

# Saint Andrew's United Church

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*We are called to be the united church. Mission is our home. We foster belonging; provide spiritual accompaniment; and ask the deep questions*

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**The Third Sunday in Epiphany**  
**January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

## **WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

++ Please rise in body or spirit

MV = More Voices; VU = Voices United;

TLUS = Then Let Us Sing

## **PRELUDE**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **GREETING:**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

### **TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGMENT:**

*We worship on the unceded territory of the Halq' eméylem-speaking peoples.*

### **CANDLE LIGHTING:**

### **WE WELCOME EACH OTHER**

To the coastlands, to the prairies, to the mountains and forests, we proclaim the good news:

**Light has come into the world!**

**God is at work!**

Who shall bear this good news?

**We will gather with our siblings in Christ;**

**we will listen for the word of God;**

**we will proclaim the Gospel!**

## **AND WE CENTRE IN GOD:**

God, there is much suffering and fear in the world today.  
The future seems uncertain.  
It is like a cloud of darkness that blinds our sight.

**Join us in the darkness, God.**

**Sit with us; dream with us;  
call us; renew us.**

**++HYMN:** MV 17 – “God in the Darkness”

## **WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD:**

Holy Love, you have created us to be reflections of you in our own wonderful uniqueness.

**You have created us to love  
without any other agenda.**

And yet sometimes we fail to do so. Sometimes we turn away from another in fear or judgment.

**We want to be accepted;  
we want to be one of the crowd.**

*[Silent Prayer]*

## **AND WE ARE ACCEPTED:**

God gently calls us back, teaching us not to be afraid.

**God teaches that we are all part of Creation,  
and all of us are God’s beloved people.**

May we be people of integrity and grace, acting from mercy and truth.

**May we be people of courage  
even when we are afraid.**

May we be filled with the Spirit of life, truth, and compassion,

**reflecting your love and mercy always. Amen.**

*- Written by Susan Girard, gatheringworship.ca. Adapted.*

**WE RESPOND:** VU 79 – “Arise, Your Light is Come” v 4

**Arise, your light is come!  
The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing;  
God’s power will make us strong.**

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

**TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART**

**SCRIPTURE:** **Reader: Cathy Waller**

Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalm 27:1-9 [VU 754, v1-3]

Matthew 4:12-23

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

**++HYMN:** VU 82 – “A Light is Gleaming”

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S LOVE**

**PASSING THE PEACE:**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER** VU 960 [Ecumenical Version]

**MISSION AND SERVICE STORIES:**

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING:**

Let us present our offering to the work of God.

## **++OFFERTORY: “These Gifts We Bring”**

These gifts we bring with grateful hearts,  
to reconcile, make new.

Gather us in grace, show us the way,  
to live our lives in Truth;  
to share Your love in all we do.

*The offering is brought forward.*

## **PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS:**

The magi perceived your star;  
the disciples followed your Son;  
the early Church received your revelation.

**Like those before us,  
we receive your gifts  
and offer them to your world.**

## **++HYMN: MV 171 – “Christ Has No Body Now But Yours”**

### **WE GO OUT TO SERVE GOD**

## **++COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

## **EXTROIT: VU 679 – “Let There be Light” v 1,5,6**

## **END OF WORSHIP**

## **BEGINNING OF SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY**



*St. Andrew's is a member  
of Affirming United*

