

ERB STREET MENNONITE CHURCH

Sunday, November 30, 2025

1st Advent

Prelude

Gathering Hymn *O Come, O Come Immanuel* **VT 210**
(v. 1-2, 6-7)

Welcome

Advent Candle Lighting

Worship Leader: Every winter, evergreens pull off a quiet miracle: while broad-leafed trees go bare, evergreens stay green through the darkest, coldest season. May the fresh pine & spruce in this Advent display be a reminder for us of God's evergreen presence, a sprig of Hope in the dark seasons of the year.

Candle Lighter: *We light this candle to remind us that the light of Hope shines in the darkness.*

Worship Leader: Come, O Christ, Light within all Light, and shine upon us in this season and in our gathered time of worship.

All: We worship together in hope. Amen

Opening Prayer

Advent Poem *To Know the Dark* (Wendell Berry)

Story Circle

Coin Offering *Now the Heavens Start to Whisper* **VT 237**

Offertory Prayer*

Worship Music *Winter from Four Seasons* A. Vivaldi

Silent Prayer of Attention

Scripture Reading Matthew 24:36-44

Sung Scripture Response *Wait for the Lord* **VT 228**

Sermon *The Darkness Blooms and Sings*

Hymn of Response *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* **VT 218**

Congregational Prayer

Announcements

Hymn of Sending *There's a Wild Hope in the Wind* **VT 828**

Benediction

Postlude

Sing-along with the Stillwater Trio in the Sanctuary.

PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leader: Rae Reid

Accompanist: Joanne Bender

Worship Music: Stillwater Trio – Bruce Skelton, Cathy Anderson, Joanne Bender

Song Leader: Karin Bileski

Advent Candle Lighter: Mark Stafford

Worship Music: Barbara Hankins

Story Circle: Rae Reid

Scripture Readers: Shinga Bienvenu (Kinyarwanda)
TBD (English)

Sermon: Renee Sauder

Congregational Prayer: Richard Kennel

Sound: Joe Wildfong

Tech Host: Geoff Vanderkooy

Ushers: Krista Steinmann & Lena Santomero

Greeters: Allan Sauder & Donna Snyder

Tom Bileski