



The United Church of Canada
Prairie Spirit Pastoral Charge
Coaldale United and St. Andrew's UC
Trinity and First United
Worship leader Ruth Pelletier
Reader: Barb Goertzen
Music: Cheryl Nelson

January 25, 2026

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Land Acknowledgement

Call To Worship:

Every second of every minute, every minute of every hour, every hour of every
day –

belongs to our Creator God!

Every breath we take, every heart that beats, every laugh shared, every tear
shed –

is cherished by our awesome God!

All gifts of the Creator – gifts of the Spirit!

Gifts of God!

And so we are -

Joyful!

Sacred!

Thankful!

As we gather to worship God!

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn: MV 113

Jesus Saw Them Fishing

Kid's Time

Minute for Mission:

In Halifax, NS, Brunswick Street Mission is a steady presence for people who need support, connection, and dignity. Every day, neighbours come through its doors to find a place where they are seen and valued.

Every weekday morning, the Mission serves a hot breakfast. For many, it's the most reliable meal they will have that day. Staff serve eggs, protein, toast, fruit, juice, and coffee, and they do so with care and connection. Some enjoy breakfast in the dining area, while others take their meal to go. Either way, the meal offers nourishment, but also a sense of stability and welcome.

The Mission's café offers a warm, safe space to land. People gather around puzzles, books, and quiet rest areas, sharing moments of calm that are often hard to find elsewhere.

The food bank continues the spirit of dignity and choice. Community members shop with a grocery cart, selecting items that fit their cultural traditions, dietary needs, and personal preferences. Gluten-free, vegetarian, and other specialized options are available whenever possible.

Staff walk alongside people navigating difficult systems—from housing and health care to replacing lost documents—always recognizing that the people they serve are the experts of their own lives. They listen, they support, and they create pathways where obstacles once felt insurmountable.

Support from [Mission and Service](#) helps Brunswick Street Mission keep doors open, meals hot, and spaces safe. Together, we walk alongside the Mission and its community, ensuring that it remains a place where people can rest, connect, and find small but meaningful ways to thrive.

Mission Prayer: from Song of Faith

God is creative and self-giving, generously moving in all the near and distant corners of the universe. Nothing exists that does not find its source in God. Our first response to God's providence is gratitude. We sing thanksgiving. Amen

Prayer of Reconciliation

Dear God, we come to you today, though many of us are tired and discouraged.

Give us relief from our weariness.

Lord, we ask for your guidance and intervention,

So that we may be reconciled and made new.

We put our trust in you. You know our innermost thoughts, aspirations and worries. Forgive us when we doubt you. Forgive us when we choose the darkness, rather than your light.

We pray that our hearts will be opened! That you will shine your face upon us and fill us with joy!

Let us put our troubles aside.

We lay our burdens to rest, safely held in your care. Amen

Words of Freedom

Hymn: VU 82

A Light is Gleaming

Scripture: Isaiah 9: 1-7 (The Message)

But there'll be no darkness for those who were in trouble. Earlier he did bring the lands of Zebulun and Naphtali into disrepute, but the time is coming when he'll make that whole area glorious—the road along the Sea, the country past the Jordan, international Galilee.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.

For those who lived in a land of deep shadows—
light! sunbursts of light!

You repopulated the nation,
you expanded its joy.

Oh, they're so glad in your presence!
Festival joy!

The joy of a great celebration,
sharing rich gifts and warm greetings.

The abuse of oppressors and cruelty of tyrants—
all their whips and clubs and curses—

Is gone, done away with, a deliverance
as surprising and sudden as Gideon's old victory over Midian.

Psalm 27:1, 4 - 9 (The Message)

Light, space, zest—
that's God!

So, with him on my side I'm fearless,
afraid of no one and nothing.

I'm asking God for one thing,
only one thing:

To live with him in his house
my whole life long.

I'll contemplate his beauty;
I'll study at his feet.

That's the only quiet, secure place
in a noisy world,

The perfect getaway,
far from the buzz of traffic.

God holds me head and shoulders
above all who try to pull me down.

I'm headed for his place to offer anthems
that will raise the roof!

Already I'm singing God-songs;
I'm making music to God.

Listen, God, I'm calling at the top of my lungs:
"Be good to me! Answer me!"

When my heart whispered, "Seek God,"
my whole being replied,

"I'm seeking him!"
Don't hide from me now!

Matthew 4:12-23 (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition)

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—

the people who sat in darkness

have seen a great light,

and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death

light has dawned.”

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Message - Light! Fish! Follow me!

Hymn MV 161

I Have Called You by Your Name

Offertory: MV 191 What Can I Do?

What can I do? What can I bring?

What can I say? What can I sing?

I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.

I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

Gifts we share.

Gifts of money and of time,

gifts of passion and of heart,

gifts of our very selves.

We present all of this to you, O God.

Bless us and them, we pray, for your purpose in the world.

Amen

Prayers of our Hearts and the Prayer of Jesus:

Hymn MV 216

Wherever You May Go

Commissioning and Benediction:

As we leave this place together, following in the Ways of Jesus,

may our footprints glow with his Light!

May we have the courage to share that Light with all we encounter,

thanking God for this awesome gift of life!

Sung Blessing VU 646

We Are Marching

We are marching in the light of God

We are marching in the light of God

We are marching in the light of God

We are marching in the light of God...

We are marching, marching, we are marching,

OOO!

We are marching in the light of God!

We are marching, marching, we are marching,

OOO!

We are marching in the light of God!