

# Third after Epiphany – 22 January 2023



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## Opening Hymn - VU371 - Open My Eyes

Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;  
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready, my God, Thy will to see;  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit Divine!

Open my ears that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear;  
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.  
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;  
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit Divine!

Open my mouth and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
Open my heart and let me prepare love with Thy children thus to share.  
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see;  
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit Divine!

### Land Acknowledgement

We gather here mindful of the many who, for millennia, have called this valley home or depended on its trails for safe passage.

We know this community as Fernie; it is also the unceded territory of the Ktunaxa people and Métis Nation.

We strive for reconciliation with our Indigenous siblings, and pray that the Creator will guide our way.

### Lighting the Christ Candle

When the light of your love grows dim,

**may this light rekindle the flame so that your love lights up the room.**

*[The Christ candle is lit.]*

*Beth W Johnston, Nipawin, SK*

### Call to Worship

From many moments to this moment,

**we come as children of God, called by God's grace.**

From many places to this place,

**we come as disciples of Christ, called by Christ's peace.**

from many communities to this community,

**we come as people of the Spirit, called by the Spirit's life.**

From these moments, places and communities, we come –

**to worship God!**

*Richard Bott, Vancouver, BC*

### Opening Prayer

We have come together to worship you, Loving God.

**Thank you for your presence.**

We have come to sing your praises, and to greet one another with your peace.

**Thank you for the peace of Christ.**

We have come to receive words from our sacred scriptures

and to share with you in prayer.

**Thank you for the written word. Thank you for receiving our prayers.**

We have come together as your church, to celebrate our unity as your people.

**We thank you for the church universal.**

We thank you for this time of worship.

**May all that is shared here today be pleasing and honouring to you,  
our loving God. Amen**

*Mavis Peddie Peters, Esterhazy, SK*

### A Prayer for Renewal

O God who knows the needs of the Church in every place:  
by the light of your Holy Spirit, guide us  
as we seek to respond faithfully to you in this time.

May we open our hands to the future you call us to;  
May we open our hearts to those you are calling us to serve;  
May we open our minds to new insight and new knowledge;  
May we open our doors to go out towards those you would have us meet.

Lead us into your future together;  
help us to build trust and resilience in our common life;  
help us to anticipate and celebrate new possibilities.  
We pray these things in the name of Jesus,  
the one who invites us into the newness of life.

**Amen**

Reader: Orlan Weber

Readings: Isaiah 9.1-4, 1 Corinthians 1.10-18, Matthew 4.12-23

Isaiah 9.1-4

#### The Righteous Reign of the Coming King

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.  
You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.  
For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

1 Corinthians 1.10-18

#### Divisions in the Church

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my

brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul', or 'I belong to Apollos', or 'I belong to Cephas', or 'I belong to Christ.' Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

### Christ the Power and Wisdom of God.

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word  
**Thanks be to God.**

May God be With You  
**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Matthew  
**Glory to you, O Christ.**

### Matthew 4.12-23

#### Jesus Begins His Ministry in Galilee

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

'Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,

on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—

the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,

and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.'

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.'

#### Jesus Calls the First Disciples

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.' Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

## Jesus Ministers to Crowds of People

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

The Gospel of Christ.

## **Praise to you O Jesus Christ.**

### Hymn of Praise - VU82 A Light is Gleaming

A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night,  
living in the light.

Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is burning bright,  
living in the light.

When light comes pouring into the darkest place,  
It hurts our eyes to see the glow.

Sometimes a word of hope reminds us of our fears,  
Our memories and tears.

A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night,  
living in the light.

Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is burning bright,  
living in the light.

When night is round us and every shadow grows,  
a star is there to light our way.

It tells a story of Jesus who came near to say:  
"God's light will ever stay."

A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night,  
living in the light.

Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is burning bright,  
living in the light.

And Jesus showed us a brighter path to walk.

He showed us things we hadn't seen.

Now we, like Jesus, can help creation shine,  
And this will be a sign:

A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night,  
living in the light.

Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is burning bright,  
living in the light.

So let us live in the brightness God has giv'n,  
and let us rise to see the dawn.  
We trust that God is here as a sparkle and ablaze,  
warming all our days.

A light is gleaming, spreading its arms throughout the night,  
living in the light.  
Come share its gladness, God's radiant love is burning bright,  
living in the light.

## Sermon: The Reverend Canon Andrea L. Brennan - "Seeing the Light"

### We Responding in Giving and Gratitude Our Church Tithes and Offerings

#### Invitation to Offering

Bless these gifts we offer, O God, that they may teach us to live as disciples:  
creating peace, not war, building bridges, not destroying, learning understanding,  
not division. Bless us with your Spirit's guidance that we may be a living offering for  
your work in the word. **Amen**

*Gord Dunbar, Kincardine, ON*

### Hymn of Thanksgiving - VU227 For the Fruit of All Creation

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God;  
for the gifts of every nation, thanks be to God;  
for the ploughing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour, God's will is done;  
in the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done;  
in our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God;  
for the good we all inherit, thanks be to God;  
for the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,  
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

If you wish to make a donation to support our ministry  
please send a cheque or e-transfer to:

Knox United Church  
Box 1808, Fernie, BC V0B 1M0  
knoxferniefinance@gmail.com

Christ Church Anglican  
Box 279, Fernie, BC V0B 1M0  
christchurchferniefinance@gmail.com

As the offering plate is brought forward we sing the doxology:

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures high and low;  
praise God above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

### A New Creed

We are not alone,

**we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating,**

**who has come in Jesus,**

**the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,**

**who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:**

**to celebrate God's presence,**

**to live with respect in Creation,**

**to love and serve others,**

**to seek justice and resist evil,**

**to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,**

**God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God.**

### Your Generosity Matters - Dignity Is On the Menu

Read by: Mary Elson

### Prayers of the People

Led by: Bruce Elson

*We thank you, O God, for the day you have given to us,  
for the rain which falls, the sun that shines,  
for the wildlife with whom we share this majestic place,  
for the goodness and joy of your Creation.  
Creator God, **let your kingdom come.***

*We praise you, O God, for those who lead us in small and large ways;  
for our Fernie Knox United Church Board, our Christ Church Anglican Church  
Committee and our Joint Church Committee who seek to hear you and lead us in  
our Shared Ministry;*

*For Deborah, our President; Treena, our Executive Minister, Kathy our Regional  
Minister, for Lynne, our Archbishop; for Andrea, our Regional Dean*

for Carmen, our Moderator, the United Church of Canada, Pacific Mountain Region  
for Linda, our Primate; the Anglican Church of Canada, the Diocese of Kootenay  
Creator God, **let your kingdom come.**

*We ask you, O God, to bless all who work in service*  
for the frontline workers, in medical care, and education  
for the frontline workers, in hospitality, grocery and food services  
for all who are tired, weary and exhausted,  
Creator God, **let your kingdom come.**

*We ask you, O God, to be with those who are on our hearts this day,*  
give peace to those who struggle,  
give relief to all who are starving,  
give hope to those who are despairing;

*silence is kept for additional petitions*

Creator God, **let your kingdom come.**

*We ask you, O God, to be with those who are fleeing their homes,*  
for peace in Russia and around the world.  
for an end to the occupation of Ukraine  
for a peaceable end to unjust and unwelcome global conflicts.  
Creator God, **let your kingdom come.**

*We ask you, O God, to be with all who will die today,*  
that they may be welcomed home into your arms,  
that their families and friends may find the deep peace which passess all  
understanding may they always remember the one  
whom they loved and who loved them,  
Creator God, **let your kingdom come.**

*We ask you, O God, to be with us –*  
in sharing our grief  
in celebrating our joy  
in leading us along the paths you would have us follow,  
Creator God, **let your kingdom come.**

### The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to pray,

**Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
Now and forever. Amen**

### Commissioning

We are the church of God, sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who call on the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

We go into the world carrying peace from God and the Lord Jesus Christ, to fulfill our mission as servants of God. **Amen**

*Wanda Winfield, Blenheim, ON*

### Extinguishing our Candles

As we move from this time of community and communion

**we hold in our prayers those who are with us in person,  
on screen and in our hearts,**

knowing that one day, we know not what day,

**we will be together again, not necessarily as we wish,  
but as we are able. Amen**

### Sending Song - MV145 - Draw the Circle Wide

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.

Let this be our song: no one stands alone.

Standing side by side, draw the circle wide...

God the still-point of the circle Round you all creation turns

Nothing lost but held forever in God's gracious arms

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.

Let this be our song: no one stands alone.

Standing side by side, draw the circle wide...

Let our hearts touch far horizons so encompass great and small

Let our loving know no borders faithful to God's call

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.

Let this be our song: no one stands alone.

Standing side by side, draw the circle wide...

Let the dreams we dream be larger than we've ever dreamed before

Let the dream of Christ be in us, open every door!

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.

Let this be our song: no one stands alone.

Standing side by side, draw the circle wide...

## Upcoming...

Christ Church Church Committee Meeting - today at 11:30 by Zoom and In Person

Sunday 22 September - 1:00 pm - Trinity Lodge Worship

Monday 23 January - Admin and Office prep

Tuesday 24 January - Office Hours

Wednesday 25 January - Office Hours

10:00 am - Saints Day Holy Eucharist

Thursday 26 January - Office Hours

Noon - Greater Clericus by Zoom

4:30 - 5:30 - Zoom meeting with Kathy & +Lynne

Friday 27 January - Sabbath for Andrea+

Saturday 28 January - Catch-up and Sermon Writing

**NEXT WORSHIP** - Sunday 29 January @ 10:00 am - Holy Eucharist (ACC)

If joining online, please have your communion elements ready

Credits: The liturgy today has been compiled with resources from Gathering: Advent-Christmas-Epiphany 2022-23, Voices United, and More Voices.

Candle extinguishing prayer and Prayers of the People, written by Reverend Canon Andrea Brennan. CCLI License #11186206