

A night sky with a bright star in the upper left corner, surrounded by smaller stars and a starburst effect. The sky is a deep blue-purple. In the foreground, the silhouettes of three camels and their riders are walking across a desert dune. The camels are dark against the lighter sky. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

**“We saw his star in the east
and have come to worship him.”**

Matthew 2:2

St. John's United Church

January 6, 2019

St. John's United Church

400 Prescott Street, P.O. Box 340
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Minister: Rev. Lynda Harrison

Organist and Choir Director: Larry Wesley

January 6, 2019

*Please note that an asterisk * invites you to stand as you are able
Assistive Listening Systems are available - see ushers*

Welcome

Announcements

Prelude: "Catalonia Carol" Traditional Tune

To Praise God

Call to Worship:

Light has broken in on the world!

Can you see it? Can you feel it?

Open the eyes of your heart and light the light
within.

There is a star beckoning us to follow.

**Let's go and see where it leads us today in
worship. Let's see where it leads us tomorrow
as we go about our day, our week,
and the rest of our lives.**

***Hymn:** "The First Nowell" #91

Prayer of Approach:

**God who guides our journey, as Mary opened
her heart to the child in her arms and the magi
opened their hearts to a journey of unknown
proportions, may we throw open the doors of
our hearts to welcome the joy of spreading
your Good News. May our worship guide us,
like the brightest star, closer to you, O God,
ourselves and one another. Amen.**

To Open the Scriptures

Scripture: Matthew 2: 1-12 NT p.2

***Hymn:** "I Am the Light of the World" #87

Time to Wonder

The Lord's Prayer

Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6 OT p.844 Roger Shantz

Ministry of Music: "Follow the Star" *John E. Coats*

Sermon

***Hymn:** "As with Gladness Men of Old" #81

To Respond in Faith

Offering

***Doxology:** #540

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit
large and free,
that ourselves and all our living we may offer
faithfully.**

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Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

We Return, Strengthened, To Live Our Faith

***Hymn:** "Arise, Your Light Is Come" #79

Benediction

Choral Blessing: VU #974

Ushers: Cliff, Krista, Spencer and Justine Stroud

Announcements

Fellowship after church today hosted by the UCW.

Envelopes for 2019 are ready at back of church for pickup. If you wish to get a box of envelopes please see Helen in the office as we have spare boxes.

United Church Observer renewals and new subscriptions - please see Gertie Flay. Cost for 1 year is \$25.

Wed. Jan 9- Bible study resumes at 10 am.
All welcome.

Reports for the 2018 St. John's United Church Annual Report are due Monday January 7, 2019.

Mon. Jan. 14 - UCW meets at Bayfield at 2 pm.

Fundraising Dinner & Dance - Sat. Jan. 26 at St. John's celebrating Robbie Burns. Proceeds to support St. John's United and the Friends of North Grenville Public Library. Dinner at 6pm. Dinner and Dance ticket is \$40, Child 6-12 \$10 and child under 6 free.