

Welcome to Worship:  
Epiphany Sunday, January 7, 2024  
Ralph Connor Memorial United Church  
Worshipping in Canmore

Minister – Rev Greg Wooley

Music – Tanya Sullivan

Greeters – Sim Gascoyne and Ellen Andersen

Worship Leader – Ian Schofield

Coffee Time – Allison Edwards and Diane Travers

**Hymn: Voices United # 38**  
**“Angels, We Have Heard on High”**

*~French Traditional, tr. James Chadwick~*

*Children may proceed to “Kid’s Connection” during the singing of this hymn.  
They will return to the sanctuary later in the service.*

1. Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains;  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains.  
*Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o*  
*Glo-ori-a In excelsis*

2. Shepherds, why this Jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?  
*Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o*  
*Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o*

3. Come to Bethlehem and see  
Christ whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
*Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o*  
*Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o*

4. See him in a manger laid,  
Whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
While our hearts in love we raise.  
*Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o*  
*Glo-ori-a in excelsis de-o*

## Opening Prayer (responsive):

God of stable, stars, and surprises,  
of light and hope and new life:

Open our eyes and hearts

to your presence in our world;

forgive our obsession with property and possessions;

forgive our compromises and narrowness of vision.

Open us to your grace, that we might hear again  
the song of the angels, and respond with a song in  
our hearts, shown by the love in our lives. Amen.

# Preparing to Hear the Word:

*A time of quiet reflection*

## Chant *(seated)*: Pure Love

### More Voices # 31

*~Lynn Bauman and Linnea Good~*

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Pure Love (echo)  
Pure Truth (echo)  
Pure Justice (echo)  
God. (Unison)

*(repeat)*

**Hymn: Voices United # 96**  
**“Will You Come and See the Light?”**

*~Brian Wren — traditional Scottish melody~*  
*Permission granted for streaming by OneLicense, A-605504*

1. Will you come and see the light  
from the stable door?

It is shining newly bright,  
though it shone before.

It will be your guiding star,  
it will show you who you are.

Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

2. Will you step into the light  
that can free the slave?

It will stand for what is right,  
it will heal and save.

By the pyramids of greed  
there's a longing to be freed.

Will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

3. Will you tell about the light  
in the prison cell?

Though it's shackled out of sight,  
it is shining well.

When the truth is cut and bruised,  
and the innocent abused,  
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

4. Will you join the hope, alight  
in a young girl's eyes,  
of the mighty put to flight  
by a baby's cries?

When the lowest and the least  
are the foremost at the feast,  
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

5. Will you travel by the light  
of the babe new born?  
In the candle lit at night  
there's a gleam of dawn,  
and the darkness all about  
is too dim to put it out:  
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?

~end~

# The Offering is Received

## Offertory Carol: Voices United # 36 “Angels from the Realms of Glory” (*verse 3*)

*~James Montgomery – Henry Thomas Smart~*  
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3. Sages, leave your contemplations;  
brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great desire of nations;  
ye have seen his natal star:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.

**Followed by Offertory Prayer**

# Prayers of the People and The Lords Prayer

Beloved, in whom is heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

# Announcements

**This Wednesday: Evensong is IN PERSON – 7:15 PM**

**Next Sunday – Worship is in Canmore:  
Communion & Benevolent Offering**

# Hymn: Voices United #087

## “I am the Light of the World”

*~Jim Strathdee – following the words of Howard Thurman~  
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## CHORUS

*“I am the light of the world!*

*You people come and follow me!”*

*If you follow and love,  
you’ll learn the mystery*

*Of what you were meant to do and be.*

**1. When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and the shepherds  
have found their way home,  
The work of Christmas is begun:**

## CHORUS

*“I am the light of the world!*

*You people come and follow me!”*

*If you follow and love,  
you’ll learn the mystery*

*Of what you were meant to do and be.*

**2. To find the lost and lonely one,  
To heal the broken soul with love,  
To feed the hungry children  
With warmth and good food,  
To feel the earth below, the sky above!**



## CHORUS

*“I am the light of the world!*

*You people come and follow me!”*

*If you follow and love,  
you’ll learn the mystery*

*Of what you were meant to do and be.*

**3. To free the prisoner from all chains,  
To make the powerful care,  
To rebuild the nations  
With strength of good will,  
To see God's children everywhere!**

## CHORUS

*“I am the light of the world!*

*You people come and follow me!”*

*If you follow and love,  
you’ll learn the mystery*

*Of what you were meant to do and be.*

**4. To bring hope to every task you do,  
To dance at a baby's new birth,  
To make music in an old person's heart,  
And sing to the colours of the earth!**

## ***FINAL CHORUS***

***“I am the light of the world!***

***You people come and follow me!”***

***If you follow and love,  
you’ll learn the mystery***

***Of what you were meant to do and be.***

***~end~***

# Words of Blessing and Sung Amen VU 984

*~Jim Strathdee~ Permission granted for streaming by OneLicense, A-605504*

**Amen! Amen! Hallelujah, Amen!**  
**Amen! Amen! Hallelujah, Amen!**

*The Mood of Christmas* by Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with  
their flock,

The work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among people,  
To make music in the heart."

