

Please visit our website <https://wesleyunitedchurchstandrewsbytheseanb.ca/>  
for any updates and information

## The Light of Epiphany



### **Isaiah 60: 1-6**

“Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses’ arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.”

### **Reading**

The promise, the prophecy, is within me, that which I have waited for is now present. No longer need I fear; within me shines the first glimmering of the Light, and I am filled with the awareness that the fulfilling of the prophecy is not a thing apart from me. It is me. As the first small rays of the sun return to my world, I, too, return slowly to the world of form. I humbly accept the mantle of that which I AM, as I merge my light with the light of all the beings of Light. I surrender to my own divinity. (Danaan Parry, the Essene Book of Days 2022)

### **Music with Meaning**

“Light” by Gungor

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A\\_uioQqW8ac](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A_uioQqW8ac)

(Please read the story posted to the video as well.)

## **Ponderings**

Epiphany marks the end to the 12 days of Christmas and begins a new season of Light as the Magi follow the star to meet the Christ child. In this way, it is also traditionally seen as a day that marks the spreading of the Word to the non-Jewish world.

There are many ways to mark this coming of light into our lives and our world. For many, this celebration can only come after we have made our peace with the darkness. We are encouraged to see opportunity, beauty and revelation in the long nights and the shadows of our souls. To accept our whole selves and the reality that everything has both light and darkness. One is not bad and the other good, both offer unique qualities and experiences.

Simplistic dualities competing for dominance no longer hold meaning, even as we use this metaphor to bring us hope.

Consider the meaning of light and dark, as you pack away the Christmas decorations for another year. Ponder the importance of the journey of the Magi. Celebrate by sharing a Kings cake of rich taste and a few hidden treasures (coins) inside.

- Rev. Natasha Pearen

## **May the Blessing of Light**      Traditional Irish Blessing

May the blessing of light be upon you,  
light without and light within.  
May the blessed sunlight shine upon you,  
And warm your heart till it glows like a great fire  
that allows friends and strangers to warm themselves.  
May the light shine from your eyes  
like a candle set in the window,  
bidding the traveler to come in out of the storm.  
May the blessing of soft snows be upon you,  
Slowly melting into shimmering pools  
Where the blue of heaven shines, and sometimes a star.  
May the blessing of the earth be upon you,  
As you travel the roads of life  
And may the Lord bless you  
and keep you safe all your days.

## **Reflective Music**      Will You Come and See the Light?

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XPLTf\\_vDr6s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XPLTf_vDr6s)

A different tune but similar words to the familiar hymn from Voices United hymnbook

## **Events and Announcements**

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#### **Wesley – Board Meeting**

Budget meeting moved to January 12th at 7pm on Zoom

#### **Wesley - Annual Reports Reminder**

2021 Annual Reports are due January 13th. Wesley United Annual Meeting scheduled for Sunday, January 30, 2022

#### **2022 New Year Book Study**      The Gifts of Imperfection

Tuesdays at 10: 30am on Zoom beginning Jan. 11th until Feb. 15th  
(Please read pages 1-66 for our first session!)

**Please check our calendar on our website for any upcoming events or changes to events**  
<https://wesleyunitedchurchstandrewsbytheseanb.ca/events/>

**Dedications are most welcome remembering, honouring, celebrating a special person, event or season! Please email [wesleyunitedstandrews@gmail.com](mailto:wesleyunitedstandrews@gmail.com) with your request. Thanks!**  
Photos or any other requests to go with dedications – favourite flower or season etc.....

**Please send all announcements to: [WesleyUnitedStAndrews@gmail.com](mailto:WesleyUnitedStAndrews@gmail.com) State if you wish them to go on the Bulletin, the COOP, Facebook page, Website, or all four! (photos can be placed on all but the bulletin) Thank you!**

***PRAYER REQUESTS:*** may be given to our Prayer Circle by

1. contacting Barb King [davebarbking@gmail.com](mailto:davebarbking@gmail.com)
2. contacting Sharon Hannan [retired@xplornet.ca](mailto:retired@xplornet.ca) or phone 466-1435
3. by asking any of us from Wesley/St James community to pass on a request

Sent to you by

Wesley United Church, 77 William St, St Andrews NB E5B1W8 and  
St James Pastoral Charge, 731 Route 745, Oak Hill, NB E5A3C7

Office email: [WesleyUnitedStAndrews@gmail.com](mailto:WesleyUnitedStAndrews@gmail.com) Website: <https://wesleyunitedchurchstandrewsbytheseanb.ca>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Wesley-and-St-James-United-St-AndrewsOak-HillScotch-Ridge>

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