

**Montague Pastoral Charge**

**Sunday January 5, 2025**

**11:00 a.m.**

Hillcrest United Church

Ministers: All of Us

Minister: Timothy Wisnicki BSc. MDiv.

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Sheila Mallory

Director of Music: Anne White

Website: [www.hillcrestunitedpei.com](http://www.hillcrestunitedpei.com)

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*Epiphany Sunday*



*Bulletins are in loving memory of*

*Dorothy 'Dot' Clements*

*you're always on our minds – with love*

*and gratitude from Arthur, Billy, Anne, Brenda & Families*



**Sunday January 5, 2025**

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**Prelude** “Gesu Bambino” Pietro A. Yon  
“A Christmas Medley” arr. J. Fischer

**Introit** VU # 62 verse 1

**Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for his bed.  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.**

**Welcome & Acknowledgement**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

Candlelighter: Sherren MacKinnon

**Call to Worship**

The Magi came from faraway places, following a star.

**We come to worship, and the star sheds light on our lives.**

The Magi brought gifts to offer the Child.

**We too bring gifts: our dreams, our prayers, our hearts.**

Shepherds and Magi – the meek and the mighty – all were welcome in Bethlehem.

**We too come to Bethlehem, and are changed. We go home by another road.**

Come, let us worship God!

**Arise, shine, for our light has come!**

**Opening Hymn VU # 75**

**“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”**

**Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer**

God of all nations, and races, though darkness covers the earth and its peoples, the radiance of your light burns away the shadows; it illuminates the smallest corner and heralds

the start of a new day. By your light, we see all peoples joined hand in hand, glorious in unity and diversity. By your light, prisoners are set free and hearts need no longer fear. One shall follow another, nation shall follow nation; kings and princes shall bow down in awe before your Anointed One. May we too arise and shine, bringing our lights before him, the Light of the world, who taught us to pray: **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. 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.**

**Children's Hymn VU # 74 "What Child Is This?"**

**Children's Time**

**Children's Prayer**

**Good News**

**We celebrate you, in all that you do,  
We love you; God bless you. We celebrate you.**

**Passing of the Peace**

*(Children may go to Sunday School.)*

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**Come, Morning Star, and lighten our understanding. As you guided the wise men by a star, guide us to you today, through the words of Scripture.**

**Scripture Readings**

Isaiah 60:1-6

Reader: Helen Lockerby

Psalms 72 (VU #790)

Matthew 2:1-12

**The Gloria Patri** – *Music by Alan Coffin*  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

**Musical Offering** by Hannah Campion

**Sermon** “Pilgrims on the Milky Way”

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

**Hymn VU # 82** “A Light Is Gleaming” vs. 1 and 4

**Minute for Mission**                      Reader: Kathy Crane

**Invitation to Offering**

**Offering Dedication** VU # 55 verse 3

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb,  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part,  
Yet, what I can I give him - give my heart.

**Offering Prayer**

**Pastoral Prayer**

*Response:* Light of the world, we pray to you:  
Shine on those who sit in darkness.

**Life & Work of the Church**

**Closing Hymn VU # 81** “As With Gladness Men of Old”

**Benediction**

**Closing Blessing** VU # 62 verse 4

And our eyes at last shall see him,  
Through his own redeeming love;  
For that child who seemed so helpless  
Is our Lord in heaven above;  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he is gone.

**Postlude** “The Master Hath Come” Welsh arr. L. Smith

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**We extend a warm welcome to guests visiting with us today.**  
**Please join us for coffee after church.**

## **LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH**

**Office Hours** are Mon. through Thurs. 9 a.m. to noon.

**Clergy Visiting** - Please let the office (838-2698) or Timothy (905-269-7381) know if anyone in hospital, long-term care or at home requires a visit or Pastoral Care.

**Puzzle Exchange** – check out the beautiful puzzles on our Puzzle Shelves by the offices. Please feel free to take one, leave one and/or borrow one.

**Lost & Found** – the box is overflowing – please take a look to see if you have left something behind – it is probably there. It is located at the front of the church, pulpit side.

**Bulletin Memorials** are available for January 12 & 19, March 2, 9. 23 & 30

**Annual Reports** – please get your Annual Reports into the office.

## **THANK-YOU/GOOD NEWS**

-thank you to today's soloist, Hannah Champion - we are pleased to have you adding your talents.

## **THIS WEEK AT HILLCREST**

### **Today**

**7 pm Joyful Sound Community Choir Concert** celebrating the 12<sup>th</sup> Day of Christmas. Admission by free will donation. A lunch will be served following the concert. All are welcome. Thank you for passing the word!

### **Wednesday**

**9:00 am Worship Committee meeting**

**2-4 pm Bridge group** – New and experienced players welcome. For more information call Sandra at 388-8844

**7 pm Senior Choir** invites all singers and a partner/friend to Joanie's home on Russell Street for a time of fun and fellowship, food and music. Small treats are welcome!.

**Thursday**

**9:30 am Men's Meditation Group** will not be meeting this week.

**10 am Decorating Team** will be "undecorating" our sanctuary. Any able to come and help are most welcome - thank you all.

**Friday**

**10 am Knitting/Craft Group** – all welcome with your knitting, crocheting, sewing or other crafts or just come along for some friendship, coffee and conversation.

**Sunday**

**10 am Youth Choir Practice** New youth are most welcome as we begin the new year. Contact Anne 838-2681 or just join us.

**Special Music** will be by Garth and Milton

**UPCOMING AT HILLCREST**

**UCW** will meet at 1 pm, January 14

**Hillcrest Book Club** meets at 10 am on January 15

**Stewards & Trustees** meet at 7 pm on January 16

