevens</u> has a number of lovely Christmas albums - quirky and beautiful takes on classics, as well as originals.

Chuck Shields' picks:

- <u>I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day</u> Sarah McLachlan. I have lots of favourite Christmas songs, but this is a Unitarian one and sung by one of Canada's best.
- <u>Such a Night</u> Aaron Neville. Not a traditional Christmas carole or song, but included on Aaron's Christmas album and it displays his voice and groove wonderfully.
- <u>Jingle Bells</u> Diana Krall. Another Unitarian Christmas song sung by one of Canada's favourites.
- <u>II est ne/Ca bergers</u> Kate and Anna McGarrigle. A gentle carole and we don't have any French songs yet. Who better than by a couple of Canada and Montreal's best. Sadly, from the last album before Kate passed away.

Glenna Hanley's pick:

Go Tell It On the Mountain by Mahalia Jackson
 While Jesus does not play a role in my belief system I do believe in Mahalia
 Jackson and her amazing voice. She does a lot of other good Christmas songs
 too.

Kenzie Love's picks:

- <u>Carry Me Home</u>, Hey Rosetta!
 A reminder about the importance of the simple things in life during a difficult Christmas such as this one.
- It Came Upon a Midnight Clear, Sixpence None the Richer
 A haunting version of this classic (written by a Unitarian minister).

Karen McKay's picks:

- <u>The Christians and the Pagans</u> by Dar Williams. We love the message of this song. We dance around the kitchen to this every Christmas.
- <u>Count Your Blessings</u> Holly Cole/Rebecca Jenkins/Mary Margaret O'Hara/Jane Siberry/Victoria Williams. This is from one of my very favourite holiday albums called Count Your Blessings. My other favourite from the album is "Are You

- <u>Burning Little Candle?</u>" This gets to the heart of the holidays for me. I listen to this album as I am wrapping gifts, usually very very late on Christmas Eve.
- Grown up Christmas List by Amy Grant. My youngest daughter loves this song. It's one of the ones I hear her singing in her room at Christmas time. There's something very poignant about my baby singing about her grown up Christmas list.

Margaret's pick:

Twas in the Moon of Wintertime - Tom Jackson
 I appreciate the reframing of the Christmas story into a Canadian context. Of course I love Tom Jackson's voice. And I appreciate the work he has done to raise money for food banks and homeless shelters. I have been to a few of his cross-country fundraising concert tours.

Margo Ellis' pick:

Joy to the World - Al Petteway and Amy White
 Al and Amy are wonderful acoustic musicians with numerous albums of their combined talents. This is from Winter Tidings: An Appalachian Christmas

Vyda Ng's picks:

- From Pentatonix: I love their acapella arrangements and harmonies -
 - Little Drummer Boy
 - Mary, Did You Know
- Although not a 'seasonal' song, "We Rise Again" is a favourite. Here are two versions:
 - Cantus Vocum and Alan Doyle
 - Voices Rock Medicine, Choir of Women Physicians

Margaret Kohr

 The Good Lovelies cover of Gordon Lightfoot's <u>Song for a Winter Night</u> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2MYa4hU5cAU

The version of this song brings out the poignancy and the poetry of the lyrics...especially in this year of the absence of our loved ones.