

# Centennial United Church, Stayner



Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

First Sunday in Advent

Worship Leader: Jennifer Irving

Music Leader: Megan Arksey



**Words of Wisdom:** *"In the Incarnation, hope is given what we are all given: a body, and a life to be lived."*

~ Stephanie Duncan Smith

## **Our Community Gathers**

### **Gathering Music**

### **Welcome & Land Acknowledgement**

### **Sharing our Life & Work and our Joys & Concerns**

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

Reader 1: As the days grow shorter and colder,  
we hope for warmth and light.

Reader 2: We hope for warmth and light within our hearts.

Reader 1: We hope that warmth and light may spread out all  
around our land, and all around the world –  
especially where hope is hard to find.

Reader 2: And so we light a candle, because we want hope to shine  
bright here and everywhere. *[light blue/purple candle]*

**All: God of all hope, we too hope for a better world.**

**Even when our hearts are heavy, even when the troubles of the world make us sad and worried, may hope still stay alive within us. May hope shine through us, and light the way for others, wherever we go. In the name of Jesus, Light of the World. Amen.**

### **Sharing Our Advent Moments**

What signs of HOPE did you notice this week?

### **Centering Prayer** (by Lori Megley Best, used with permission)

### **Sung Response VU #7 "Hope is a Star** (verse 1 & refrain)

## *We Listen for Wisdom*

### Time of Wondering

*“Beginning the Journey, The Wise Ones and the Guiding Star”*

### Hymn MV #33 “Jesus Came Bringing Us Hope”

**Jesus came bringing us hope, Jesus came bringing us hope,  
Jesus came bringing us hope, hallelujah forevermore!**

*Traditional song, Cameroon, arr. More Voices 2007.*

### “Living Nativity” Story

### Choir Anthem - “Always There is a Carol”

**Wisdom Reading: John 1:1-6, 14** *(The Voice Translation)*

**Reflection** *Incarnation-Making Room for Light’s Indwelling*

## *We Respond with Gratitude & Prayer*

### Community at Prayer

### Hymn VU#40 “Before the Marvel of this Night”

**Time for Thanksgiving, Gratitude & 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 # 9 “People, Look East”

### 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 Hope\* is born!***

◇ ◇

*Our Advent Worship: Living Nativity was developed by Shawn Redden  
& Janice MacLean. [www.prayerbench.ca](http://www.prayerbench.ca) and used with permission.*

*All music lyrics printed with permission: OneLicense #730030-A*

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

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

**Thank you to all** who contributed to the success of the Sunday School and Youth Bake Table at the Bazaar on November 22! Your baking, preserves, fudge and shopping helped us raise \$905.25 for outreach projects and Sunday School and Youth events! It truly was a Centennial and Friends effort!

**This week's regional prayers** are for Southampton United Church. You can learn more about Southampton United here <https://www.southamptonunited.ca/>

### **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](http://www.ucstayner.ca)

YouTube Channel ~ [Centennial United Stayner](#)

Facebook Page ~ [Centennial United Church –Stayner](#)

**Minister: Reverend Jennifer Irving**

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

email: [jennifer@ucstayner.ca](mailto:jennifer@ucstayner.ca)

### **Office Hours**

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

**Administrator: Pat Elson**

email ~ [office@ucstayner.ca](mailto: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**

---

## 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

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

**ADVENT STUDY TUESDAY DECEMBER 2 AT 10:30 AM.** Please join us for one, two, three or all four of these sessions that partner our "Living Nativity" worship series.

**CHOIR PRACTICE:** Thursdays at 3:30pm in the Sanctuary. All welcome!

**COMMUNITY CHOIR PRACTICE** Thursdays at 7:00 PM at Jubilee Presbyterian Church. Join this mass choir to celebrate Christmas in concert on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM. No auditions required.

Finance, Property and Stewardship meets **December 11 at 2 PM**

We welcome donations for our **CHRISTMAS FAMILY PROGRAM**. We are partnering with the Clearview Stayner Foodbank this year to ensure each child and youth receives a gift or gift-card this Christmas Season. We will also be sharing the hope, peace, joy and love of the Christmas with other families who are struggling this Christmas. Donations can be made on the offering plate on Sundays (please note designation on envelope) or by e-transfer (please note "Christmas Family." In the memo.) If you would like to purchase a gift rather than donate money please speak to Jennifer.

### IMPORTANT FINANCIAL UPDATE to October 31, 2025

	YTD Oct. 2025	YTD Oct. 2024
Total Income	\$89,143.11	\$103,288.97
Total Expenses	<u>\$127,899.50</u>	<u>\$135,493.22</u>
Shortfall	\$38,756.39	\$32,204.25
<b>M&amp;S Givings</b>	<b>\$9,986.00</b>	<b>\$11,227.00</b>



## CHRISTMAS SEASON SERVICES AND SPECIAL EVENTS AT CENTENNIAL UNITED CHURCH-STAYNER



**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5** at 3:30 gather at 241 Charles St to decorate the float for the Santa Claus parade.

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 6** Youth and Sunday School will participate in the Stayner **Santa Claus Parade** riding our Centennial float. If you would like to be part of the parade please join us at the church at 9 AM to get ready. Special thanks to Myrna and Jim Whitley, and Shirley and Wally Somerville for their contributions!

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 7 at 10:30 AM** will be **White Gift Sunday** presented by the Youth and Sunday School. On this Sunday we collect items for the Foodbank and our Food Cupboard (traditionally wrapped in white) along with monetary gifts to support local families in need and donations to the UCC's "Gifts with Vision". Donations can be made by e-transfer to [office@ucstayner.ca](mailto:office@ucstayner.ca) (please note Christmas Family in memo) or on the donation plate on a Sunday morning (please note Christmas Family on the envelope or cheque).

**DECEMBER 14 at 7:00 PM** Jubilee Presbyterian Church hosts a **Community Christmas Concert**. Come enjoy an evening of music! A freewill offering will be taken to support the work of the Clearview Ministerial. Refreshments served after the concert.

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 18 at 7:00PM** Selina Ree's Music Studio and Friends will be hosting a **Christmas Concert** with performances by the Stayner Sing Club!

**FRIDAY DECEMBER 19 at 4:00 PM** Centennial United hosts a meditative Blue Christmas service for those who find the Christmas season challenging, collaborating with Creemore/New Lowell Pastoral Charge, Badjeros and Rob Roy United Churches.

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 21 at 2:00 PM** Centennial Hosts a **Festive Carol Festival** with special music and lots of carol singing! Please contact Jennifer if you are interested in performing. All are welcome!

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

