

We Share the Light of Christ

Sharing the Light

*The first prayer of peace is in our hands as we share the light with each other. Please **hold your lit candle upright** and allow your neighbour to tip their unlit candle. Adults, please be mindful of children with candles.*

*Hymn

Silent Night (All verses)

VU 67

Verse 2:

***Silent night. Holy night. Shepherds quake at the sight:
Glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing Hallelujah.
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.***

Verse 3:

***Silent night. Holy night. Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.***

*Benediction

Postlude

Sherry Steele

**denotes you are invited to stand as you are able and inclined
VU refers to the red hardbound hymnal, Voices United*

Thank you to our Communion Stewards: Stephen and Fiona Bamforth

Coming in January:

“Contemplative Christian Practices” – Each Sunday in January at 9:30 a.m. beginning January 4, Graham Gaine will lead a class on various contemplative practices including Meditation, Quaker prayer, and Centering Prayer. All are welcome.

“Sacred Thresholds”– Each Sunday in January during worship at 10:30 a.m., Valerie will explore the moments of our Scripture stories and of our lives when the divine often breaks through. All services are also on our YouTube channel.



December 24, 2025
8:00 p.m.

Riverbend United Church





Christmas Eve, 2025

8:00 p.m.

We Gather Together

Prelude Sherry Steele

Welcome Rev. Valerie Oden

Call to Worship Isaiah 9: 2, 6 Dawn Power

One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; on them light has shined.

All: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us.

One: Authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named...

**All: Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace,
Everlasting Love, Emmanuel, God-With-Us.
Tonight, we welcome his birth here on earth.**

*Opening Hymn O Come All Ye Faithful vss. 1, 3, 5 VU 60

Opening Prayer (In unison)

Holy God, on this night of wonder and quiet joy,
we gather with hearts that hold many things—
hope and weariness, gratitude and longing.

As we remember the birth of Jesus,
may our hearts be open to the gift of your love.
May we find you in the familiar carols and ancient story,
and also in the places within us that ache for peace.

May the light that shone in Bethlehem
find room in us again tonight. Amen.

We Share in the Christmas Story

Hymn O Little Town of Bethlehem vss. 1, 2, 4 VU 64

Reading Luke 2: 1-7

Hymn Still, Still, Still vs 1 & 2 VU 47

Reading Luke 2: 8-12

Special Music Candlelight Carol (John Rutter) Emily Bamforth

Reading Luke 2: 13-16

*Hymn Angels We Have Heard on High vss. 1, 2, 3 VU 38

Offering Our Gifts E-Transfer is welcome: contactus@riverbendunited.org

Offering Plates can be found in the narthex. A portion of tonight's offering will go to Outreach Initiatives selected by need.

We Share in Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

One: Glory to God in the highest!

All: And on earth, peace to all!

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is good to give thanks and praise on this holy night.

Blessing the Elements

The Lord's Prayer

VU 921

Receiving the Elements

Music by Sherry Steele

You are invited to come forward down the centre aisle; take a piece of bread and dip it in the cup, then return to your seat by the outside aisle. Those unable to come forward will be offered Communion in your seats. We use grape juice.