

# St. James United Church

How Does a Weary World Rejoice?  
We follow the light...



January 7, 2024 @ 10:00 AM

181 Portland Street  
Dartmouth  
B2Y 1J5  
902-464-8852



▲ Rise in body or in spirit/ Responses in bold

Gathering Music

Welcome & Introductions

## **CROSSING THE THRESHOLD**

Lighting the Candles

Sung Celebration Song – Will You Come and See the Light # 96

**Will you come and see the light from the stable door?  
It is shining newly bright, though it shone before.  
It will be your guiding star,  
it will show you who you are;  
will you hide, or decide to meet the light?**

Call to Worship (Responsive)

In the darkest night, a new day dawns.  
**In the coldest winter, bright light warms our hearts.**  
Love brings us new beginnings  
**Wisdom lights the way. Let us be glad!  
Let us sing a song of joy!**

▲ Hymn – The First Nowell # 91

Opening Prayer (Together)

**God of the weary traveler,  
our feet are dusty from the roads we've traveled  
this past week,  
this past year,  
every day of our lives.**

**We've followed your star here,  
looking for a glimmer of hope.  
And now, after a long journey,  
we set our baggage down.  
We have arrived.  
We're here, and we're on holy ground.**

**You may not show up where we expect you,  
but we trust that you are here nevertheless.**

**Be known to us  
in the hope of the star,  
the peace of a baby snuggled in the manger,  
the joy of arrival,  
and Love that could not stay away.**

**We are here.  
You are here.  
And we are so very grateful.  
Amen.**

## **LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD FOR US TODAY**

A Time of Wondering

An Ancient Word – Mathew 2: 1-12

Reflection

Reflective Music

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

▲ Hymn – We Three Kings – Please See Insert

▲ A New Creed – Page # 918

Minute for Mission

Receiving a Star Word

Invitation to Share Our Gifts

Dedication of Gifts Offered

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

# THRESHOLD INTO GOD'S WORLD

The Life and Ministry of the Faith Community – Please See Insert

▲ Hymn – I am the Light of the World # 87

▲ Commissioning & Blessing

▲ Song of Dismissal – You Shall Go Out with Joy! Page 884

**You shall go out with joy.  
And be led forth with peace  
The mountains and the hills,  
will break forth before you  
There'll be shouts of joy,  
and all the trees of the field  
Will clap, will clap their hands**

**And all the trees of the field will clap their hands.**

**(Clap, clap)**

**The trees of the field will clap their hands.**

**(Clap, clap)**

**The trees of the field will clap their hands.**

**(Clap, clap)**

**While you go out with joy.**

Music Takes Us into the World

*Photograph – Rev. Anne Hoganson*

*Call to Worship – Rev. Jane Doull*

*Opening Prayer - Rev. Anna Strickland | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.*

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*Please note, our services are livestreamed  
and photographs may be taken.*

*You are also welcome to take pictures and video.*

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