



**Salisbury United Church**  
**February 2, 2025**  
**Fourth Sunday After Epiphany**  
**Welcome to Worship!**



**Call To Prayer:** *(remain standing)*

We are a community called by grace.

**We are a community summoned to prayer and praise.**

We are a community commissioned to compassion and mercy.

**We are the Body of Christ.**

Let us worship and live as God's faithful people.



*(Source: Written by Frances Flook; Gathering, Advent/Christmas/Epiphany 2024/2025, pg. 53. Used with permission)*

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Acknowledgement of Territory**

**Hymn Medley:**

Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face; #459VU, vv. 1 & 2

Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;  
here would I touch and handle things unseen;  
here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,  
and all my weariness upon you lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God;  
here drink with you the royal wine of heaven;  
here would I lay aside each earthly load;  
here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.



One Bread, One Body; #467VU, chorus only

*One bread, one body, one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless;  
and we, though many, throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.*

All Who Hunger; #460VU, vv. 1 & 2

All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.  
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.  
Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.  
We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

**Welcoming Each Other In:**

*(We greet each other with open hands of hospitality before sitting down)*

**Welcoming the Light of Christ:**

Let us proclaim the welcoming presence  
of the light of Christ together:

**The light of Christ is with us,  
between us and all around us.  
Thanks be to God.**

*(The Christ Candle is lit)*



**We Rest in Peace:** *(A time of silence)*

May the peace of Christ be with you all!  
**And also with you!**



**Opening Prayer & The Lord's Prayer:**

Holy God, from you the full scope of human life and human history is never hidden. We thank you for this graced moment of gathering in community around your table. We know that in you we find our hope. Help us to cling to that awareness. Help us also to listen for your judgement, which we often fear, even though your judgment is meant to convict and change us.

Today O God, let your judgement of human history re-create us. Take away from us labels and distinctions of all kinds, especially the human-created ones of race and skin colour and proper social ordering which humanity has used for time-out-of-mind to judge, oppress and restrict the lives of others. Convict us, Father and Mother of us all, by the power of your enduring love, so that we are better able to live it toward all your dear, holy children around the earth. This we pray in Jesus' name, saying...

**Our Father, who art in 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.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever, Amen.**



**Hymn:** He Came Down; #402W&R

Christ came down that we may have love;  
Christ came down that we may have love;  
Christ came down that we may have love;  
hallelujah forever more.

Christ came down that we may have peace;  
Christ came down that we may have peace;  
Christ came down that we may have peace;  
hallelujah forever more.

Christ came down that we may have joy;  
Christ came down that we may have joy;  
Christ came down that we may have joy;  
hallelujah forever more.

Christ came down that we may have life;  
Christ came down that we may have life;  
Christ came down that we may have life;  
hallelujah forever more.

**Discovery Time:**

**Hymn:** Be Not Afraid; #430W&R, *chorus only*

*Be not afraid I go before you always,  
come follow me, and I will give you rest.*


**Scripture Reading:** Luke 4:21-30 (NIV) 

All: Acclamation

**This is the Word of God. Herein lies wisdom.  
Thanks be to God.**

**Salisbury Singers:** O God Who Shaped Creation; #276VU

O God who shaped Creation at earth's chaotic dawn,  
your word of power was spoken and lo! the dark was gone!  
You framed us in your image, you brought us into birth,  
you blessed our infant footsteps and shared your splendoured earth..

**Scripture Reading:** Jeremiah 1:4-10 (NIV) 

All: Acclamation

**Here is God's holy word.**

**Let us listen for what the Spirit is saying to the church!  
Amen.**

**Sermon:** "I Set You Apart"

**Hymn:** Living Christ, Bring Us Love; #599VU

Living Christ, bring us love, love for every stranger;  
Living Christ, bring us love, love from cross and manger.

Living Christ, bring us joy, joy of earth and heaven;  
Living Christ, bring us joy, joy of sin forgiven.

Living Christ, bring us peace, peace with God and neighbour;  
Living Christ, bring us peace, peace in all our labour.

Living Christ, bring us love, love shared at your table;  
Living Christ, bring us love, love from cross and stable.

Living Christ, lead us out, out to tell the story;  
Living Christ, lead us out, out to show your glory.

**Acknowledgement of Offering:**

God whose name is Compassion,  
We pray for those who do not receive compassion:  
The children who hunger.  
The bereaved who mourn.  
The prisoners who are isolated.  
The institutionalized who are alone.  
The depressed who are fearful.

*(prayers in silence)*

**God whose name is Compassion,  
Transform us 'til our name is your name.**



God whose name is Mercy,  
We pray for those who do not experience the world as a merciful  
place:  
For those who wrestle with the demons of their past.  
For those whose worth is measured in productivity and profit.  
For those who are victimized by violence.  
For those who are trapped in addictions.  
For those who live in relationships of terror.

*(prayers in silence)*

**God whose name is Mercy,  
Transform us 'til our name is your name,  
and all things are made new.  
Amen.**

*(Source: Written by Centre for Christian Studies Students, 1999.  
Worship for All seasons II, Year B, pg. 88)*

**Sacrament of Communion:** *Prepared for the Start of Black History Month*

**Invitation to the Table:**

Brothers , Sisters, and Cousins, this is the mighty  
feast, the joyful feast, the holy feast of and for the  
people of God.

**This table represents a level of welcome,  
inclusion, and imagery which can only be  
experienced through the power of the Holy Spirit.**

We welcome people from all walks of life.

**We may have been sustained by a life of privilege.**

**We may have long sought a way out of a life of  
poverty.**

We may come from a long life of oppression.

We may have lived with indifference toward the little daily  
oppressions that many people face.

**We may have always been financially stable.**

**We may have mostly lived on next to nothing.**

We may be confident of opportunity and new mercies.

We may have lived with little hope for change.

**The one thing we all share at this table is that we come.**

We come together because we are invited, not by the church or the  
leaders of church but by Jesus Christ himself.

**This is the Lord's table and we are humbly excited about  
serving and being served here.**



With gratitude to God, we declare that all who are present are  
invited to participate in the sacrament of communion.  
And so we sing together:

♪ All Sing: #249W&R (*chorus only*)  
**Amen, amen, amen, amen.**  
**Amen, amen, amen, amen.**

*(Source: More Light Presbyterians, PCUSA, adapted by B Aerhart,  
<https://mlp.org/document/black-history-month-communion-liturgy/> )*

**Hymn:** Let us Break Bread Together; #480VU

Let us break bread together on our knees,  
let us break bread together on our knees.



*When I fall down on my knees  
with my face to the rising sun,  
Oh, Lord, have mercy on me.*

Let us drink wine together on our knees,  
let us drink wine together on our knees. (R)

Let us praise God together on our knees,  
let us praise God together on our knees. (R)

**Prayer Before Sharing:** Thanksgiving Prayer  
*(in honour of Black History Month)*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Almighty Creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image  
and breathed into us the breath of life.

When human cruelty reared its ugly head,  
you sustained your people through every oppression  
and made it possible for your people of Africa to survive  
the middle passage, auction blocks,  
whipping posts and forced labor.

You softened the hearts of many  
who worked in secret on behalf of emancipation.  
You lifted bowed heads with the message  
that God hears the cries of God's oppressed children  
and delivers the captives.  
You also strengthened their hands  
to struggle for justice and freedom.

And so,  
with your people on earth  
and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

♪ All Sing: #249W&R (*chorus only*)  
**Amen, amen, amen, amen.**  
**Amen, amen, amen, amen.**

**Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,  
who left the comforts of glory  
to live among a people estranged from God.  
By his life and example he taught us  
that it was possible to love our neighbors  
and live together as family.**

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection  
you gave birth to your church,  
delivered the earth from slavery to sin and death,  
and made with us a new covenant  
by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,  
Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,  
gave it to his disciples, and said:  
**"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me."**

When the supper was over, he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
**"Drink from this, all of you; this is my life,  
poured out for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
As often as you drink it,  
remember me."**



And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice,  
in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.  
**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
**By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other,  
and one in ministry to all creation,  
until time itself runs out  
and we feast together without segregation or separation  
at Christ's one world banquet of grace.**

Through your Son Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

♪ All Sing: #249W&R (*chorus only*)  
**Amen, amen, amen, amen.**  
**Amen, amen, amen, amen.**

*(Source: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/the-great-thanksgiving-for-black-history-month>; Adapted from a Service of Word and Table II © 1972, 1980, 1985, 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House. Used by permission.)*

### Sharing of Bread & Cup:

"The gifts of God, for the people of God."

### Prayer after Sharing:

O God, with gratitude and praise you have blessed and fed us in  
this sacrament and united us with Christ. Sharing this sacred meal  
offers us hope in the face of turmoil, and restores a right Spirit  
within us.

**Help us always to be your children of remembrance so that  
the only history we go forth to repeat is the history of your  
loving sacrifice and compassion for the world in Jesus the  
Christ.**

Send us from this place with purpose and in the strength of hearts  
blessed, transformed and bent toward the arc of justice.  
Amen.

*(Source: More Light Presbyterians, PCUSA, adapted by B Aerhart,  
<https://mlp.org/document/black-history-month-communion-liturgy/>)*

## Saying Goodbye to The Light of Christ:

The Christ light can never really be put out.  
**Even when we blow it out, it simply changes form.  
And becomes like smoke, drifting as a blessing  
toward all the four directions of the world.**



*(The light is extinguished)*

## Hymn: Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ; #468VU

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:  
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

*Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound! (2X)*

Christ is able to make us one, at the table he sets the tone,  
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express. (R)

Jesus Calls us in, sends us out, bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell bread to share: God (Im-man-u-el) everywhere! (R)

## Blessing:

Go forth into the world in peace;  
be of good courage;  
hold fast that which is good;  
render to no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the fainthearted;  
support the weak;  
help the afflicted;  
honour everyone;  
love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit;  
and the triune blessing of God, Christ and the Holy Spirit,  
be amongst you and remain with you always.  
Amen.



## Sung Blessing: May the Love of the Lord; #218MV

*May the love of our God, rest upon your soul,  
May God's love dwell in you throughout every day.*

*Amen, Amen, Amen Amen, Amen, Amen.  
Amen, Amen, Amen Amen, Amen, Amen.*

## Postlude

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*He Came Down; Hope Publishing Company, 2001*  
*O God Who Shaped Creation; United Methodist Publishing House/Abingdon Press, 1989*  
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## MEDITATION CIRCLE - WEDNESDAYS @ 10am

Please join us in-person each Wednesday at 10am in the  
Church's Meditation Room.



## LOOKING FOR HELP SUNDAY MORNINGS

If you're able to help Sundays at 10:00am, to set up a few tables &  
chairs in the auditorium, it would be greatly appreciated.

## STRATHCONA COUNTY FOOD BANK DONATIONS



Please continue to bring non-perishable items for the  
Strathcona Food Bank. There is a yellow bin in the Narthex  
for donations along with a list of most-needed items.



### **Finance Corner**

Update for December 2024

	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>
Income:	\$ 305,006.51	\$ 217,396.00
Expense:	\$ 259,071.53	\$ 248,687.66
	\$ 45,934.98	(\$31,291.66)

We finished the year strong and well ahead of budget, with income higher by \$87,610, even with expenses \$10,383 more than budgeted.

Net income was \$45,934 better than planned, a difference of +\$77,226.

Compared to income of \$281,646 in 2023– we saw an increase of \$23,359 this past year, thanks in part to an increase in special donations. Meanwhile, expenses decreased from \$261,330 in 2023 to \$259,071 in 2024, a difference of about \$2,260. Net income increased from \$20,315 in 2023 to \$45,934 in 2024, a difference of +\$25,619.

Remember, if you donate through PAR (pre-authorized remittance), please review your monthly contributions for the new year to ensure we keep ahead of inflation and upcoming Property expenses.

Contact the church office with any revisions.

**As we begin a new year in the life of Salisbury United Church,  
thank you for your continued financial support.**

If you need any help with giving envelopes – new supply, pick-up, etc. – or other giving options (monthly giving through PAR, e-transfer or donating online through Canada Helps on the Salisbury Website), please contact: Brittany at the Church Office.

**Phone: 780-467-7310**