

First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge
Sunday, January 25th, 2026

Praise Medley: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus
I Can Feel You Near Me God

Welcome and Announcements

Introit: Alleluia, Praise to God

Call to Worship:

We are called together in a spirit of gladness, for the presence of God within and among us lifts the shadows of gloom.

The light of Christ shines on.

The lights of Christmas flicker and fade, but the gift of God's love will never grow dim, for a Great Light has drawn near.

The light of Christ shines on.

The love of God grows every time we give it away and our joy increases; we are like happy people at a feast.

The light of Christ shines on.

Opening Prayer: (unison)

We gather in this space made beautiful by the Spirit's presence and by the spirit of love in community. In this place we behold the beauty of God. We sing of this beauty with our voices and with our hearts that answer more deeply the sacred call to be all that we are. Amen.

Hymn: Come In, Come In and Sit Down **VU 395**

Minute for Mission

A Time of Confession:

Jesus proclaimed: Repent, turn back to God, so the way of God can be made real within you.

When we speak with words that dismiss others and cause division instead of greater understanding, give light to your vision within us, O God.

Repent, turn back to God, so the way of God can be made real within you.

When we take more than our share of resources, and others must bear the burden, give light to your vision within us, O God.

Repent, turn back to God, so the way of God can be made real within you.

When we treat others with disrespect or judgment, or when we simply ignore them; give light to your vision within us, O God.

Repent, turn back to God, so the way of God can be made real within you.

When we know that you are calling us and we choose not to follow, give light to your vision within us, O God.

Words of Assurance:

Repent, turn back to God, so the way of God can be made real within you. As we turn and follow the vision of God before us, we experience the liberating joy of living in God's way.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn: Tell Me the Stories of Jesus **VU 357**

Offertory Hymn: Spirit, Open My Heart

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

All that we are, O God, and all we are called to be, we bring to this special moment of offering and hope. Receive these gifts and, in your wisdom, may they be used imaginatively for the well-being of all. Amen.

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27 **on page 754 of Voices United**
Matthew 4:12-23

Hymn: Softly and Tenderly

Meditation

Ministry of Music

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Response: Take, O Take Me as I Am

Hymn: By Our Love

Blessing and Benediction