

Balzac United Church
December 28, 2025, 10:00am
Worship Leader: Hazel Mountford
Music Ministry: Lee Dowan, Dr. Alex Shawn, Beth Harrison

Prelude

Beth Harrison

Welcome and Announcements

Land Acknowledgement

“As we gather together, let us pause to remember that we live, work, and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded territories of the nations of Treaty 7. As Christ’s people, may we be people of love, of truth, and of reconciliation. May we live with respect on this land, and in peace and friendship with its people.”

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship

Holy God of hope and joy and peace and love,
You have brought the light of Christmas into our lives.
You light our path as we move into a new year.
We celebrate the light and love that Christ brought to us. In this liminal
space, this time of in between, we take your light with us as we move into a
new year and new adventures. God’s light and love be with us. Amen.

Opening Hymn *Good Christian Friends Rejoice* VU 35 v. 1 & 2

Candles of Joy, Concern and Sorrow

A time to share joys and concerns as well as memories of your best
Christmas or the highlight of 2025 for you.

Opening Prayer

Loving God, it’s the holiday season and yet we are here.
As we enter this new year, we yearn to experience your voice, to know with
certainty your call, to understand how we live best as followers of your
way...but it isn’t easy.
Fill our hearts, our minds, our will today with your love and wisdom, that we
may follow the Way of Jesus into this new year. Amen
- Gord Dunbar, while at Kincardine P. C., Kincardine, Ont.

Time for Young and Young at Heart

- Peggy Graham, AUC

Scripture Matthew 2: 13 - 23

Sermon **Favorite Christmas Carols**

VU 59	<i>Joy to the World</i>	v. 1 & 4
VU 60	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	v. 1 & 3
VU 64	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	v. 1 & 3
VU 69	<i>Away in the Manger</i>	v. 1 & 2
VU 55	<i>It Came Upon a Midnight Clear</i>	v. 1 & 4
VU 91	<i>The First Nowell</i>	v. 1 & 2
VU 74	<i>What Child is This</i>	v. 1 & 2
VU 48	<i>Hark the Herald Angels Sing</i>	v. 1 & 3
VU 38	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	v. 1 & 2
VU 73	<i>The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy</i>	v. 1 & 2

Offertory *In The Bleak Midwinter* arr.M Hayes

Offering Dedication

Holy God, bless these gifts and the givers.

May the sing of our collaboration in giving be another sign of Emmanuel's presence in this world.

Strengthen the work of these churches and the growth of your kingdom coming (of these churches working and worshipping together). Amen

- Gord Dunbar, while at Kincardine P. C., Kincardine, Ont.

Hymn: *In the Bleak Midwinter* VU 55 Vs.1 & 4

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn *Joy is Now in Every Place* VU 45 v. 1 & 4

Benediction

Go and share.

We go to stop accumulating stuff, choosing to build relationships in Jesus' name.

Go and listen.

We go to listen to God's voice in each other, building bridges of grace-filled understanding.

Go and act.

We go to follow the Spirit's challenge and leading, finding the path of Communion and of community.

- Gord Dunbar, while at Kincardine P. C., Kincardine, Ont.

Postlude

Beth Harrison