

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

Announcements (10:45 MF)

Praise Band

Passing of the Peace (11:00 MF)

*All are invited to pass the peace from their spot,
offering a sign of peace to your neighbours.*

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Advent Prologue

* Hymn: All Earth is Waiting (VU 5)

Prayer of Confession (unison):

Courageous God,

you invite us to live into our call.

You invite us to act, to serve, and to trust.

Instead of responding with a resounding “yes,”

we often hide our face.

We dig our heels in.

We look for someone else to volunteer.

Spark courage in us.

Remind us that every person is capable of making a difference.

Remind us that even when we’re scared, we are not alone.

You invite us forward.

With baby steps we hope,

we pray,

amen.

Words of Forgiveness:

Family of faith,

no matter where your path has led you in the past, today is a new day. So join me in declaring this good news:

We are known. We are forgiven! We are sent to serve.

May we step forward in faith, always moving closer to God’s call. Amen.

We Listen for God’s Word

Advent Candle-Lighting

Sung Response:

As we are wondering what come next.

As we seek peace and joy.

We trust your word revealed to us.

Proclaimed in a baby boy.

Ministry of Music/Choir

Prayer for Illumination:

Holy One,

the story of this season is not a new one.

We’ve heard this tale before.

**We’ve seen the nativities, watched the plays, sung the songs,
witnessed the children act it out.**

The story of this season is not a new one,

and yet we long to hear it as if it is.

So spark our spirits awake.

Call forth awareness, attention, and reverence in us.

Allow us to hear this ancient tale with brand new ears.

With hope we pray,

amen.

Christmas Pageant: **Do Not Be Afraid**

(by Rev. Rebecca Joy Sumner)

Scene 1: Zechariah & Elizabeth

Scene 2: Mary

Scene 3: Joseph

Scene 4: Birth

Hymn: Away in a Manger (VU 69)

Scene 5: Shepherds

INTERLUDE for Cows (and Sheep)

"In the manger was a babe, Alleluia!

The cows all lent him their warm hay, alleluia!

With a moo moo..

Scene 6: Us

* Hymn: Go Tell It On the Mountain (VU 43)

We Respond to God’s Word

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

* Offering Response: (VU 55)

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.

If I were a wise man, I would do my part;

Yet, what I can, I give him~ give my heart.

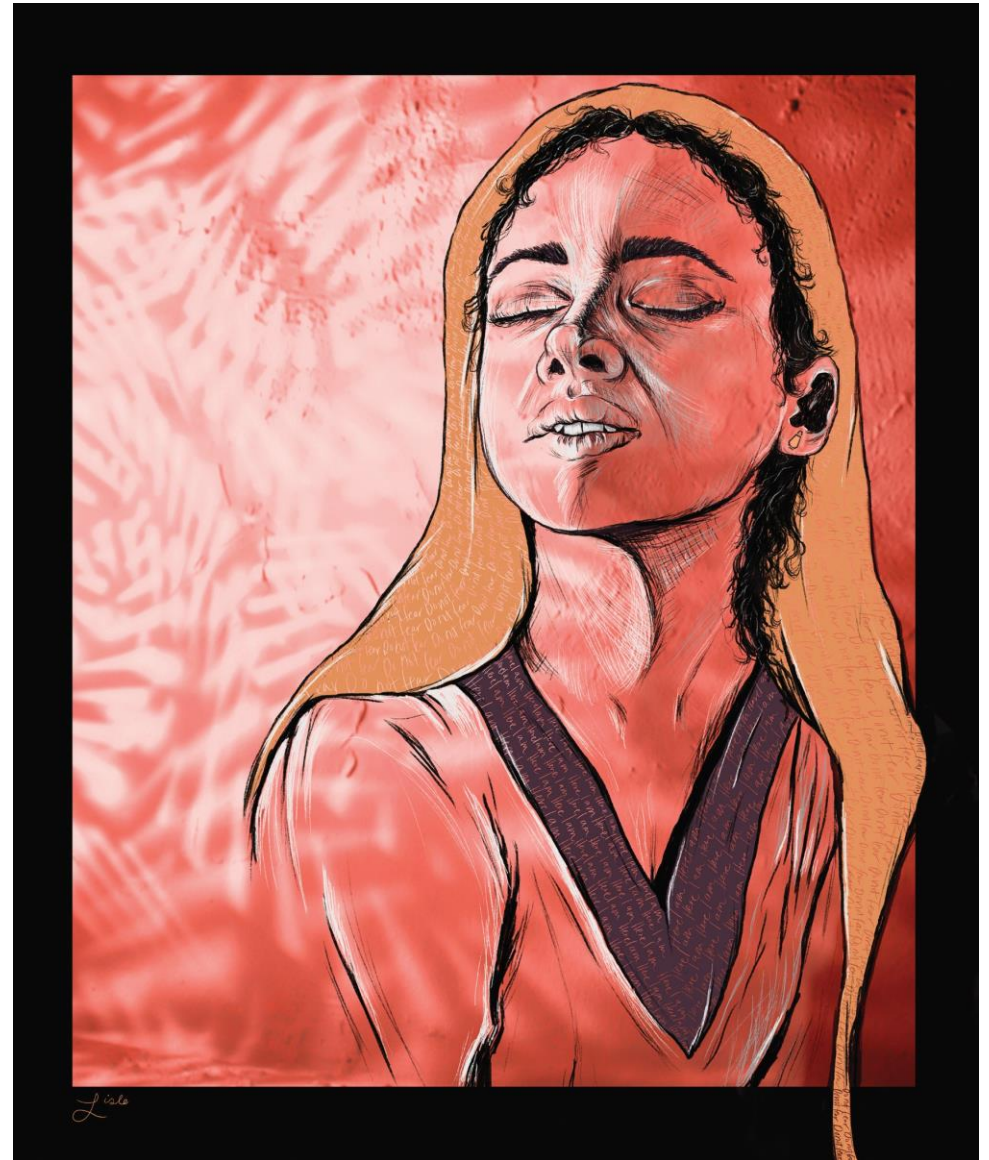
* Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People
Affirmation of Faith (unison)
We have seen the valley.
We have seen a sky without stars.
We have seen the longest night,
and *still* we believe.
We believe in a with-us God.
We believe in the hope of tomorrow.
We believe that good news is louder than fear.
We believe this good news is for all people.
So even when our knees shake,
even when our voice trembles,
even when fear is all around us,
we will hold onto that good news.
We will reach for each other.
We will look for God in our midst.
We will sing songs of joy.
We will proclaim:
Unto us, love is born.
We have seen the longest night,
and we have seen unimaginable love.
So *still*, we believe.
Amen.

We Go Out to Love & Serve God's World

- * Hymn: Hark the Glad Sound (VU 29)
- * Sending Forth
In a fearful world,
may you look for God's spirit.
May you reach for each other's hands.
May you choose courage whenever you can.
And in all things, may you remember
that good news is louder than fear.
In the name of the one who calls,
the one who sends,
and the one who journeys with—
go in peace and
be not afraid.
- * Sung Benediction (MV 220)
Hope shines as the solitary star.
Faith is the inner light.
You and I together
Mirror the Light of Lights,
And illumine the pathway home.

December 14, 2025



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