

Saint Andrew's United Church

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

The Fifth Sunday in Epiphany
February 8th, 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

Arise, your light is come!

We come to be part of that light.

Open yourself to the grace of God!

We come to offer ourselves.

Arise, your light has come!

We are children of the Light.

- Written by George Allan, *gatheringworship.ca*.

AND WE CENTRE IN GOD:

...and so, we pray:

We come into your presence, God most holy, in awe and wonder at your great love for us all, no matter who we are, no matter what we have done.

Open our hearts to your holy wisdom.

Help us, we pray, to share your love with the world, just as the Wise Ones shared their gifts with the Christ.

In his name, and in your love, we pray.

Amen!

- Written by Richard Bott, *gatheringworship.ca*.

++HYMN: VU 87 – “I am the Light of the World”

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD:

Where are you, God?

We gather for worship; we say grace at mealtimes.

We exclude our neighbours; our prayers are a formality.

We do not see you.

Your scriptures adorn our buildings; our leaders invoke your name.

We oppress your children in our offices;

we imprison your children in our jails.

We do not hear you.

Where are you, God?

At our best, we hear our hypocrisy and try to adjust our course.

But are you so easily pushed out?

[Silent Prayer]

AND WE ARE ACCEPTED:

Siblings in Christ,

God does hear our prayers.

God has responded and is responding.

Even now –

**the light of God's presence
is spreading through the world.**

Even now –

**God calls our hearts back to the wisdom we know
and to the love we trust.**

Even now –

God is calling us to action!

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: Beate Pothmann

Isaiah 58:1-9a

Psalm 112 [Refrain: VU 789]

Matthew 5:13-20

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

++HYMN: MV 28 – “God of the Bible”

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

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 209 – “Go Make a Diff’rence”

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