

# TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

Third Sunday of Advent  
A Service of Lessons and Carols

## Order of Service

December 14, 2025      10:30 am

(Please note that the service will proceed unannounced.)  
Prayers and songs in unison and people's responses  
are in **bold type**.

\* Indicates to stand, if you are able

**Prelude:** Come now, Saviour of the Nations    J. S. Bach

## Words of Welcome

### Land Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that the land on which we are  
gathered is the traditional and unceded  
territory of the Abegweit Mi'kmaq First Nation.  
May we seek reconciliation and may all  
live in peace and harmony on this land.

## The Life and Work of the Church

**Introit For Advent:** Healy Willan

### Call to Worship:

O Lord, open my lips.

**And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

The mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing,  
**and all the trees of the forest shall clap their hands.**

(Is.55:12)

For, behold, our Saviour comes.

**Alleluia!**

**\*Processional Hymn 62** “Once in Royal David’s City”

**OPENING PRAYER:**

At the dawn of your creation, O God,  
the morning stars sang together  
and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy. (Job 38:7)  
Heaven’s arches rang with the echo of angel voices  
when you came to be born among us.  
Now may we in song pour out our joy  
and be filled with your Spirit.  
We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

**THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE—JOY**(Neven, Lochlain,  
Kayleigh, Sophia-Grace)

**CHORUS:** *Joy is flowing like a river,  
flowing out from you and me,  
flowing out into the desert,  
setting all the captives free. (3X)*

**First Lesson:** Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9   **Reader:** Emily Lucas

**Choir:** There is no Rose – Howard Skempton

**\*Hymn 1** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (v. 1-3)

**Second Lesson:** St. Luke 1:26-38   **Reader:** Beth Johnston

**Choir:** In Dulci Jubilo – German Trad., arr. Bob Chilcott

**Third Lesson:** St. Luke 1:46-55   **Reader:** Katie Affleck

**Choir:** Candelight Carol – John Rutter

**\*Hymn 48** “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**Fourth Lesson:** St. Matthew 1:18-25 **Reader:** Phil Floyd  
**Choir:** Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes – Mark Sirett

**Fifth Lesson:** St. Luke 2:1-7 **Reader:** Stratos Karountzos  
**Choir:** “Away in a Manger” - Murray, arr. Chilcott

**Sixth Lesson:** St. Luke 2:8-20 **Reader:** Sarah Moses Karountzos  
**Choir:** Colours of Christmas – John Rutter

**\*Hymn 75** “While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks” (v. 1,2,3,6)

**Seventh Lesson:** St. Mathew 2:1-2 **Reader:** Johnny Karountzos  
**\*Hymn 91** “The First Nowell” (v. 1-3)

**Eighth Lesson:** St. Matthew 2:3-11 **Reader:** Luke Doiron  
**Choir:** Ding Dong! Merrily on High – French Trad.,  
arr. Mark Wilberg

**\*Hymn 60** “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

**Offering**

**Offertory:** Noel Provencal-Balabastre

**\*Presentation of Offering:** (Tune 232 -Joyful, Joyful)

***\*Joyful, Joyful as the wise men  
Brought their gifts on bended knee  
To the lowly Child in manger,  
May we bring our gifts to Thee.***

***We are here, our time, our talents  
We would dedicate as well;  
May we show Christ’s love within us,  
By our lives our faith forth tells.***

**\*Prayer of Dedication:**

God, receive the gifts we offer;  
in your mercy and grace use them  
to accomplish far more than all  
we can ask or imagine.

Thanks to you for the privilege of sharing  
in your work in this world.

We pray in the name of Christ our Saviour. Amen.

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Ninth Lesson:** St. John 1:1-5, 14 **Reader:** The Rev. John Moses

**\*Hymn 59** “Joy to the World”

**\*Commissioning and Benediction**

**\*Dismissal: Organ Postlude:** Toccata—C.M. Widor

**Minister:** Rev. Dr. John Moses

**Candidates for Ministry:** Ellen Locke and Corina Anderson

**Music Director:** Donald Fraser

**Office Administrator:** Rev. Doreen Bird-Daley

Wendy Maxwell (in training)

**Custodian:** Andy Gagnon

**Web Page:** [www.trinityclifton.org](http://www.trinityclifton.org)

**Email:** [trinitycliftonunitedchurch@gmail.com](mailto:trinitycliftonunitedchurch@gmail.com)

**Phone:** 902-892-4114 **Office Hours:** Mon. to Fri. 9:30 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

**1Announcements**

***Trinity-Clifton Vision Statement:*** We are a joyful, welcoming,  
inclusive Christ-centered community of faith, reaching out to

*others, providing a safe space where we respect differences. We learn from the past and dare to change.*

**Christmas Eve service** at Trinity United Church – December 24th at 7:00 pm.

**Chair Yoga is cancelled until January 2026.**

**It's that time of the year, where so much is needed by the community** and there is much more work for the church to do. We're making a Christmas appeal for funds to help the church Ministry end the year strong. We've had a successful year in fundraising, but more is needed by the community at this time of year. Please make an additional donation through the collection plate or by e-transfer to [trinitycliftonunitedchurch@gmail.com](mailto:trinitycliftonunitedchurch@gmail.com). Every little bit helps tremendously. For those whose gifts are recorded, this will help increase your tax reduction as well. Thank you for everything you have done so far this year, and for being a member of our community. We value you in so many ways. Have a Merry Christmas!

**The Advent Christmas newsletter** is available for pick-up at the back of the church. Please retrieve your copy at the end of today's service. Also, take one for your friends and neighbours to save on postage costs.

**A pair of black rimmed prescription glasses** were found in the Crafts Room. May have been there since last year's Christmas Fair. Please contact the Church Office at 902-892-4114 if you think they may be yours.

**The Sunday Bulletin** may be designated in memory of a loved one – the cost is \$50. Please contact the Church Office for more information.

**We have a limited number of 2026 United Church Calendars** available. Cost is \$12.00. Please contact the Church Office.

**The Outreach & Service Committee** is collecting winter coats for Outreach Centre. Please drop off any gently used coats at the Church Office.

**December 21, 2:00-4:00 pm. Open house at the manse, 222** Richmond St. John and Jane invite you to drop in for a chat and some refreshments, a sample of some of Jane's Christmas cooking.

**Greeters for month of December:** Chris Cook, Bruce Fitchett, Anne Love, Stephen Donaldson

**Those celebrating a birthday** this week: David Younker (15<sup>th</sup>), Andy Gagnon (20<sup>th</sup>).

***Sock it to 'Em*** is back! The *Outreach & Service Committee* is collecting socks, hats, mittens and gloves to be distributed to the Outreach Centres and Prince St. School. Items can be left at the back of the Church on Sunday or dropped off at the Church Office.

**Scripture Readings for Sunday, December 21, 2025**

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25