

Stettler United Church



BESTOGETHER

We are United Churches at Big Valley, Erskine and Stettler.

Date: February 1, 2026
Fourth after Epiphany
Theme: Those Who Are Blessed

Worship Leaders: Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon

Musician: Linda Kneeland

Audio/Visual: Holly McKenzie

(*: Please, stand if you are able.)

Musical Prelude

Greetings

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Response: And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements (Care & Concerns)

- **Rev. Kwon will be away** on study leave from February 2nd – February 08
- **Valentine's High Tea** ~ Saturday February 14 ~ 2 – 4 pm ~ Admission \$5.00
- **Annual Congregational Meeting** ~ Sunday March 01 after the worship service
- **Annual Reports** ~ If you haven't submitted your report yet, please do ASAP.
- **100 Years ~ 2027** ~ Can I put your name down for a "100 year" committee? Please?? Let me know ASAP if you are willing to help.

Acknowledgement of Territory

ALL: God calls us to live with respect and care for all our relations in creation. For thousands of years, Indigenous peoples of this area have tended the earth, and we give thanks for such diligence. We covenant to live and work together, sharing this land in peace and respect as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the river flows.

Peter Chynoweth, Cochrane AB

Call to Worship

We are beloved ordinary people following Jesus.

We are messy, perfectly imperfect people following Jesus.
We have invited Jesus into our hearts and into our lives.
Welcome to our messy, perfectly imperfect worship of our God who loves us.

Welcome to our messy, perfectly imperfect community of faith.
Come, let us worship!

Susan Girard, Riverview U.C., Atikokan, Ont. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 43. Used with Permission.

Light the Christ Candle

These short days of January, we yearn for light. We must wake up before dawn breaks, and night descends upon us early in the evening.

Oh, how we crave light. Into this reality has come Jesus the Christ, the One we call the Light of the World. It is with that assurance that we light the Christ candle.

Laura J. Turnbull, Penticton, B.C. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 42. Used with Permission.

***Hymn Come, Let Us Sing VU#222**

Words, Music: Jim Strathdee 1976. Arrangement: Jean Strathdee. Words, Music © Desert Flower Music. Used by permission. Words, Music: Desert Flower Music LicenSing, OneLicense.net

Opening Prayer

ALL: Spirit of Truth and Wisdom, you are our comforter, always, guiding us, teaching us, showing us the way. We flourish under your care and direction and love. Praising your name, forever, we pray. Amen.

Pat Clysdale-Cornell, Knox U.C., Fort Frances, Ont. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 44. Used with Permission.

Prayer of Confession

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.

You gently call us back to you, teaching us not to be afraid,

teaching us we are all a part of your creation and beloved by you.
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.

Susan Girard, Riverview U.C., Atikokan, Ont. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 44-45. Used with Permission.

***Hymn *As with Gladness Men of Old* VU#81**

Words: William Chatterton Dix, alt. Music: Conrad Kocher. Adapted by William H. Monk. Descant: Alan Gray. Public Domain. N/A

Prayer of Illumination

We come, O Jesus, to pay attention for your voice as we receive your word.

May your word revive what is dead within us so we find new life.

May your touch heal what is broken within us so we may thrive.

May your companionship encourage us to find our voices for justice.

May your good news inspire us with the plentiful fruit of faith.

May your name vanquish our fears and transform our sorrows.

We come, O Christ, to be attentive to your voice and to act in love.

We come in trust and in faith. Amen.

Gord Dunbar, while at Kincardine P.C., Kincardine, Ont. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 45. Used with Permission.

Scripture Readings: Malcolm Fischer

Micah 6:1–8: What does God require of us?

1 Corinthians 1:18–31: God's foolishness better than human wisdom.

Matthew 5:1–12: Blessed are the poor in spirit.

Special Music Malcolm Fischer

Hymn *Tell Me the Stories of Jesus* VU#357 (verse 1)

(being seated)

Words: William H. Parker 1885 Music: Fredrick Arthur Challinor 1903 © 1904 National Christian Education Council, 1020 Bristol Rd., Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6LB, England. Reproduced with permission. Words, Music: National Christian Education Council. CCLI.

Congregational Theme/Story Time

Message Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon

***Hymn *Who Is My Mother* MV#178**

Words: William Chatterton Dix, alt. Music: Conrad Kocher. Adapted by William H. Monk. Descant: Alan Gray. Public Domain. N/A

Invitation for Offering

Offering Hymn *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

VU#541 *Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674. Music: Genevan Psalter 1551. Public Domain. N/A*

Offering Prayer

ALL: May these gifts open our hearts and those of others to Christ's continued presence in our world. Make these gifts into invitations to come and discover your desire, O God, for the abundant living of all people. Amen.

Karen Boivin, Melville U.C., Fergus, Ont. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 46. Used with Permission.

Prayers of the Gathered Community

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

***Hymn *Lord, You Give the Great Commission* VU#512**

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***Commissioning and Benediction**

***Threefold Amen (Unison) VU#967**

Postlude