

Trinity United Church

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Minister: Rev. Diane Knowles
Director of Music: Kyung-A Lee
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The Mission & Service of The United Church of Canada



La mission & le service de l'Église Unie du Canada

Photo: Matt Robinson Location: Vickery Lake near Oxford, NS



Trinity United Church

~ The Heart in the Heart of Huntsville ~

January 8th, 2023 – 10 am

Epiphany Sunday

“Come in and share your light with us.”

... **Bold** is read by everyone ...

We Gather as God’s People

Musical Prelude

Greeting: Jesus said: *“I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly.”*

All: **In our lives, may this be so.**

Welcome in Friendship! Welcome in Faith!

Welcome in the Powerful Light of God’s Love!

We gather every week as followers of Jesus to grow our hearts and to aspire to be better humans in order to build a better world for ALL God’s people. If you’re visiting or shopping around for a new spiritual home, we are glad you’re here with us. May this service be a blessing to you and may you be a blessing to others this coming week.

Introit: “Find a Home Here” (just the refrain)

**Find a home here, live out faith here,
gather strength here, find family here.**

**Be yourself here, feel secure here,
celebrate here, be at home here.** (repeat)

This Week’s Announcements

Joys and Concerns

Lighting of the Christ Candle

We light the Christ candle as a reminder that Jesus’ light shines around us, in us and most importantly through us. This flame reminds us of Jesus who brings light and hope to us all. May his light guide our thoughts and our actions in this new year ahead.

Moment of Meditation

Let’s take a quiet moment now and prepare our hearts to celebrate God’s presence together. Pause, breathe, be here now... in this one precious God given moment...

Call to Worship and Prayer of Approach

One: Arise, shine, for your light has come!

All: **We are called out of the darkness and into the light.**

One: Lift up your eyes and look around.

All: **We rejoice in the gift of light.**

One: Come, let us celebrate the God of light, joy and peace.

All: **Let your light break forth into our lives and transform us as people of the Light.**

Opening Hymn: “Will You Come and See the Light”
(VU 96)

Opening Prayer

God of all light and love, dazzle us with your presence here today. Flood us with the light of your love. Inspire our minds and guide our actions in the new year ahead. Help us to be people of the light- following in the Way shown to us by Jesus- a way of compassion and peace. Empower us to put You- to put light and love in the centre of our lives. Then we in turn can shine with the light of your love in our homes, schools, churches and communities.

Amen.

Time with our Light Beamers

Congregational Blessing

“May the peace of Christ be with you”.

All: **And also with you.**

Anthem: “Mary Did you Know?” (Doug and Sue Hicks)

We Listen for God’s Word

Today Scripture reader is Sheila Petch

Prayer of Illumination

Reader: Let us pray: God of new beginnings, may these words of ancient scripture show us how-to walk-in faith and how to act with kindness in our every day lives.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6

(Many years ago the people of God were going through a difficult time. They felt as if they were in the dark with no light. God gave a message to the prophet Isaiah. The message was that the people were not alone; God was still with them. Arise, and shine for your light has come.)

Reader: God’s Word is a lamp to our feet.

All: **And a light to our path.**

New Testament Reading: Matthew 2: 1-12

(The visit of the Magi.)

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to our hearts.

All: **Amen**

Minister’s Message: “Another Road”

We Respond to God’s Life-Giving Word

Offering Invitation

Our God of Light has blessed us with abundant gifts and blessings this Christmas season. Now, in gratitude, we choose to share these blessings with others both here and around the world.

As those Magi of old offered their gifts, we offer our gifts this morning.

Our morning tithes and offerings will now be received.

Offering Hymn (tune of Edelweiss)

**God of love, hear our prayer,
bless this offering we bring you.
May our lives do your will,
guide and guard us forever.
Give us the courage to stand for truth,
help us care for others.
God of love, hear our prayer,
Bless this offering we bring you.**

Offering Prayer

**We are reminded through words and songs that Jesus is
God's gift to the world- our light of the world. In the
tradition of gift giving and gift sharing we offer these
gifts now, so they may be used to help shine God's light
of hope and love to people here at home and afar. May
we too shine with God's love that others may also be
hopeful seekers of a life more abundant. Amen.**

Hymn: "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" (VU 400)

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

An Alternate version of the Prayer of Jesus

**Eternal Spirit,
Pain bearer and Life giver,
Source of all that is and all that shall be.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.**

**From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love- now
and forever. Amen.**

*(We will return to the traditional version. We are simply
trying on other versions of this prayer to see if they resonate
with others. Thank you for keeping your hearts and minds
open.)*

Closing Hymn: "I Am the Light of the World" (VU 87)

Commissioning

Go forth into this New Year knowing that although the
future is uncertain God is faithful.
God's Light will be with us and within us to guide us and
show us the way.

Benediction

May the vision of God's all-encompassing love encourage
you.
May the life of Jesus show you how to live.
And may the Holy Spirit fill you with joy and peace,
this day and in the New Year ahead. Amen.

Musical Postlude



Today's bulletin cover is provided by
Lynn McGregor and Nicole Attfield in memory of
Rob Attfield.

*"Close to our hearts he will always stay.
Loved and remembered every day."*



"Loving Hearts. Open Minds. Helping Hands."

Come in and be part of our growing spiritual community!
Trinity United Church
The Heart in the Heart of Huntsville!



Spiritual Thought to go

*"Each of us are called to be a window through which
Christ's light shines."*

Rev. Dennis Posno

Announcements and other 'Stuff'!

A Celebration of Life will be held for
Murray Arnold on Saturday January 14th
at 2:00 pm in Trinity's Sanctuary.
Reception to follow in Trinity Hall.

All are welcome to attend.



Souper Sandwich Lunch - "Dine-in or Order Takeout!"

Friday January 13th from 11.30 am to 12.30 pm in Trinity Hall.



Takeout Order Deadline is Tuesday January 10th!!

To place your order call: 705-789-5679.

Come and bring your friends for a bowl of homemade
soup, sandwich and dessert. Hope to see you there!

Board of Director's meeting

Tuesday January 10th at 10:00 am in the Hearth Room.

Benevolent Fund Basket

Please remember the Benevolent Fund Basket in Trinity Hall at
Coffee Hour after Worship. Your donation for coffee and
goodies enables the Outreach Team to help others in our
community who are going through a difficult time in their lives.
Thank you for your support.

