



The Heart in the Heart of Huntsville!



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

Minister: The Rev. Diane Knowles
Pastoral Care Coordinator: Judy White
Director of Music: Kyung-A Lee
Church Administrator: Suzy Simson
Custodian: Judy Hall

33 Main Street East, Huntsville, ON P1H 2B8
705-789-5660 • trinityhuntsville.ca

Welcome to Trinity

The Heart in the Heart of Huntsville

Sunday January 4, 2026 - 10 am

Epiphany Sunday

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

*“O God of new beginnings, reopen my soul to hope,
heal my wounded spirit and give my will a new direction.”*

WE GATHER AS GOD’S PEOPLE OF THE LIGHT

Prelude: Kyung-A Lee

Greeting

One: Welcome, in the healing and comforting Light of Christ.

All: **We come searching for the light in our midst.**

Welcome in friendship, faith, and the infinite possibilities awaiting you in this New Year!

We are a lively Spirit-filled community with arms open wide to welcome you too! If you’re visiting or shopping around for a new spiritual home, we are glad you’re here with us.

Announcements

Joys and Concerns

Christmas God Moments

(If you prefer to write them on a piece of paper so you don’t have to stand up and speak in public you can do that too. I will be more than happy to share them for you.)

Lighting of the Christ Candle

One: We light the Christ Candle each week as a reminder that the presence of Jesus guides our lives. We celebrate this light of Jesus as the love that transforms how we live our lives and how it challenges us to seek justice and peace for our entire human family.

Our Light Bearers are invited to come forward to light our Christ candle.

Moment of Meditation

Call to Worship and Prayer of Approach

One: There’s the star in the sky! The Magi waited and watched, knowing something wondrous would be happening.

All: **We follow the light. God’s light comes to us all.
God’s light of hope floods the earth.**

One: Lord, make us ready to journey to this light.

All: **Prepare our hearts to receive this light. Let us become light bearers who bring the light of God’s love to others. Amen.**

Opening Hymn: “A Light Is Gleaming” (VU 82)

Prayer of Confession and Letting Go

One: We made it! We made it to 2026! Thanks be to God for the gift of a new beginning. In order to truly make it a new beginning we need to see if we are dragging along any “burdens” from last year. Is there anything we need to throw out with our Christmas wrapping? Let us pray:

Holy One, as we yearn to start this year afresh and renewed by your love, we dare to look deep into our own

hearts to see if there is anything we need to let go of in order to follow you. We confess any words or deeds done that escalated conflict instead of facilitating peace and harmony... (silence.) Let it go!

All: In the spirit of healing, we let it go.

One: We confess that there were people we meant to connect with, support, encourage and strengthen this past year. We didn't get to them all.... (silence.) Let it go!

All: In the Spirit of healing, we let it go.

One: We confess to those grudges and offences that we still cling to so tightly... (silence.) Let it go!

All: In the Spirit of healing, we let it go.

One: We confess to any personal goals around health and wholeness that we didn't get around to last year... (silence.) Let it go!

All: In the Spirit of healing, we let it go.

One: We offer up anything else that comes to mind that we need to let go of in order to be present to here and now, a new day, a new beginning, a fresh start... (silence.) Let it go!

All: God, take our burdens away. They do not serve any meaningful purpose. They do not give us the abundant life you promised us. Free us to be your gentle, joyful people. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance

One: Hear the Good News! Forgiveness is what God does! Thanks be to God for fresh starts and new beginnings.

Light Beamer Song: "Shining with God's Light
(tune "Jesus Loves Me" from *Seasons of the Spirit*)

**All: Look at me, you'll see God's light,
shining in my eyes so bright.
Look at me, you'll see God live,
in all the love that I can give.
God's light is in me.
God's love is in me.
God's light is in me
For all the world to see.**

Light Beamer Moment

It's time to hear the stories of Jesus and how his stories teach us a better, more loving way to live. We strive to teach our Light Beamers to follow in the footsteps of Jesus growing in kindness and love. As their hearts grow larger, they too can go into the world and shine their light, the light of Christ, of love, for others.

Congregational Blessing

Light Beamers: "May the peace of Christ be with you."

All: And also with you.

Special Music

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Our Scripture reader today is Judy White.

Prayer of Illumination

Reader: God of the New Year, we have gathered today wanting to experience something greater than ourselves. May we be granted the wisdom you offer as we receive the words of Scripture today. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6

(Arise, shine, for your light has come. This is not about enjoying light. It is a command to reflect and spread the light to others.)

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

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

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 2: 1-12

(The visit of the three Wisemen.)

Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Morning Message: "*The Porch Light*"

Brief Musical Reflection

Offering Invitation

One: The season of gift-giving may be over but as God's people the season of giving never ends.

Our morning tithes and offerings will now be received.

Offertory Hymn: "To Love More Truly"

All: **To love more truly this is my goal.
To care more deeply with all my soul.
To show compassion, extend forgiveness.
To make a difference, I give my all.**

Offering Prayer

All: **God of life and new beginnings, take and bless these our weekly gifts. May they be used to do the work of this church and the work of the wider universal church. Thank you, God, for the gift of Jesus who came to show us your love and how to live in**

loving ways with each other. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Hymn: "Prayer"

(sung to the tune of "Rock of Ages Cleft for Me")

All: **God of life and God of love,
Holy Spirit, Blessed Dove,
in each moment of my life,
in times joyful, times of strife,
listen to the words I share,
as I come to you in prayer.**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

(An alternate version of the Prayer of Jesus)

All: **Eternal Spirit, Pain-bearer and Life-giver,
source of all that is and all that shall be.**

**The hallowing of your name echo
through the universe.**

Your will be done by all people.

**Your peace and freedom sustain our hope
and come on earth.**

**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 trails 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.**

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

Benediction

One: Go forth to live in the abundance of God's renewing light and grace. Walk in the power of Jesus' healing love and be empowered by the Holy Spirit to have the courage to live your dreams, now and always. Amen.

Sung Blessing: "One More Step Along the World I Go"

All: **As I travel through the bad and good,
keep me traveling the way I should.**

**Where I see no way to go,
you'll be telling me the way I know.
And it's from the old I travel to the new,
keep me travelling along with you.**

Musical Postlude: Kyung-A Lee

Following the end of the Service, let us take three minutes to turn and greet one another with signs of Christ's peace and blessing as we move into a brand-new week.



Thought for your week ahead!

*"As we work to create light for others,
we naturally light our own way".*

Mary Anne Radmacher 21st century writer

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER STUFF!

The Outreach Team thanks you for helping to collect Food for the Corner Lighthouse food bank.

January is canned diced/crushed tomatoes or pasta sauce.

FundScrip orders are due today!!



Order the amount you need for your month's groceries, gas and gifts and in doing so, Trinity benefits!

Thank you for your support of this fund raiser!

The Men of Trinity – Wednesday January 7 at 9:00 am in the Arnold Room. Call Len Ross (705-349-2553) for details.

The **Knitting Group** will meet on Wednesday January 7 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm in the Arnold Room.

Questions, call Joan on 705-788-5838.



Souper Sandwich Lunch and Takeout is Friday January 9 from 11.30 am to 12.30 pm in Trinity Hall. Takeout order deadline is Tuesday January 6. Call: 705-789-5679. We welcome Trinity members as well as the public, so come on out and bring your friends for a bowl of homemade soup, sandwich and dessert. Hope to see you there!

