

## Epiphany 2026: Guided by the Light

Strengthening Invitation, Cultivating Belonging, Making Room at the Table

“Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.”  
— Isaiah 60:1 (NRSVUE)

Dear communities of faith across the prairie regions,

Grace and peace to you in this season of Epiphany—a season of light revealed, journeys begun, and doors opened wider than we imagined.

The Epiphany story reminds us that the Christ-child was revealed not only to insiders, but to seekers, travellers, and strangers. The Magi followed the light they were given—and when they arrived, they were welcomed into a home, into relationship, into holy encounter. Epiphany invites us to ask anew: Who is being drawn by God’s light toward our communities—and how are we helping them find their way?

Epiphany is a powerful time to strengthen our invitation practices. Many people are reflecting on belonging, connection, and hope as a new year begins. Small faithful acts matter:

- Personally inviting a neighbour to worship, coffee, a meal, or a community activity.
- Making worship and gatherings easier to enter—clear signage, warm greeters, description of key locations in the building
- Sharing stories of welcome and impact in simple, authentic ways
- Using winter programming as a bridge: community meals, game nights, literacy activities, drop-in spaces, prayer walks

Invitation is not about filling pews—it is about opening pathways to relationship.

Epiphany light reveals not only who Christ is, but reminds us everyone belongs. God’s table is for every person—and our spaces, language, and practices are called to reflect that truth. How are children, youth, elders, newcomers, and those with diverse abilities and identities fully welcomed? Where might we create or expand intergenerational, accessible, and flexible spaces? How do our words, signage, and hospitality practices say: “You are expected. You are needed. You belong.” Belonging grows when people are seen, named, and invited to participate—at their own pace, in their own way.

Epiphany sends us out by another road. As we journey into 2026, may we trust that God is already at work in our neighbourhoods, stirring curiosity, longing, and hope. May we have the courage to follow the light, the humility to welcome the stranger, and the joy of making room at the table for all.

I would love to support you as you explore invitation, belonging, and growth in your local context. Please reach out to connect, dream, and reflect together.

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