



# Sunset United Church

*An Affirming Ministry of the United Church of Canada*

[www.sunsetunited.ca](http://www.sunsetunited.ca)

January 7 ,2018

*Choir Leader:* Nancy Edwards

*Pianists:* Shirley Hill and Kevin Petrychyn

*Worship Hosts:* Gail Bradley,  
Don Bennett, Maida Gardner

*Reader:* Don Bennett

*Coffee:* Doug & Cathy Billett

**MINISTERS: ALL OF US!**

**Guest Worship Leader: Karen Cartmell**

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We pray that our worship is both 'child & adult friendly'.

As we worship, we give thanks to the Creator for the Earth, and we honour the Saulteaux, the Cree, and other Aboriginal peoples upon whose traditional land, now defined as Treaty 4, we gather.

## WE GATHER

Prelude

Gathering Hymn: VU #71 'Twas in the Moon of  
Wintertime v1 \*\* (words on screens)

Lighting of the Peace and Christ Candles

**Child:** We light the Christ candle this morning to remind us that Christ, who is our light, is here among us

**All:** And to remind us that the light of God's Spirit is within each one of us to share with other people. Amen

Welcome & Announcements

**Call to Worship \*:**

Epiphany is a time of revelation, a time when we see things for the first time or in a new light.

**Open our eyes to see your light, O God.**

Epiphany is a time when we hear God's call and all that God is calling us to be.

**Open our ears to hear your calling, O God.**

Epiphany is a time when we recognize God's grace, abundant and overflowing.

**Open our hearts to receive your grace, O God.**

Epiphany is a time for worship, that we might be called by the light of Christ, led by the Holy Spirit and filled with the grace of God.

**Open our lives to respond in worship of you, O God.**

**Opening Hymn: We Three Kings (words on screens)\*\*\*\***

**Prayer of Illumination: \*\*\***

Gracious and accepting God, as we celebrate Epiphany,

**Illuminate this place with a growing star,**

**Make brilliant the sacred that sits in each of our hearts.**

Invite us to seek the light of Christ's presence

Set out for us to follow.

**Attune us to the childlike engagement naturally found in the very young.**

We have celebrated the birth of Christ

**Now let us join in the journey of the Magi as they find Christ too**

Help us be gracious and attentive to this gift of light that is given to us

And use it to inspire others

**In the Christ child's name we pray.**

**Amen**

Passing of the Peace of Christ

WE LISTEN

Special Music: Mark Pitman (*Warm The Time of Winter*)

Conversation time

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

Reflection: “Following the Star”

WE RESPOND

Hymn: VU #55 v1-3 In the Bleak Midwinter \*\*\*\*\*  
(words on screens)

Offering Invitation

Our Offerings are Received

Doxology: VU #55 v4 \*\*\*\*\*  
(words on screens)

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People & Lord’s Prayer (#959) \*<\*

Hymn: VU#91 v1-5 The First Nowell \*<\*\*  
(words on screens)

## Commissioning

*Let us go with open hearts – thankful for this gathering today*

*Let us go with hope –keeping our eyes open for “stars” to  
guide us*

*Let us go in faith – knowing that we, like the Magi, are on  
this faith journey together*

*Let us go in love – knowing that we are loved by God, and  
spread that love wherever we go this day*

## Blessing

Sung Response: *Amen, Amen, Amen*

## Postlude



- \*Adapted from Heather McClure, *Gathering*, A/C/E 2016-7, pg 40. Used with permission
- \*\* Words: Jean de Brebeuf ca. 1641: English Trans. Jesse Edgar Middleton 1926 alt. Music: French folksong, 16<sup>th</sup> century, arr. By H. Barrie Cabena 1970. English words copyright © 1927 The Frederick Harris Music Co. Arrangement copyright © 1971 h> Barrie Cabena. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License A-605683.
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- \*\*\*\*\* Words: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1872. Music: Gustav Theodor Holst 1906
- \*<\* Music: David Haas, 1986. Music copyright © 1986 GIA Publications Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License A-605683.
- \*<\*\* Words: English traditional carol, ca. 17<sup>th</sup> century, alt. Music: English traditional melody, harm. John Stainer 1871, desc. And harm. Healey Willan 1926. Refrain harmony and descant copyright © 1926 Oxford University Press, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License A-605683.