



## ***The United Church of Canada*** **Boiestown & St Thomas**

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November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

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### **Today's Theme**

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“About that day and hour... only the Father knows.” It seems an odd passage to start Advent with, but there’s wisdom in accepting what we do not know. We begin by learning to unlearn.

\* Indicates stand as you are able.

The congregation shall read the **bold-faced print**.

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### **Gathering**

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#### *Lighting of the Advent Candles:*

One: Hope is a star.

All: **Winter stars shine for us, pointing the way to something new, something true.**

One: A way of trust.

All: **Hope is a star of possibility.**

[Written by: Gwen Bevan, Tanna Edwards, Paul Kneebone, and Nancy Payne. *Gathering A/C/E* 2025-2026. Used with permission.]

*\*Introit:* VU 7 Hope is a Star, verse 1

#### *Opening Prayer*

**Gentle Creator, who travels beside us and dwells among us, we gather in this community to feel your embrace. We are waiting in joyful anticipation for the arrival of your son, God-Made-Flesh. Ready our hearts for the hope, the peace, the joy, and the love that arrives with Jesus. Open our senses to your messages today, to feel your grace weaving between us and drawing us closer to you and to each other. Amen.**

[Written by: Leeyan Steinthorson. *GatheringWorship.ca*. Used with permission.]

\*Hymn: VU 5 All Earth is Waiting

*Acknowledging Traditional Territory:*

*Announcements and Celebrations*

Creed: VU 918 A New Creed

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## Word

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*Prayer for Illumination:*

*Epistle Reading:* Romans 13:11-14

Reader: This is the word of the church.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Reading:* Matthew 24:36-44

Reader: This is the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**All: Praise to Christ, the Word.**

*Meditation:* Mystic Christmas Knowledge

\*Hymn: VU 678 For the Healing of the Nations

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## Thanksgiving

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*Minute for Mission*

\*Offertory to the tune of We Three Kings

God of Hope, we thank you again.  
Through these gifts, your work we begin.  
Take them, use them as you need them,  
In Jesus' name. Amen. Oh....

Star of Wonder, Star of Night,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Like the Magi long ago,  
Help us walk within your Light.

*Dedication*

*Prayers of The People & The Lord's Prayer*

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## **Sending Forth**

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*\*Commissioning and Benediction:*

**One:** Our God of hope is always near.

**All:** Let us allow God's hope to reign in our lives as we go forth in Jesus' name. Amen.

[Written by: Elaine Bidgood Sweet. *GatheringWorship.ca*. Used with permission.]

*\*Hymn:* VU 43 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A warm welcome to those who are worshipping with us today.**

**December 7, 2025 – 11:00a.m. – Doaktown.**

**St. Thomas United Church will be reading their names for the Angel Tree on December 7, 2025.**

**Boiestown United Church will be reading their Memorial Bulb Tree names on December 14, 2025.**

**Boiestown United Church will be having their Mitten Tree again this year.**

**December 10, 2025 – Council Meeting – Boiestown – 4:00p.m.**