

Stettler United Church



BESTOGETHER

We are United Churches at Big Valley, Erasmie and Stettler.

Date: January 25, 2026
Third after Epiphany
Theme: True Discipleship

Worship Leaders: Worship Committee

Musician: Barbara-Lynn & Dave Goodwin

Audio/Visual: Holly McKenzie

(*: Please, stand if you are able.)

Musical Prelude

Greetings

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Response: And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements (Care & Concerns)

- **The 2025 Tax receipts area ready** ~ Please see Barbara-Lynn to pick yours up. If yours isn't there, it was mailed Friday January 23. Any left over will be mailed Monday January 26 at noon.
- **Sing Along** with Rev. Kwon ~ Friday January 30 1:00 pm
- **Valentine High Tea** ~ Saturday February 14 ~ 2 – 4 pm ~ Admission \$5.00
- **Annual Congregational Meeting** ~ Sunday March 01 after the worship service
- **Annual Reports** ~ Please get your report to Michele ASAP
- **100 Years ~ 2027** ~ Can I put your name down for a "100 year" committee? Please?? Let me know ASAP if you are willing to help.

Acknowledgement of Territory

ALL: God calls us to live with respect and care for all our relations in creation. For thousands of years, Indigenous peoples of this area have tended the earth, and we give thanks for such diligence. We covenant to live and work together, sharing this land in peace and respect as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the river flows.

Peter Chynoweth, Cochrane AB

Call to Worship

Why are we called to this place?

To be God's people.

What is required of us?

To seek justice, to love kindness, to live humbly with God.

And how shall we do this?

With our prayers, with our thoughts, with our actions, and with our love.

Then, as people who are both blessed and blessing:

Let us worship God!

Richard Bott, Grace U.C., Burlington, Ont. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 33. Used with Permission.

Light the Christ Candle

ALL: Today is the third Sunday of Epiphany, the season of surprises and *a-ha!* moments. It is the time of light dancing and emerging. Appropriately we light the candle reminding us that Christ is the Light of the World.

Laura J. Turnbull, Penticton, B.C. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 42. Used with Permission.

*Hymn **God of the Bible MV#28**

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Opening Prayer

Creator of All, this is the day that you have given us. We join together this day, each of us coming from our own lives, with our own diverse experiences, to celebrate the feeling of being together as your people.

We seek a faith that will create in our hearts the hope found in the blessed promises you have made to us. Our emotions, ranging from joy to sorrow, we offer to you.

You know our hearts and welcome us into your presence. Forgive us, guide us, and teach us as we give thanks to you for this new day.

Help us to keep you securely within our hearts this day and always. In the name of our Redeemer and Saviour, we pray. Amen.

Robert J. Murdock, St. James U.C., Stroud, Ont. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 43. Used with Permission.

Prayer of Confession

We come today to confess that we do not always live as you want us to live, we do not always want to try to live in your way. We confess that we would rather stay with what we know than venture into the unknown.

Help us to understand your call in these times of challenge. Help us to notice those in need of what we have to offer. Help us to love as you love all people. Forgive us. Restore us. Renew us. Amen.

Beth W Johnston, Bridging Waters P.C., Nipawin, Sask. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 44. Used with Permission.

***Hymn *A Light Is Gleaming* VU#82**

Words, Music: Linnea Good 1992 © 1992 Borealis Music. Words, Music: Borealis Music. CCLI, Licensing

Prayer of Illumination

ALL: Challenging God, your good news is announced in many ways. We discover it lived out by caring folk. We notice it through the media. We experience it as we listen to orators. May we encounter it today as we listen to the biblical story. This we pray, O Gracious God. Amen.

Laura J. Turnbull, Penticton, B.C. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 45. Used with Permission.

Scripture Readings: Connie Jackson

***Isaiah 9:1–4:* The people have seen a great light.**

***1 Corinthians 1:10–18:* Overcome divisions and find unity.**

***Matthew 4:12–23:* Jesus begins his ministry.**

Hymn *Tell Me the Stories of Jesus* VU#357 (verse 1) (being seated)

Words: William H. Parker 1885 Music: Fredrick Arthur Challinor 1903 © 1904 National Christian Education Council, 1020 Bristol Rd., Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6LB, England. Reproduced with permission. Words, Music: National Christian Education Council. CCLI.

Congregational Theme/Story Time

Message Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon

***Hymn *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* VU#288**

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Invitation for Offering

***Offering Hymn *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* VU#541**

Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674. Music: Genevan Psalter 1551. Public Domain. N/A

Offering Prayer

Holy Creator, we give you ourselves and the gifts of our hands.

Use us to spread your kingdom of love and compassion.

Use us to further your kingdom of justice.

Use us to bless and nurture your creation. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Susan Girard, Riverview U.C., Atikokan, Ont. Gathering, Advent Christmas Epiphany 2025-2026, 35. Used with Permission.

Prayers of the Gathered Community

The Lord's Prayer

ALL: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

***Hymn *Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore* VU#563**

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*Commissioning and Benediction

***Threefold Amen (Unison) VU#967**

Postlude