

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction *An Advent Blessing (M. Faith & J. Paige)* RUC Choir

Postlude Sherry Steele

**denotes you are invited to stand as you are able and inclined*

*“VU” refers to the red hardback hymnal *Voices United**

*“MV” refers to the paperbound hymnal, *More Voices**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

5:00 p.m. Flame-free service with the Choir and the Handbells
(No individual candles)

6:30 p.m. Candlelight service with Choir and Soloist John Tessier
(With individual candles)

8:00 p.m. Candlelight service with Holy Communion
(With individual candles)



Hearing Assistance available.
Please enable “T-coil” in your hearing aid
or pick up a headset from the Audio-Visual desk.



Have a safe and blessed holiday week!

Note: *The church office will be closed December 24th to January 4th.
Valerie is on call for pastoral care and will receive voice mail left on
the office phone (press 2 for her) or on her cell phone.*

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Photo: Cathy Campbell Location: Trinity United Church, Edmonton, AB





December 21, 2025

The Fourth Sunday of Advent: **Love**

We Gather Together in the Love of God

Prelude

Sherry Steele

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Valerie Oden

Advent Candle Lighting: The Candle of Love

Music: "Gesu Bambino" by P. Yon; words and arr. by Joel Raney

Sung: **O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And end this gloom of night.
Bring hope to the world,
Bring peace to the earth,
And fill us with love's pure light.**

Litany:

During Advent we see God's love for us embodied in our Saviour's birth.

Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.

Advent calls us to love others with patience and kindness.

Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.

Advent calls us to be slow to anger and quick to forgive.

Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.

Advent reminds us that Christ commanded us to love as he loved.

Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.

Advent Prayer (Unison)

Holy One, on this longest night and shortest day, we turn toward your love. As darkness deepens around us, we trust the light you are bringing.

May your light shine in our lives, and through us into the world. Prepare our hearts to welcome the Christ, the love made flesh, the light no darkness can overcome. Amen.

*Opening Hymn *Angels from the Realms of Glory* VU 36

Children's Time Alec Gallant

*Hymn *Hope is a Star* VU 7

After this hymn children and youth are invited downstairs if they wish. There is also a family room behind the piano for wee ones, where the service can be seen and heard and a volunteer will assist you.

Anthem *O Come, Emmanuel* by N. Price and D. Besig

Readings Isaiah 7: 10-15 Charles Hitschfeld, Lay Leader
Matthew 1: 18-25

Refection "The Light of Love" Rev. Valerie Oden

*Hymn *In the Bleak Midwinter* vss. 1, 2, 4 VU 55

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Prayer Hymn *[Love] Shines as the Solitary Star* MV 220
(Words: Rev. Catherine Faith MacLean; Music: J.B. Tissandier)

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer / The Lord's Prayer VU 921

Offering our Gifts

Offering plates can be found in the narthex. Electronic gifts are welcome by e-transfer to: contactus@riverbendunited.org or on the church website. We give in gratitude for God's grace and in hope that peace may spread to all.

*Closing Hymn *Good Christian Friends Rejoice* VU 35