

**ERB STREET MENNONITE CHURCH**  
**Sunday, December 28, 2025**

**Prelude**

**Gathering Hymn** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* **VT 218**

**Welcome**

**Candle Lighting**

**Worship Leader:** As we travel between Christmas and Epiphany, the evergreens continue to remind us of God's evergreen presence among us. As Simeon and Anna proclaim God's glory in the birth of Jesus, all of creation praises the coming of Christ, firstborn of all creation.

**Candle Lighter:** *We light the Christ Candle to remind us that Jesus was born long ago, but Christ is here, among us.*

**Worship Leader:** Come, O Christ, Light of revelation, and shine your glory on the people who have walked in great darkness.

**All: We praise you for breaking into our world. Amen**

**Opening Prayer**

**Advent Poem** *Remembering That It Happened Once* (Wendell Berry)

**Story Circle**

**Offertory Prayer\***

**Silent Prayer of Attention**

**Scripture Reading** Luke 2:25-33

**Scripture Response** *To Us a Child of Hope Is Born* **VT 259**

**Sermon** *The Wait is Over and The Weight Begins*

**Hymn of Response** *My Soul Cries Out* **VT 412**

**Congregational Prayer**

**Announcements**

**Hymn of Sending** *God Is Working This Purpose Out* **VT 770**

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Coffee and visiting in the Fellowship Hall*

**PARTICIPANTS**

Worship Leader:	Richard Kennel
Accompanist:	Joanne Bender
Song Leader:	Nancy Mann
Candle Lighter:	Maia Hadden
Story Circle:	Richard Kennel
Scripture Readers:	Wendy Martin (English) TBD (Kinyarwanda)
Sermon:	Chip Bender
Congregational Prayer:	Chip Bender
Sound:	Joe Wildfong
Tech Host:	Geoff Vanderkooy
Translator:	Justin Muchuranyana
Ushers:	Bruce Fretz and Mark Stafford
Greeters:	Robert & Nancy Mann