

Music for Meditation: Jennifer Turner

## GATHERING IN THE SPIRIT

Gathering Song

♪ ♪ Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of Truth thou hast for me, place in my hand 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. ~ VU 371 ~

Welcome: Rev. Greg Powell

Territorial Acknowledgement

**We gather on holy ground, land that sustained bodies, minds and spirits for thousands of years.**

**Lək'wəŋən peoples use this land, James Bay United Church uses this land, and folks from the community use this land.**

**Beneath the building, under the layers of complexity and history, we find Holy ground. On Holy ground we are called to be one. So we recommit to taking the steps that move us all toward reconciliation and right relationship.**

Lighting the Christ Candle: Mahima Sylvester

♪ ♪ Holy light, still burning bright, presence of God that frees us. Lift the shadows from our soul, shine through our life, Christ Jesus. ~ Words, music: Jim Strathdee

Opening Prayer

**Creating and sustaining God, you draw us together in community to transform us, and so here we are. Remind us of your presence. Remind us of your love. In the waning days of the season of Christmas, fill us with the light of Christ, that we might shine for all. Amen.**

Hymn: VU 92 In the Darkness Shines the Splendour

Sharing the Peace of Christ

## SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

♪ ♪ Open our hearts, open our minds,  
Open our lives to you O loving God. ~ MV 21 ~

Scripture Reading: John 1:1-9 Janice Langley

Reflection: Rev. Greg Powell

Prayers of of the People

## RESPONDING WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS

Hymn: MV 82 A Light Is Gleaming

Offering Ourselves with our Gifts

Offertory Response

♪ ♪ Now thank we all our God with heart and hands  
and voices, who wondrous things has done,  
in whom this world rejoices;  
who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

~ VU 236 ~

Announcements: Work of the People

## GOING OUT TO SERVE

Hymn: VU 87 I Am the Light of the World

Commissioning and Sung Blessing

Response

♪ ♪ 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.

*Refrain* ~ MV 145 ~

## James Bay United Church

*Following in the way of Jesus  
on the journey inward  
and the journey outward*

January 5, 2025  
~ 2nd Sunday of Christmas

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