



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
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Welcome to Trinity

The Heart in the Heart of Huntsville
Sunday January 11, 2026 - 10 am
Baptism of Jesus Sunday

"Loving Hearts ... Open Minds ... Serving Hands"

"Life is not a to do list. It's a gift."

WE GATHER AS GOD'S BAPTISED PEOPLE

Introit: "One Body in Christ"

All: **One body in Christ,
called to share the Good News with the world.
Each of us gifted, made in God's image,
we have a story to tell,
a story of love.** (repeat)

Welcome in Friendship! Welcome in Faith!

Welcome in the life-giving waters of Jesus' baptism!

*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. We gather every
week as followers of Jesus to grow our hearts and to aspire
to be better human beings in order to build a better world
for all God's people.*

Announcements

Joys and Concerns / God Moments?

Moment of Meditation

Call to Worship and Prayer of Approach

One: Beloved, today we are taking a trip to the River Jordan.

All: **As Jesus came to the waters of the Jordan, we
come again to the waters of baptism.**

One: We come remembering who we are and whose we are.

All: **We come to be refreshed by the life-giving water
of Jesus.**

One: The heavens opened, the Spirit descended like a dove
and God spoke words of love.

All: **"You are my beloved. With you I am well pleased."**

One: Today, we hear these words spoken over us.

All: **Let us celebrate the God who claims us in love,
renews us in water and spirit and calls us into new life.
Amen.**

Opening Hymn: "One Body in Christ"

All: **One body in Christ,
called to share the Good News with the world,
each of us gifted, made in God's image,
we have a story to tell, a story of love.
We have been baptized in Christ,
the love of our God poured into our hearts.
Called to share the mission of Christ,
the Spirit of God alive in our hearts.
To be a light of welcome in the darkness of exclusion,
an outstretched hand of love to everyone!
We are one body in Christ,
called to share the Good News with the world,
each of us gifted, made in God's image,
we have a story to tell, a story of love. A story of love.**

Opening Prayer

All: God of new beginnings, by our baptism we are all spiritually united as one body in Christ. You have adopted us as your beloved people in your unfolding love story. Wash away what weighs us down: fear, regret, and doubt. Fill us up to overflowing, with the life-giving power of your baptismal love.

In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Light Beamer Song: "This is Where I Go to Church"
(tune of Old McDonald")

All: This is where I go to church
and I am part of it.
And in our church, there's lots of love,
and I am part of it.
God's love is here. God's love is there.
Here's love, there's love,
everywhere there's God's love.
This is where I go to church
and I am part of it.

Lighting of the Christ Candle – The Light Beamers

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.

Anthem: "River in Judea"

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

One: God of our Baptism, 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.

Our Scripture Reader today is Sally McClelland.

New Testament Reading: Matthew 3: 13-17

(Jesus is baptized in the waters of the Jordan River by his cousin John the Baptist.)

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

All: Amen.

Minister's Message: "What do those murky waters mean?"

Brief Musical Reflection

Baptismal Renewal

One: In the waters of baptism God claims us as love.

All: We are God's beloved.

One: In the life and ministry of Jesus, we are shown the way of compassion and justice.

All: We choose to follow in love.

One: In the power of the Holy Spirit, we are strengthened for the journey ahead.

All: We are sent to live our faith in words and in action.

One: For those who were baptized long ago, rekindle the promises spoken over their lives, they are beloved, they are held, and they are never alone. For those who have never been baptized or who come with questions or uncertainty let this water still speak of welcome without conditions, of grace without pressure, and of love that meets us exactly where we are.

All: Wash away the shame that tells us we are not enough and the weariness that dims our light.

One: Pour into us your Holy Spirit so we can live with compassion, walk humbly with others and love boldly in the Way of Jesus. We pray in the name of the One who stepped into the water for us. Amen.

Invitation to the Baptismal Font

One: Friends, today we remember the baptism of Jesus and the waters that claim us as God's beloved people. This morning you will receive the sign of a cross on your hand as a reminder that you are held in love and called to live that love in our world today.

Come to the water, for you are now invited to receive your baptismal blessing. Hear these words: "You are God's beloved with whom God is well pleased."

Offering Invitation

One: As Jesus stepped into the waters, he offered his whole life in trust and love. In gratitude for all that has been poured into our lives, let us offer our gifts so that God's love may continue to flow through us into our world.

Your 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. Use it to bring renewal where there is brokenness, hope where there is fear and love where it is most needed. As water sustains life, may these gifts help to sustain your work in our world today. 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 echoes 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: "Shall We Gather at the River" (VU 710)

Commissioning

One: May we go forth hearing the words of Scripture
ringing in our ears:

"You are my beloved with whom I am well pleased."

Benediction

All: May the vision of God's all-inclusive love encourage us.
May the life of Jesus show us how to live.
And may the Holy Spirit fill us with joy and peace,
this day and forever more. Amen.

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.



Please join us in Trinity Hall following today's service where you are invited for a cup of tea or coffee and fellowship time.

Your hosts today are Lynne Doyle and Jim Schiedel.



Thought for your week ahead!

*"Just as a child carries its parents DNA,
we carry the DNA of our Creator.
How do we express this DNA in our every day lives?"*
Christine Sine ###



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.

A Message from our Director of Music - "To sing is to pray twice."
As we begin a new year, I am inviting you to find your place in our choir family. As a professional musician, my passion is helping us offer our very best to God through the joy of high-quality music and shared community.

Whether you are an experienced singer or simply love the hymns of our faith, there is a seat (and a scarf!) waiting for you.

Come "try us out" this Thursday at 4:00 pm. No formal audition is required, just a heart for song and a desire to be part of something beautiful!

I look forward to singing with you!

Kyung-A Lee-Allen
Director of Music



Trinity's Directors meeting – Tuesday, January 13 at 10 am in the Arnold Room.

The Men of Trinity – Wednesday January 21 at 9:00 am in the Arnold Room. Call Len Ross (705-349-2553) for details.

Community Italian Dinner Fundraiser!

Trinity United Church is hosting a special Italian Dinner

Fundraiser to support an individual in our community.

Volunteers from Corner Lighthouse are supporting this one-time event by preparing a delicious Italian dinner and helping behind the scenes to make the evening possible.

We are grateful to anyone who can come together to offer their time, care, and generosity. Events like this reflect the strength of our community when we show up for one another.

When: Saturday January 24, 2026

Where: Trinity Hall

Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Cost: By donation



Come enjoy a delicious meal, connect with neighbours, and make a real difference. All are welcome!

