

# January 19 2025 Christingle Sunday



❖ All **bolded** text is a congregational response.

## **Welcome and Announcements**

Good morning and welcome to Bethel United Church in Rideau Ferry, Ontario. Today is January 19<sup>th</sup>, and we are having a Christingle worship service. We welcome all of you into this place, whether you are worshiping with us in our sanctuary, or from home through our Live Streaming.

This week, our service is being led by: members of Session, Ruth Anne Johnson and our choir, Aidan Williamson, Kathleen Williamson and Sandra Hanna.

A quick reminder of our regularly scheduled Bethel activities: Chat and Chew on Tuesdays at 1:30 and our Zoom Prayer and Share at 10am on Thursdays resumes on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you have any questions about our weekly activities, you can access a calendar on our website: [www.bethelchurchrideauferry.ca](http://www.bethelchurchrideauferry.ca). The calendar will appear on the first screen and has all of our activities listed.

Trinity United Church, Smiths Falls, hosts a "Potluck & Praise" on the third Tuesday (monthly) beginning at 6:00pm. This is a great opportunity to get better acquainted with our friends at Trinity.

Are there any celebrations this week? Where have you seen God at work this week?

Please join in singing a brief song of celebration:

**VU 958**

**"Halle, Halle, Halle"**

**Halle, halle, halle-lujah! Halle, halle, halle-lujah!**

**Halle, halle, halle-lujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

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## **Land Acknowledgment (Unison)**

**For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Peoples and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.**

## **Mission and Service Story**

### **Empowering Bold Leadership**

I want The United Church of Canada to continue the policies, as well as the vision and the actions that make our slogan 'Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice, and Deep Spirituality' truly mean something."

These are words from Matthew Tyhurst, one of The United Church of Canada's Youth Forum Leadership Animators. More of Matthew's thoughts on the United Church's Centennial can be found on [YouTube](#).

In July 2024, Matthew was one of eight passionate youth from across Canada who gathered in Calgary. Together, they worked to lay the foundation for 100 young people under the age of 30 to attend The United Church of Canada's General Council 45 in 2025, coinciding with the church's Centennial commemorations.

The group of talented and diverse youth are committed to developing leadership among their peers. After their time in Calgary, they returned to their local communities and regions to work on learning goals and projects for four weeks, but remain engaged throughout the year.

The group focused on building leadership and guiding their peers as they explore their roles in the church. Their placements in local and regional communities are designed to help them grow and prepare for the future.

Your gifts to Mission and Service support youth as they inspire communities and engage in leadership. Thank you.

### **Call to Worship (Responsive)**

**One:** Jesus, who left behind unimaginable riches and came to find us,

**All: Jesus, you are here. We share in God's love.**

**One:** Jesus, who came and walked alongside us to demonstrate God's love for us,

**All: Jesus, you are here. We never have to walk alone.**

**One:** Jesus, who showed us how to love all your children, especially those with no one else to turn to,

**All: Jesus you are here. Together, we can reach out and care for one another so all are included.**

**One:** We join together, to worship today.

## **Sung Call to Worship**

**VU 585 (vs 2)**

***"Jesus Bids Us Shine"***

**Jesus bids us shine first of all for him;  
well he sees and knows it if our light grows dim:  
Jesus walks beside us to help us shine,  
you in your small corner, and I in mine.**

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## **Lighting of the Christ Candle and the World Candle (Responsive)**

Jesus, Light of the world.

**Shine in this place.**

Jesus, Light of the world.

**Shine in our hearts.**

Jesus, Light of the world.

**Shine in our lives.**

Jesus, Light of the world.

**Shine in all the earth. Amen**

## **Opening Prayer (unison)**

**Loving God, it is good to come together today on this third Sunday of the new year. We come to honour you and give thanks for your goodness and providence. We proclaim again your greatness with the fruit of the earth and light of candles, song and poetic word, our hearts, our minds, our gathered presence. May your Spirit so move in us today that we carry the hope, peace, joy and love of Advent forward into a new year. Be glorified through this Christingle service we pray. And may your name be praised both now and in the year to come in all of our lives. Amen.**

## **Opening Hymn**

**VU 79**

***"Arise, Your Light is Come"***

- <sup>1</sup> Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;  
show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.**
- <sup>2</sup> Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;  
proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.**
- <sup>3</sup> Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,  
bind up the broken-hearted ones and comfort those who mourn.**
- <sup>4</sup> Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.**

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## **Passing the Peace**

Before you sit, please greet your neighbour in peace and love.

## **Our Scriptures Today**

1 Corinthians 12: 1-11

## **Reflection**

### ***The Christingle***

#### **Hymn            "The Christingle"            (Tune – Give Me Oil In My Lamp)**

**<sup>1</sup> The Christingle begins with an orange,  
telling us of the world God made.  
For creation is full of his glory;  
all around we see his love displayed.**

***Chorus Sing Christingle. Sing Christingle.  
Sing Christingle, it's the light of Christ.  
Sing Christingle. Sing Christingle.  
Sing Christingle, light of Christ.***

**<sup>2</sup> God of Love, we give thanks now for Jesus;  
we remember his birth again.  
But the red ribbon round the Christingle  
tells the story of the cross and pain.**

**<sup>3</sup> To complete the Christingle: a candle,  
shining out in the darkest night.  
Jesus promised to lead us and guide us;  
come and celebrate the world's true light!**

***Chorus Sing Christingle. Sing Christingle.  
Sing Christingle, it's the light of Christ.  
Sing Christingle. Sing Christingle.  
Sing Christingle, light of Christ.***

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## **Invitation to the Offering**

### **Offering Music**

#### **Offering Response            VU 542            "We Give You But Your Own"**

**We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.**

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## **Offering Prayer**

### **Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

Fountainhead of all wisdom, we have come into your sanctuary to sing your praises. We give thanks O God for this past season of hope and peace and joy and love as we recalled together that first Advent of Christ. We pray the memories of Christmas might stay with us and linger for some time to come.

Surrounded by your Spirit, we hear anew that promise of the Covenant, that Christ came to earth to save us. We remember how Jesus taught with authority. We acknowledge his wisdom and guiding words as we live out our lives today. Help us to be faithful transmitters of what we believe. We remember too with gratitude those who influenced us in our growing up years and give thanks for their patience and commitment. May we be faithful disciples of him who called us.

Lord, today we also pray again for this world in which we live. We pray for its well-being and peace. We pray for those most troubled lands and their peoples. Heal these lands Lord. Heal wherever it is needed. And grant divine wisdom to those leaders charged with guiding nations in this your world and may the coming year be a year of breakthrough as to the obstacles to peace. May this year be a happier and kinder year O God, on the world stage. We pray again for our own military personnel serving in far off lands. Be their helper and keeper O Lord.

We pray too for this congregation. We think of those needing a healing touch Lord. We ask your mercy and power. We think of those needing encouragement and pray that it might come. Those needing help with any problem, O God. Bring that help we ask. We lift up our shut-ins and stay at homes; those in hospitals and nursing homes. We continue to pray for those who grieve.

Lord, visit us with your presence and peace. May we all continue in this New Year with renewed hope and joy. For we are confident in your goodness and mercy, loving God. We trust in you. We hope in you. We do not rely upon ourselves but turn to you in faith today again, and humbly pray for your sustaining response.

Today, we have special prayers for:

Leona  
Joy  
Helene

Liam  
Maddie  
Joanne

Sandy  
Abby  
Yasmina

Connie  
Manfred  
Rev. Lynne

And together as a community we pray the prayer that Jesus taught us, saying, **Our Father....**

### **Closing Hymn**

**"Shine Jesus Shine"**

**<sup>1</sup> Lord, the light of your love is shining  
in the midst of the darkness, shining  
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us.  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
Shine on me, shine on me**

### ***Chorus***

**Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light**

**<sup>2</sup> Lord, I come to your awesome presence  
from the shadows into your radiance  
by the blood, I may enter your brightness.  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.  
Shine on me, shine on me. *Chorus***

**<sup>3</sup> As we gaze on your kingly brightness  
so our faces display your likeness  
ever changing from glory to glory.  
Mirrored here, may our lives tell your story.  
Shine on me, shine on me. *Chorus***

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### **Sending Forth (Responsive)**

With the help of the Holy Spirit of God, take this Christingle as a reminder of the light of Christ in your home. Take the light of Christ within you, and seek to share that light in the places where you go. Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father, in heaven.

**Father of all, may we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Alleluia! Thanks be to God.**

## Sung Benediction

**Go now in peace, never be afraid,  
God will go with you each hour of everyday.  
Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true,  
Know God will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others, so all the world can see.  
God will be there, watching us in love.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  
Amen. Amen. Amen**

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