



The United Church of Canada acknowledges that its buildings and ministries, from coast to coast, are on the traditional territories of Indigenous people.

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Pastoral Care Coordinator: Judy White
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The United Church of Canada



L'Église Unie du Canada

Photo: Brad Collicott

B20-49



Location: Toronto, ON

Welcome to Trinity

The Heart in the Heart of Huntsville

Carols and Candlelight Service

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2025 – 7 pm

“O Holy Night”

“Loving Hearts ... Open Minds ... Serving Hands”

*“It’s Christmas every time you let
God love others through you.”*

Mother Teresa

Prelude: Kyung-A Lee

Procession of Carollers

Please stand as you are able and join our carollers in singing
“Hark the Herald Angels Sing” (VU 48)

Greeting

One: The waiting is just about over! The time has come to celebrate the birth of the Christ child.

All: **May we hear again the sound of the angels and respond once more with a song in our hearts and in our actions.**

One: Welcome to Trinity United Church on this holy and magical night when angels and shepherds mingle and the birth of a baby changes the world!

Welcome in Christmas love!

Let’s prepare our hearts now with a moment of quiet meditation.

A Moment of Christmas Meditation

Opening Hymn: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”
(VU 60 – verses 1, 2 and 3 only)

Call to Worship

One: Welcome everyone on this holiest of nights!
Welcome home! As Mary prepared herself to give birth to Jesus.

All: **Let us prepare ourselves to welcome new birth and new possibilities into our own lives.**

One: As a child prepares to open that special gift on Christmas morning.

All: **Let us prepare our hearts to receive once more the wonder of God’s amazing love that came down that first Christmas.**

One: God of wonder, God of light, on this holiest of nights, fill us with wonder and mystery. Let us experience your loving presence with us now and into the Christmas season ahead.

All: **May the blessing of this Holy Eve touch the deepest places of our being. Amen.**

One: As a child prepares to open a special gift, let us prepare our hearts to receive the wonder of God’s amazing love.

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

One: Our journey to Bethlehem wraps up here tonight on this eve of Christmas. Our Advent wreath will now be completed with the lighting of the Christ candle. Four candles are already lit, hope, peace, joy and love, four

promises continually offered to us by God. The Christ candle symbolizes the light that came into the world when love came down that first Christmas. As we light the Christ candle this evening, we thank God for the gift of Christ's incarnation and we commit ourselves to embody Christ's hope, peace, joy, love and life in a world that is so often void and disconnected from sacredness.

All: Come to us spirit of Jesus, be born in us this night in our hearts, minds and our lives. Jesus lived his life manifesting the hope, peace and love of God, his voice undimmed by the passage of time. May the light of your life be kindled in us. May we shine your light into our troubled world. Amen.

The Christ Candle is lit....

Candlelighter is Judy White.

One: Now, we are going to sing our Christ Candle liturgy to the tune of *White Christmas*.

All: I'm dreaming of a bright Christmas, with every Advent flame that lights. When our lives turn softly, toward the godly, and we hear angels in the night.

I'm dreaming of a bright Christmas, that will remind us of the Child. Newborn in a manger, no more a stranger, the One in who God's love has smiled!

I'm dreaming of a bright Christmas, and now the Christ child's flames alight. May these days be merry and bright. May we live Christ's love with all our might!

Hearing our Ancient Christmas Story

One: Now, let's experience once more the Christmas story of long, long ago. Our Christmas hymns will be interspersed within the story and will be sung as we remain seated. They will not be announced. The hymn numbers are printed in your order of service. Merry Christmas!

Scripture Reader: Marc Knowles

First Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

(Isaiah is foretelling the coming of a man who will show the world how to live in peace and kindness.)

Second Scripture Reading: Luke 1: 26-35

(An angel visited Mary and was told she was to give birth to a special child, God's child. On this special night we are reminded that we are all God's beloved sons and daughters.)

Choir: "The Angel Gabriel"

Christmas Hymn: "The Virgin Mary had A Baby Boy" (VU 73)

Third Scripture Reading: Luke 2: 1-7

(Mary and Joseph had to go to Bethlehem to take part in a regional census. While they were there, Mary gave birth to a baby in a back stable because all the inns were filled. This baby would become a man who would bring a message of inclusiveness and love for the entire human family.)

Choir: "He is Born, the Divine Christ Child"

Fourth Scripture Reading: Luke 2: 8-14

(An angel appeared to the local shepherds telling them about "news of great joy", an infant lying in a manger not too far from there. The angel told them to go and check on this Good News for themselves.)

Congregation: “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”
(VU 36 – verses 1 and 2 only)

Fifth Scripture Reading: Luke 2: 15-16

(The Shepherds travel to Bethlehem)

Choir: “What Sweeter Music”

Sixth Scripture Reading: Luke 2: 17-20

(The Shepherds share the Good News)

Choir: “Tomorrow Will Be My Dancing Day”

Seventh Scripture Reading: Matthew 2: 1-12

(The Wisemen are led by a star to see the baby who would give a message to the ancient world that we all still need to hear today, a message of grace, peace and forgiveness.)

Choir: “We Three Kings of Orient Are”

Eighth Scripture Reading: John 1: 1-14

(The True Light, which enlightens us all, that Divine spark within each of us, was coming into the world on that silent, holy night. Let us remember that in Jesus the Light of Life was incarnated so that all people could know that they are God's people and could know full and abundant life.)

Choir: “Sing Noel, Alleluia”

A Christmas Message - Rev. Diane

Brief Musical Reflection

Hymn: “Joy to the World” (VU 59)

Our Christmas Offering Invitation

One: What a gift we have been given! A light that shines in our darkness and brings us hope. Jesus born into this world as love itself. We have been blessed to be a blessing.

Our Christmas offering will now be received.

Christmas Offering Hymn: “O Little Town of Bethlehem”
(VU 64)

(Please remain seated as we sing this hymn while our offering is being collected.)

Our Christmas Offering Prayer

All: **God of Christmas, may these gifts we offer now bring love to those who feel rejected, friendship to those who are alone and peace to those who are struggling and tormented. Use these gifts and us for the betterment of our world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: “Silent Night, Holy Night” (VU 67)

(This hymn is played as the congregation rises and forms a circle around the sanctuary and candles are distributed to everyone in the circle. We will pass the light to one another in the circle as we unite our voices in singing a Christmas favourite “Silent Night, Holy Night”. The lights in the church are dimmed for this sacred moment.)

Commissioning

One: Go forth into this silent night, holy night with the songs of angels in your ears and the love of God in your hearts.

Christmas Blessing

One: Go forth into this Christmas season and open the mangers of your hearts. Welcome Christ in. And may he be born anew in our actions of hope and love.

As you leave here tonight, may you be snugly wrapped in the light and love of this Holy season.

Musical Recessional: “Joy to the World” (Kyoung-A Lee)

*"Wishing you the light of faith,
the warmth of home and the love of family-
at Christmas time- and always.*

Have a Joyous and Blessed Christmas!

Marc, Diane, Joshua and Rebecca

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*We aspire to be a transforming church-
changing hearts, changing lives and
changing communities!*

*Come grow with us in 2026
and become the best version of YOU
as we learn how to follow in
Jesus' footsteps in the year ahead.*

