

May God be with you: **and also with you.**

Announcements

Passing of the Peace

*Share in the ancient Christian practice of sharing peace & reconciliation.*

*Within our sanctuary, and out into the wider world.*

Lighting of the Christ Candle (VU 82)

**A light is gleaming,  
spreading its arms throughout the night,  
living in the light.  
Come share its gladness,  
God's radiant love is burning bright.  
Living in the light!**

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

\* We Prepare our Hearts:

O God, you are the unsearchable abyss of peace.

**The ineffable sea of love  
and the fountain of blessings.**

Water us with plenteous streams  
from the riches of your grace.

**And from the most sweet springs of your kindness**

Make us children of quietness and heirs of peace.

*~St. Clement of Alexandria (c. 200)*

\* Hymn: Arise Your Light is Come (VU 79)

Opening Prayer (unison):

**God our Mother,  
Living Water,  
River of Mercy,  
Source of Life,  
in whom we live and move and have our being,  
who quenches our thirst,  
refreshes our weariness,  
bathes and washes and cleanses our wounds,  
be for us always a fountain of life,  
and for all the world a river of hope  
springing up in the midst  
of the deserts of despair. AMEN**

*~Miriam Therese Winter*

## We Listen for God's Word

\* Hymn: The Church is Wherever (VU 579)

Wonder Time

Prayer for Illumination:

**Guide us, O God,  
by your Word and Spirit,  
that in your light we may see light,  
in your truth find wisdom,  
and in your will discover your peace,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Readings: Matthew 3:11-17

These words are offered as wisdom for our journey.

**May we walk together in their truth.**

Ministry of Music/Choir

Sermon: Between Booties & Sandals

\* Hymn: I Was There to Hear your Borning Cry (VU 644)

## We Respond to God's Word

Invitation to the Offering for the Work and Witness of the Church  
Offertory

\* Offering Response: (VU 538)

**For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,  
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,  
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.  
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.**

\* Prayer of Dedication

**Welcome of New Members by Transfer & Profession of Faith**

Statement of Purpose

Profession of Faith

Congregational Commitment

**We will continue to support you, walk with you,  
and grow with you.**

**With God's help, we will live out our baptism  
as a loving community in Jesus Christ:  
nurturing one another in faith,  
upholding one another in prayer,  
encouraging one another in God's work.**

Laying on of Hands

Presentation of New Members

Prayer

**We Go Out to Love & Serve God's World**

- \* Hymn: (WL) Come Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love (VU 574)  
(MF) I Have Called You by Your Name (MV 161)

- \* Sending Forth

May the peace of God  
which the world cannot give  
and the world cannot take away,  
dwell in your heart.  
As you go from this place,  
remember that you walk in the light.

The light of Christ  
will illuminate the path before you.  
Carry it with you,  
let it shine through you,  
as you bring the peace of Christ  
into the world God so loves.

- \* Sung Benediction (VU 87)

**I am the light of the world!  
You people come and follow me!  
If you follow & love, you'll learn the mystery,  
Of what you were meant to do and be!**

**January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026**



**The United Church of Canada  
Mount Forest-Woodland Pastoral Charge  
Woodland – 9:15 a.m. Mount Forest – 11:00 a.m.  
Rev. Lori Campbell**