

## Announcements

### Passing of the Peace (MFUC)

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

### Advent Candle Lighting (see insert)

(VU 7, v 1)

### Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

#### \* Call to Worship

O Come, Emmanuel, come to us, for we are lonely for God.

**Come, bring the peace of God-with-us.**

O Come, Wisdom from on high.

**Lead us in the ways of knowledge and show us the paths of peace.**

Glorious Shoot from the Jesse Tree,

**Come, and bring life, fresh and green and lovely, to our spirits.**

O Rose which blooms in the snow of winter,

**Come, and grant to us the blessed gift of joy, of hope.**

O Bright Morning Star of the darkened world,

**Come and be for us the Light, the Truth and the Way.**

**Jesus our Christ, we wait for you. We welcome you.**

**Come and be known among us for we want to be your people.**

#### \* Hymn: O Come, O Come Emmanuel (VU 1)

Prayer of Confession (unison):

**It is never easy for us to confess our sins, Waiting God.**

**Forgive us, God who comes near to us.**

**When we have lost our way, show us yours.**

**Lead us in humility down the streets of your kingdom.**

**Teach us your truth,**

**so we might be able to keep your Word,**

**revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.**

Words of Assurance

**God does not remember our sins,**

**but does remember the promises which have been made to us.**

**God does not shame us, but lifts us to new life.**

**Lead us in your hope, O God, and teach us your love.**

**You are the God of our days,**

**we wait for you to come to us. Amen.**

## We Listen for God's Word

#### \* Hymn: All Earth is Waiting (VU 5)

Wonder Time: Boxes in Boxes 1

Prayer for Illumination:

**Your Word, O God, is our judgment and our hope.**

**Open us to receive. Enable us to respond.**

**May there be in the words which are spoken**

**And heard now, your Word. AMEN.**

Readings: Luke 21:25-36

Psalm 25 (VU p 752, Refrain 2)

These words are offered as wisdom for our journey.

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

Ministry of Music/ Choir

Sermon: It's a Paradox

#### \* Hymn: MF: I am the Dream (VU 106)

WL: Shall We Gather at the River (VU 710)

## We Respond to God's Word

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

Offertory

#### \* Offering Response: (VU 55, v. 4)

***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.***

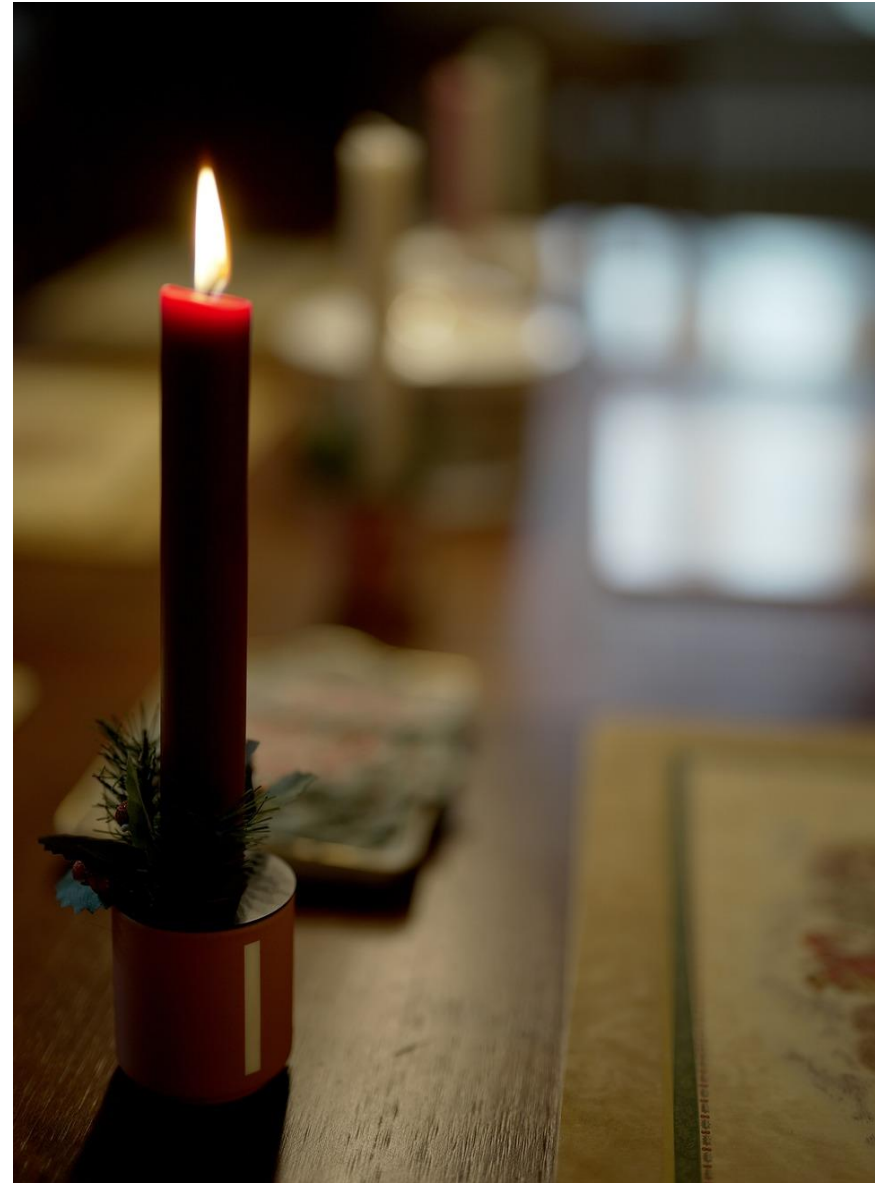
#### \* Prayer of Dedication

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION (see insert)

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

- \* Hymn: Here, O My Lord (VU 459)
- \* Blessing and Sending Forth
- \* Choral Commission

**December 1, 2024**



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

## Celebration of Communion

### **The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving:**

May God be with us.

**God is with us.**

Let us open our hearts to God.

**We open them to God and to one another.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

You have entered this place, O God,...  
is realized.

**Come now, God.**

As you once came to us...  
and waits for truth.

**Come now, God.**

As once your Spirit poured forth life...

Gather up the good news in the bread and wine.

**Come now, God.**

Where once we ate the bread of tears...  
and await Christ's coming again.

**Amen.**

**Come, Christ Jesus!**

Come then, life-giving Spirit of our  
God,...

And hear us as we pray:

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Breaking of the Bread/ Pouring of the Cup**

**The Communion**

**Prayer After Communion**

**We give thanks that bread broken brings wholeness;  
that wine poured out replenishes;  
that time spent with the Risen Christ and one another  
is gift and grace. Amen.**



## The Light of Hope

We despair that tomorrow will be the same as today.

We despair that the darkness will overcome us.

We lose hope in the shadows.

And yet.

We hear a word of hope from the prophet:

*The people walking in darkness*

*have seen a great light;*

*on those living in the land of deep darkness*

*a light has dawned. (Isaiah 9:2)*

The light shines in the darkness,

And gives us hope.

We light this candle of Hope

To push back the shadows of despair.

The Candle is Lit

Prayer (unison):

**God of Hope,**

**We want to believe in the world made possible**

**By the gift of your Son, Jesus.**

**As we await his return, let us live in hope.**

**And where we cannot find hope,**

**May we lean on the hope of others,**

**Lighting the way for one another.**

**AMEN.**

\* Hymn: Hope is a Star (v1) VU 7

