

**First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge
January 4th, 2026**

Praise Medley: If God Is for Us, Here I Am to Worship

Greetings and Announcements

Introit: Come On and Celebrate

Call to Worship:

People of the world, it is time to seek out the Christ child.

Arise, shine for our light has come.

People of Mount Pearl, it is time to respond to the signs of hope.

Arise, shine for our light has come.

People of First United, it is time to revel in the mysteries of light

Arise, shine for our light has come.

People of God, it is time to worship in this place.

Arise, shine for our light has come.

Prayer of Approach:

God of the weary traveler, our feet are dusty from the roads we've traveled this past week, this past year, every day of our lives.

We've followed your star here, looking for a glimmer of hope. And now, after a long journey, we set our baggage down. We have arrived.

We're here, and we're on holy ground. You may not show up where we expect you, but we trust that you are here nevertheless.

Be known to us in the hope of the star, the peace of a baby snuggled in the manger, the joy of arrival, and the Love that could not stay away.

We are here. You are here.

Let us worship God together. Amen.

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

Prayer of Confession:

When we have seen the challenging star, yet have failed to set out on the journey,

God of Hope, forgive us!

When we have encountered the forces of evil, and have compromised and gone along,

God of Conscience, forgive us!

When we have known worth and goodness yet failed to give the support of our best gifts,

God of Love, forgive us!

When we have realized the value of a community of friends, yet we have tried to go it alone,

God of the Church, forgive us. (Silent reflection)

Assurance of Pardon:

In a resolve to trust you and change our ways, you encourage us; as we set out again to live faithfully, you journey with us.

Pardon and peace are ours, thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn: Shine, Jesus, Shine

Offering Hymn: Count Your Blessings

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

The gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh were signs of commitment to God's gift of love. These gifts are signs of commitment to the faith community. Bless them as your word is heard, as the oppressed find justice, as the world searches for peace. Bless them as a token of all we can give and be in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (**VU 790, Part 1 and 2**)
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

Hymn: Shout to the North

Meditation

Liturgy of the Stars

The Invitation
The Stars Are Shared
Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer
Prayer Response

Hymn: Go, Tell It On the Mountain

Benediction