

*Benediction

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 spiral bound songbook *More Voices*

Welcome to Riverbend United Church. If you are new to us, we'd love to meet you. Feel free to introduce yourself to your neighbour in the pew, and/or fill out a Welcome Card in the narthex (foyer).

Reminder: Each Sunday in January, Graham Gainie is leading a class at 9:30 a.m. on Contemplative Christian Practices (Mediation, Centering Prayer, etc. All are welcome!

Our Mission

We, the people of Riverbend United Church, recognize the dignity, value, and beauty of each and every individual as a beloved child of God.

We seek to grow spiritually, deepening our connections to God and to each other through worship, discussion, reflection, and service.

We embrace the gifts brought by all people of every age, culture, economic background, ethnicity, gender, gender expression, mental and physical ability, and sexual orientation that enrich the life of this faith community.

As followers of Christ, we celebrate the diversity brought by each person who joins us on our journey and shares in our congregational life and work, welcoming their full participation in church membership, leadership, and celebration of life events.

14907 – 45 Avenue NW,
Edmonton, AB T6H 5K8
www.riverbendunited.org

Office: 780.430.7275
contactus@riverbendunited.org

The United Church of Canada



L'Église Unie du Canada

819-01



Photo: Robert E. Adams | Location: Emmanuel United Church, Waterloo, ON





January 4, 2026
Epiphany Sunday

We Gather Together

Prelude Sherry Steele

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Valerie Oden

Introit Arise, Be Clothed in the Light (Isaiah 60) VU 886

Call to Worship Patti Hunter, Lay Leader

One: "Arise," says the prophet, "your light has come!"

All: When the light breaks in, do we follow it?

One: With one step following the light, our lives are changed.

All: May our journey begin anew this day.

*Opening Hymn Arise, Your Light is Come VU 79

Opening Prayer (Unison) (Traditional Epiphany Blessing)

Gracious God,
as your people gather in worship,
may we welcome friend and stranger.
At the threshold of the church,
at the threshold of the year,
bless us in our coming in and our going out,
that the light of Christ's love may be our guide. Amen.

Children's Time Alec Gallant

*Hymn We Three Kings Please see screen

We Listen for the Spirit Stirring

Scriptures: Isaiah 60 (With musical refrain) VU 886
Matthew 2: 1-12

Solo Song Beyond the Moon Sherry Steele
(Linnea Good)

Reflection Sacred Thresholds: Epiphany Rev. V. Oden

*Hymn of Response Will You Come and See the Light VU 96

We Respond with our Prayers, our Gifts, our Lives

Sharing our Prayers of Joy and Concern

Prayer Hymn Spirit God, Be Our Breath vss. 1-3 MV 150

An Epiphany Litany (Prayer for Times of Change, The United Church of Canada, adapted)

One: God is creating new paths and possibilities,
as we prepare for where we are going.

**All: Christ is freeing us with newfound love and grace,
as we learn from where we have been.**

One: The Spirit is revealing new dreams to guide us,
as we start our journey home on a new path.

**All: We take courage in the assurance that God goes
with us; we affirm our call to go where Christ leads;
and we trust the Spirit to guide us through the
challenging space between where we have been,
where we are, and where we are going.
Surely, we are not alone in this threshold moment.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

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 I Am the Light of the World VU 87