

Yellowknife United Church
An Affirming Ministry and Congregation of
The United Church of Canada
Second Sunday of Christmas - January 3, 2016
Celebrating Epiphany

* rise in body or in spirit



Scan for a copy
on your handheld
device

Gathering

Musical Prelude

***Introit** 79 VU Arise Your Light is Come (*Verse 1*)

***Call to Worship**

Right Side: God light

Left Side: Creating word

Right Side: Time's beginning

Left Side: Holy energy

Right Side: Heaven's imagination

Left Side: Sacred echo

Right Side: Presence of being

Left Side: Grace: hallowed

Right Side: Fullness of truth

Left Side: The Word

One: Come, let us worship God -
who is all these things and more.

All: **We come to worship God.**

Prayer of Approach (*together*)

Loving God,

Only with a child-like faith can we ever know you.

Only in wonder-filled trust can we ever approach you.

Give us such faith, we pray.

Give us such trust. Amen.

The Prayer of Jesus *page 921 VU*

***Hymn** 82 VU A Light is Gleaming

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

In Christ, God's living word, our sins are forgiven.

Let us live as new people.

Choral Response 37 VU Glory to God

Listening

Learning With Children

Hymn 87 VU I Am the Light of the World

Hebrew Bible:	Jeremiah 31:7-14
Responsive Psalm:	Psalm 147:12-20 (Part 2) <i>page 869</i>
Epistle Reading:	Ephesians 1:3-14
Gospel Reading:	John 1: 10-18

Sermon Gathering Light

Responding

***Hymn 460 VU All Who Hunger**

The Life and Work of the Community

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation

Bringing Forward the Gifts *Doxology 541 VU*

Passing the Peace

The Great Thanksgiving

Glory to God in the highest!

And on earth, peace to all!

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is good to give God thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God,

Creator of light, Giver of all life, Source of love.

We bless you for all your gifts.

You bring creation to birth

and send prophets to awaken us

to your Advent among us.

We praise you for that holy night of hope
and the wonder of this time of joy.

**We thank you for those who, like Mary,
have the strength and courage
to give birth to your love in the world;
for those who, like the shepherds,
dare to seek out the Child of Bethlehem.**

We praise you that your everlasting light is shown to us
**in womb and tomb,
in cradle and cross,
in tenderness and compassion.**

For Jesus Christ,
in whom you gather the hopes and fears of all the years,
we bless your Holy Name,
joining with all your people of every time and place,
and with angels and archangels
who proclaim the holy birth:

(MV 203)

**O holy, holy, holy God,
O God of time and space.
All earth and sea and sky above
bear witness to your grace.
Hosanna in the highest heav'n,
creation sings your praise.
And blessed is the One who comes
and bears your name always!**

Mighty and tender God, in Jesus of Nazareth
we recognize the fullness of your grace:
light, life, and love, revealed
in words that confront and comfort us,
in teachings that challenge and change us,
in compassion that heals and frees us.

**And now we gather at this table to remember
and to be filled with such longing for your realm,
that we may rise together
to turn our worship into witness
and to follow in your way.**

We remember that when Jesus ate with his friends,
he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it,
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:
"Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.
Each time you do this, remember me."

Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks,
passed it to his friends, saying:
“Drink. This cup that is poured out for you
is the promise of God, made in my blood.
Whenever you drink it, remember me.”

At this time, we also remember
all with whom you would have us share your feast.
We pray for all who are in sorrow or in pain . . .
all who are ill or alone . . .
all who live with fear, oppression, or hunger . . .
for all whom the world counts as last and least . . .
We pray for the church and its varied ministries . . .
for nations as they strive for peace and justice . . .
for all our families and friends . . .

**Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of your grace,
remembering Christ's life and death,
proclaiming his resurrection,
waiting in hope for his coming again.**

Grant that, in praise and thanksgiving,
we may so offer ourselves to you
that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith: *(MV 204)*

**Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!
Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!**

Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts,
that all who share in this loaf and cup
may be the body of Christ:
light, life, and love in the world.
In this hope and as your people, we praise you.
Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, God most holy,
now and forever. *(MV 205)*

**Amen, amen, O Holy One!
Hosanna and Amen!**

Amen, amen, O Holy One!
Hosanna and Amen!

Breaking the Bread, Pouring the Wine
Eating and Drinking the Bread and Wine
Prayer after Communion *(together)*

Gracious God, may your gifts of love
transform and enliven us that we
may live lives of thanksgiving.

May your presence among us
provoke such longing for your realm,
that we will never be satisfied until the whole earth knows
your justice, your peace, and your love.
In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn 96 VU Will You Come and See the Light**

***Commissioning and Benediction**

Worship is ended, now let the service begin...

As we embark on this new year,
may we be empowered and encouraged
to be God's people in the world.

May we be known by our grace and truth.

We do this with confidence because of God,
with us as Creator, Liberator and indwelling Spirit.

***Choral Response 91 VU The First Nowell** *(Refrain)*