

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH
January 5, 2025
2nd SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS / EPIPHANY
Peter Scovil

WELCOME

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

OPENING HYMN: A Light Is Gleaming VU #82

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Today we are gathered with gratitude on the traditional territories of several indigenous nations, including the Haudenosaunee of Six Nations.

As settlers, we take on the responsibility of learning about historic and current relationships,

and our desire to engage in building right relationships.

We are mindful of broken covenant, and the need to commit ourselves to deep reconciliation and healing.

OPENING PRAYER

PRAYER FOR RESTORATION

Jesus, who sat at the table with outcasts and sinners, we confess that too often our words and actions are not consistent with our beliefs.

Often we ignore the needy, show indifference to the lonely, and reject those who seem different from us.

Forgive us, we pray.

Empower us to reach out in love and acceptance.

Compassionate one, hear our prayer:
Stretch out your hand in healing love.

**Create in us a clean heart, O God,
and renew your Spirit within us.**

FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Reveal to us your word, O God.

**May your living and active word
enlighten our hearts and open our minds. Amen**

SCRIPTURES

Psalm 72: 1 – 7, 10 – 14 (parts 1 & 2)

read by Alma Scovil

VU page 790

Refrain: Hail to God's own anointed, who rules in equity.

John 1: 1 – 18

READER: This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

All: Praise to Christ, the Light of the world.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: In the Darkness Shines the Splendour VU #92

REFLECTION: "A Light for the World"

HYMN: Will You Come and See the Light VU #96

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER VU #959

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

SUNG DEDICATION: In the Bleak Midwinter (vs. 4) VU #55

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.

CLOSING HYMN: I Am the Light of the World VU #87

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

CHORAL CLOSE: Hope Shines as the Solitary Star MVU #220

Hope shines as the solitary star.

Faith is the inner light.

You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,

And illumine the pathway home.

