



December 29th, 2024 9:30 a.m.

Together Toward the Light

Prelude Annie Schulz

Gathering Thoughts Darrell Winger

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Leader: The Word has become flesh; God now walks among us!

People: Through Jesus, God is fully known.

Leader: All creation is renewed, experiencing the grace and truth of God, through the birth and life of Jesus.

People: We are the children of God, brought together to experience the light that brings unity to the whole of humanity, a light that shines forward year by year, through all the ages and stages of our lives.

All: Praise be to God for abundant hope, peace, joy and love. Praise be to God for true power, deep wholeness, daily strength, and eternal grace.

Prayer

Life-giving God of Love, we ask to feel and to know your presence today, and to humbly grow in wisdom and strength through all the seasons of our lives. Amen.

Hymn *Let our gladness have no end* HWB #198

Passing of the Peace

Offertory Prayer

Musical Reflection

Prayers of the People Darrell Winger

Women's Chorus *Noel, Noel*

Scripture Reading Colossians 3:12-17 (NT p.201)

Hymn

Christmas Medley

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:41-52 (NT p.59)

Meditation

“And the Boy Grew”

Mac Plunkett

Hymn of Response *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

*In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God, do not be afraid. Lift up your voices, the Lord is near,
lift up your voices, the Lord is near.*

Benediction

Mac Plunkett

Sending Hymn *Come and Hear the Joyful Singing*

*Come and hear the joyful singing, Alleluia, gloria,
set the bells of heaven ringing Alleluia, gloria,
God the Lord has shown us favour Alleluia, gloria,
Christ is born to be our Saviour .Alleluia, gloria!*

*Choir and people, shout in wonder, Alleluia, gloria,
let the mighty chorus thunder; Alleluia, gloria,
thank our God for love amazing, Alleluia, gloria,
Father, Son and Spirit praising. Alleluia, gloria!*

Postlude

***It is good to be together in worship this morning!
The ushers are pleased to help any who need assistance.***

[Offering plate is available on table at back of sanctuary]

GRACE NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Let's Be Praying

- For Anne D., Dan C., and Reg F. in their health challenges
- For the South Sudanese refugee family waiting to come to Canada through Bridge of Hope
- For those who process grief and other kinds of challenges in this Christmas season
- For Mary K. (St. Catharines) continuing her recovery
- For blessing on Nick and Cathy in their engagement

Epiphany Sunday January 5th

Speaker: Darrell Winger, with Diana Lantin sharing

Scripture Texts: **Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14; Isaiah 60:1-5a**

Coffee Times ~ January 5th, January 19th

♪ **Women's Chorus** ~ Thursdays on

January 9th, January 23rd at 9:30 a.m.

2024 Offerings: Please submit any 2024 offerings by today, Sunday, December 29, either at our Sunday service or by e-transfer. Canada Post is alerting us that items put into the mail may not be delivered until sometime in 2025 due to significant backlogs. If you are unable to attend church at this time and not able to do an e-transfer, and still wish to give an offering, please contact Lorraine Sawatzky and arrangements can be made.

Together in the Light

Following up on our Avent theme, *Together Toward the Light*, our theme for Epiphany is, *Together in the Light*. Epiphany season begins on January 5th and concludes with Transfiguration Sunday on March 2nd. Epiphany means 'realisation' and is associated with ideas of a sudden discovery, light dawning, the penny dropping, a 'eureka' moment. Jesus declared, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life." As followers of Christ Jesus, we journey together in his light and life, which brings us and our world new possibilities of peace and reconciliation. The Spirit invites us to be open to these new possibilities, to "eureka' moments, and to have the eyes of our spirit opened to see how God is present and at work all around us. As we move into this coming year, let's be open to new possibilities of partnering with God's Spirit in furthering hope and healing in our lives and in the world.

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 that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory.
For ever and ever. Amen.*

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