

Centennial United Church, Stayner



Sunday, December 21st, 2025

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Worship Leader: Jennifer Irving

Music Leader: Megan Arksey



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Words of Wisdom: *"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you."* ~ Saint Mother Teresa

Our Community Gathers

Gathering Music

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Sharing our Life & Work and our Joys & Concerns

Hymn VU #7 "Hope is a Star" (vs. 1-3)

Lighting the Advent Candles (from [Let Us Pray, Volume 4](#) by Jane Doull)

Reader 1: Again, we light a candle for hope—hope for ourselves, hope for God's beloved world. (*light the hope candle*)

Reader 2: Again, we light a candle for peace—peace in our hearts and peace on earth. (*light the purple peace candle*)

Reader 1: Again, we light a candle for joy—joy in our hearts, joy for the world. (*light the pink joy candle*)

Reader 2: Today we remember God's love for the world, shown forth in God's beloved Child Jesus.

Reader 1: Because Jesus was human like us, we know we are all God's beloved children. God's Love shines forth in every one of us.

Reader 2: May love shine in our hearts, as we share love and light with all who share this beloved world. (*light last candle*)

ALL: God of infinite love, of all the gifts we receive in this season, most of all we treasure the gift of your love. May we treat each person, each living being, as your beloved- especially those who may be feeling sad or lonely or ill. May we respect your wondrous creation, as we care gently for your beloved world. In the name of Jesus, Love born among us. Amen.

Sharing Our Advent Moments

Where are you seeing a spirit of LOVE in this season?

Centering Prayer (by Lori Megley Best adapted by Shawn Redden)

Sung Response VU &7 “Hope is a Star (verse 4 & refrain)

We Listen for Wisdom

Time of Wondering

Hymn VU #60 “O Come, All Ye Faithful” (vs. 1-3)

“Living Nativity” Story

Choir Anthem “Come Christmas Child”

Wisdom Readings: Isaiah 7:10–16 (OT p 675)

Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19 (VU p. 794, Part One)

Matthew 1:18–25 (NT p 4)

Reflection “A Violet in the Snow”

We Respond with Gratitude & Prayer

Hymn VU #68 “All Poor Ones, and Humble”

Community at Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

Time for Thanksgiving, Gratitude & Invitation to Generosity

Offertory Hymn VU #74 “What Child Is This” (vs. 3)

Prayer of Dedication from [Let Us Pray, Volume 4](#) by Jane Doull, adapted

We Go Forth to Be a Blessing

Hymn VU #62 “Once in Royal David’s City”

Sending Forth and Blessing

Sung Blessing VU #43 “Go, Tell it On the Mountain” (refrain, alt.)

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go, tell it on the mountain that *Advent Love* is born!

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Thank you for worshipping with us this morning online & in person

***Thank you to Greta Horton for reading scripture and the M&S story
and to Dave Hopper and Neelah Irving for technical support***

Our Land Acknowledgement Statement

We acknowledge with respect and with awe the history, spirituality, and culture of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Tionontati and Wendat peoples with whom Treaty 18 of 1818 were signed and the territory wherein our church resides, and our responsibility as Treaty members. We also honour the heritage and gifts of Métis people. May we live appreciating the gifts of this land we share with wonder and gratitude and may we live in peace and friendship with all its people.

CENTENNIAL UNITED CHURCH

234 William Street, Stayner, ON L0M 1S0

Website ~ www.ucstayner.ca

YouTube Channel ~ [Centennial United Stayner](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuXWzXWzXWzXWzXWzXWzXW)

Facebook Page ~ [Centennial United Church –Stayner](https://www.facebook.com/CentennialUnitedChurchStayner)

Minister: Reverend Jennifer Irving

home: 705-517-0130 cell: 1-306-327-7776

email: jennifer@ucstayner.ca

Office Hours

Wednesdays and Fridays: 10:00am-2:00pm

Administrator: Pat Elson

email ~ office@ucstayner.ca phone: 705-428-3711

Office Hours

Tuesdays: 9:00am-1:00pm

Thursdays: 9:00am-1:00pm

On-Line & In Person Worship: Sundays: 10:30am

Our Advent Worship: Living Nativity was developed by Shawn Redden & Janice MacLean. www.prayerbench.ca and used with permission.

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LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

**Worship in person or on Zoom: 862 4551 6433 pwd: WORSHIP*

We welcome you to worship in our Sanctuary and thank you for not wearing scented products to church for those who are scent sensitive

THANK YOU, THANK YOU. Many thanks to everyone who crocheted, baked, wrote and delivered Christmas packages to our shut in's. It could not have happened without the many hands that pitched in and was much appreciated! Merry Christmas to all.

PLEASE ADD TO OUR MITTEN TREE! The Christmas Tree in the foyer of the CE Hall is waiting for your decorations of toques, socks and mittens that we will share in our Food Cupboard and with Collingwood Out of Cold run by the Busby Centre-Barrie.

CHRISTMAS CAROL FESTIVAL - Sunday December 21 at 2:00 pm.
Join us this afternoon for Festive Carol singing and special musical performances to brighten the season! All are welcome!

SIP 'n' SERVE Join us Monday mornings at 9:00 AM. All cleaners are rewarded with coffee and conversation!

MILK BAG MAT MAKING Postponed until further notice.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 24 at 2:00 PM a **Christmas Eve Service** will be held, followed by Christmas pudding in the CE Hall.

Please consider making a special donation to the Church this Christmas Season as we meet our year end commitments.

This week's regional prayers are for Knox United Church in Durham and Crawford United Church in Elmwood (Elmwood-Crawford Pastoral Charge). You can see more about Knox and Crawford United here <https://knoxunitedchurch.weebly.com/>.