



Our Mission...

*to be an accepting Christian community dedicated to living, sharing and teaching the Word of God.
We respect all aspects of people including race, ethnicity, gender expression, sexual orientation, socio-economic background,
age, religion, mental wellness, and ability.*

Christmas Eve Service
December 24th, 2020

***Bold print** indicates a congregational response.*

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

We acknowledge that we meet and work in Treaty 1 land, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Metis nation. We are thankful for these first inhabitants and we commit to working together towards justice, truth and reconciliation.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

*The Advent wreath is a circle with no beginning and no end.
It is a symbol of God's unending love and faithfulness.*

Jesus Christ is the brightest revelation of God's love.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

*Christ Jesus, who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,*

**but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.**

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.
We have seen his glory,*

**the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father,
full of grace and truth.**

PRELUDE *by Robin Polley # 60 VU – "O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

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- 1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
come and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

PRAYER OF APPROACH

**Good and gracious God,
on this holy night you gave us your Son,
the Lord of the universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes,
the Saviour of all, lying in a manger.
On this holy night,
draw us into the mystery of your love.
Join our voices with the heavenly host,
that we may sing your glory on high.
Give us a place among the shepherds,
that we may find the one for whom we have waited,
Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
in the splendour of eternal light,
God for ever and ever. Amen.**

YOUTH/CHILDREN'S VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS PRESENTATION

“‘Twas the Night of Jesus' Birth”

READING: *Luke McMillan*

Musical Interlude: *"O Little Town of Bethlehem" ~by Kara McMillan*

READINGS: *Brody Gording, Sven Lindsay, Olivia Johnson*

Musical Interlude: *"Joy to the World" ~by Kara McMillan*

READINGS: *Blake Gording, Magnus Johnson, Isla Lindsay, Kara McMillan*

Musical Interlude: *"Silent Night" ~by Luke McMillan*

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

~ Rev. Don Johnson, Marie & Frank Leskovjan

The Christmas Story Part I

An Angel Visits Mary

SPECIAL MUSIC by Cec Anderson – “Mary Had a Baby”

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The Christmas Story Part II

Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem

SPECIAL MUSIC by Cec Anderson – “I'll be Home for Christmas”

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The Christmas Story Part III

The Birth of Jesus

SPECIAL MUSIC by Cec Anderson – “Away in a Manger”

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The Christmas Story Part IV

The Shepherds go to the Manger

SPECIAL MUSIC by Cec Anderson – “What Child Is This”

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WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY PRAYER

**What shall we offer you, O Christ,
who for our sakes appeared on earth as human?
Every creature made by you offers you thanks.
The angels offer you a hymn;
the heavens, a star; the Magi, gifts;
the shepherds, their wonder;
the earth, a cave;
and from our human race we offered you a Virgin Mother.
Accept, we pray, the work of our hands,
the devotion of our hearts,
and our gifts, which we offer throughout the year. Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS for CHRISTMAS EVE

*Father, in this holy night your Son our Saviour was born as a human child.
Help the Church also to be the Body of Christ.*

Lord in your mercy

Hear our Prayer.

*In this holy night Christians, the world over are celebrating his birth.
Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.*

Lord in your mercy

Hear our Prayer.

*In this holy night there was no room for you Son in the inn.
Protect with your love those who have no home all who live in poverty.*

Lord in your mercy

Hear our Prayer.

*In this holy night Mary in the pain of labour brought your Son to birth.
Hold in your hand all who are in any kind of pain or distress today,*

Lord in your mercy

Hear our Prayer.

*In this holy night your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness.
Bring comfort to all who suffer with the COVID virus and all who suffer in the
sadness of our world.*

Lord in your mercy

Hear our Prayer.

In this holy night shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy.

Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ's redemption.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our Prayer.

In this holy night the angels sang 'Peace to God's people on earth'.

Strengthen those who work for your peace and justice in all the world.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our Prayer.

In this holy night strangers saw Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger.

Bless our homes and all whom we love.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our Prayer.

In this holy night heaven is come down to earth, and earth is raised up to heaven.

Keep in safety all those who have gone through death in the hope of heaven.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our Prayer.

In this holy night angels and shepherds worshipped at the manger throne.

Receive the worship we offer in fellowship with blessed Mary and all the saints.

*Merciful God, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ, who taught us when we pray, to say together:*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil:**

**For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC by Cec Anderson – "Silent Night"

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THE BLESSING

POSTLUDE by Robin Polley – #48 VU "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

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