

**Balzac United Church**  
**January 4, 2026, 10:00am**  
**Guest Minister: Dr. Alex Shawn**  
**Music Ministry: Lee Dowan, Dr. Alex Shawn**

**Prelude**                      *What Child is This*                      BYU Noteworthy

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Blessing Bank**

**Land Acknowledgement**

For millennia, Indigenous peoples have lived, worked, played and worshipped here. They have stewarded this land. Over time people from other parts of the world came to this region and made their homes here. Together, Indigenous people and Settlers share and care for the land, water, and sky. May we learn together what this land and its people need. We light this candle in recognition of our desire to live in right relations with each other.

Laura J. Turnbull, Penticton, B.C.

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

The season of Epiphany begins with the Magi from a distant land following the light of a star to the child, Jesus. They were the first sign that Jesus was a gift for everyone.

**May we continue to seek Christ's enlightening spirit in the company of all people.**

We gather in the light of Christ.

Karen Boivin, Melville U.C., Fergus, Ont.

**Hymn**                      *Arise, Your Light is Come*                      VU 79

**Call to Worship**

Where shall we go?

**We seek the Holy One.**

How shall we get there?

**We'll journey together.**

How will we find the right path?

**By asking those who have gone before.**

**By listening to the word of God.**

**By following the star.**

And we'll find the Christ child?

**And even more.**

But can we do that?

**Yes! And we, too, are the Wise Ones,**

**Living our lives in God's way,**

**Living our lives in love's way.**

Living our lives...

**And worshipping our God.**

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Richard Bott, Grace U.C. Burlington, Ont.

**Opening Hymn**     *I Am the Light of the World*     VU 87 v. 1,2,4

**Candles of Joy, Concern and Sorrow**

**Opening Prayer**

**Hymn**     *A Light is Gleaming*     VU 82 v. 1,2,4

**Prayer of Illumination**

**Scripture**     Matthew 2: 1 - 12

**Special Music**     *In the Bleak Midwinter*

**Reflection**     The Magi's Gifts, but what shall I give Him?

**Hymn**     *In the Bleak Midwinter*     VU 55 v. 4

**Offering**    *This Is My Father's World*            arr. L. Dengler

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Closing Hymn**    *Will You Come and See the Light*    VU 96 v.1,2,4,5

**Benediction**

**Postlude**    *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*    arr. L. Dengler