**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

December 24, 2022 — 5:00 p.m.

***BAS* Holy Eucharist**

*Rev. Ray Jenkins assisted by Bill Blunt and John Hayter*

*Organist – Dorothy Miller*

*Guest Soloist, Mary Abma*

*Anthony Wing, Guest Accompanist*

**Processional Hymn # 118 *O Come, All Ye Faithful (****vs. 1-5)*

The Gathering of the Community

**Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**Glory to God**

Glory to God in the highest, **and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Collect:**

**O God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem, may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

**The Christ Child is placed in the Manger**

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath** (Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love)

Into the world

of long nights and shadows

the light came —

not to extinguish dark skies

 or stormy seas,

but to offer warm harbour,

 the comfort of the hearth fire

 and the peace of kinship.

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

Light of Christ

guide our way,

enfold us and warm us.

On the eve of the miracle,

we immerse ourselves

in the light of your love

for you love us into wholeness

and kindled by your holy fire,

we radiate your love

into the world. **Amen**.

**All sing: ‘*A Candle is Burning’***

[words by Sandra Dean, 1986 tune by James Murray, 1887 (public domain)]

***We honour Messiah with Christ Candle’s flame,***

***our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim.***

***O come, all you faithful, rejoice in this night,***

***as God comes among us, the Christian’s true light.***

The Proclamation of the Word

**1st Reading:** Isaiah 9:2-7

**Psalm** 96 (alternate verses)

Sing to the Lord a new song;

sing to the Lord, all the whole earth

**Sing to the Lord and bless his name;**

**proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**

Declare his glory among the nations

and his wonders among all peoples.

**For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;**

**he is more to be feared than all gods.**

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;

but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

**Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!**

**Oh, the power and the splendour of his sanctuary!**

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;

ascribe to the Lord honour and power.

**Ascribe to the Lord the honour due his name;**

**bring offerings and come into his courts.**

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;

let the whole earth tremble before him.

**Tell it out among the nations: “The Lord is king!**

**he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;**

**he will judge the peoples with equity.”**

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;

let the sea thunder and all that is in it;

let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy**

**before the Lord when he comes,**

**when he come to judge the earth.**

He will judge the world with righteousness

and the peoples with his truth.

**2nd Reading:** Titus 3:4-7

**Gospel**: Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Solo: *Gesu Bambino***

Sermon

**Sermon Hymn** **# 120 *O Little Town of Bethlehem***

**The Apostles’ Creed**

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**The Prayers of the People:**

Sisters and brothers, rejoicing in the love of God that has taken flesh among us in Christ Jesus, let us confidently bring to the Lord the petitions of our hearts this Christmas Eve, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the believing community throughout the world, especially those in positions of leadership, that they might always work to give glory to God and to bring peace to our earth, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer**

For the Church gathered in this place, that we might always bear the good news of God’s living presence in our world, towards deepening of Christmas faith and living that faith in love, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer**

For those lost in the darkness of prejudice, hostility, and fear; for those burdened by the yoke of injustice, terrorism, hunger and war; and for all our brothers and sisters in any need (especially N.) that the light and life that is the Lord might touch their hearts this night, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer**

For the homeless, and for the children born in the midst of poverty and pain, that there be room at the inn for all God’s people, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer**

For the sick and the dying among us (especially N.) and for those who care for them, that the God whose love extends from the wood of the manger to the wood of the cross might bless them this night with the gift of peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, hear our prayer**

All loving and gracious God, we thank you for gracing us with the gift of your Son. Confident of your continuing love for us, we have placed our needs before you. Hear and answer our prayers, through the same Christ, newly born this night, our Lord and Saviour, for ever and ever. **Amen**

**Confession and Absolution**

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God’s forgiveness.

**The Confession:** Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

**Absolution:** Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All sing softly as we remain seated:

***Spirit of the Living God, fall a-fresh on me;***

***Spirit of the Living God, fall a-fresh on me;***

***Break me, melt me, mould me, fill me.***

***Spirit of the Living God, fall a-fresh on me!***

**The Peace**

Leader: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

**Offertory Hymn # 143 *Angels, from the Realms of Glory***

Offertory Response:

***What can I give him, poor as I am?***

***If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;***

***If I were a wise man, I would do my part;***

***What I can, I give him - I give him my heart.***

Celebration of the Eucharist

(*in the position most comfortable, we pray*)

**Prayer over the Gifts:** **Generous Creator, in faith and joy we celebrate the birth of your Son. Increase our understanding and our love of the riches you have revealed in him, who is Lord now and for ever. Amen**

**Eucharistic Prayer #5**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, for the gift of a world full of wonder, and for our life which comes from you. By your power you sustain the universe.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

You created us to love you with all our heart, and to love each other as ourselves, but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.

In Jesus, your son, you bring healing to our world and gather us into one great family. Therefore, with all who serve you on earth and in heaven, we praise your wonderful name, as we say,

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

We give you thanks and praise, loving Father, because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us you showed us how much you love us. He cares for the poor and the hungry. He suffers with the sick and the rejected.

Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back but overcame hatred with love.

On the cross he defeated the power of sin and death. By raising him from the dead you show us the power of your love to bring new life to all your people.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

On the night before he gave up his life for us,Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said, “Drink this, all of you: this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which is shed for you and for many, so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.”

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Gracious God, with this bread and wine we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, and we offer ourselves to you in him.

Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that we may know the presence of Jesus in the breaking of bread, and share in the life of the family of your children.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Father, you call us to be your servants; fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that all the world may gather in joy at the table of your kingdom.

We sing your praise, almighty Father, through Jesus, our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.**

**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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**The Breaking of the Bread #6**

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

**The Communion**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Prayer after Communion: Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

**The Doxology**

Glory to God, **Whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Solo:** ***O Holy Night***

**Prayer**: Dear Lord, on a wondrous night you sent your son to take on frail human flesh in order that all who believe in Jesus might be saved. You sent angels to herald his birth in Bethlehem and a star to proclaim it to the ends of the earth. Send us now as messengers of your good news and proclaimers of your peace. In Jesus’ name we pray. **Amen**.

**Distribution of the Lights**

The sides people will distribute the candles and when everyone’s candle is lit, the lights will be dimmed and we join together to sing *‘Silent Night’.*

***Silent night! Holy night! All is calm,***

***all is bright round yon virgin mother and child.***
***Holy infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace,***

***sleep in heavenly peace.***

***Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight:***

***glories stream from heaven afar,***

***heavenly hosts sing alleluia, Christ the Saviour is born,***

***Christ the Saviour is born.***

***Silent night! Holy night! Son of God,***

***love's pure light radiant beams from thy holy face,***
***with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.***

***Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.***

**Please turn off your candle!**

**The Blessing**

God Bless us;

 God keep us in the Spirit’s care

 And lead our lives with love.

 May God’s warm welcome shine from our hearts,

 And Christ’s own peace prevail

 Through this and every day

 Till Greater life shall call. **Amen**

Wild Goose Resource Group

**Recessional Hymn** # **154 *Joy to the World!***

**Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sung Benediction *Go Now in Peace***

***Go now in peace. Never be afraid.***

***God will go with you each hour of every day.***

***Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.***

***Know he will guide you in all you do.***

***Go now in love, and show you believe.***

***Reach out to others so all the world can see.***

***God will be there watching from above.***

***Go now in peace, in faith and in love.***

**Organ Postlude**

Please leave the candles in your pew following the service so we can use them again next Christmas.

**The Christmas Wreath on the front of the pulpit is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of our many family members and friends at this blessed Christmas Season, a gift of the Heasman family.**

**News and Events**

* Please send all announcements for the bulletin to Karen by **11:00 a.m. Tuesday** of each week. Call: 519-344-9531 or E-mail: canondavis@gmail.com.
* If you would like a home visit with Communion or know of someone who would, please let Rev. Ray know as he and/or a Lay Visitor will be available in the coming weeks.
* **Church calendars** are still available for purchase for $6.00 after church.
* **Please join us for our Christmas Day Service of the Word** **December 25** at **9:30 a.m**. Ginny Schleihauf will give the second of a series of sermons based on the themes presented in Canon Davis Memorial’s Stained-Glass Windows.
* **Thank you** to Betty Falloon and Karen McBride for the donation of poinsettias.
* **2023 Vestry** is Sunday, January 29, after the service in the Parish Hall. Reports are due to Karen McBride by January 16. Vestry packages will be available Sunday January 22.

**Reminders**

**Jan 16** Vestry reports are due

**Jan 19** Parish Council Meeting

**Jan 22** Vestry reports issued

**Jan 29** Vestry meeting after church service

 **Christmas Memorials—2022**

In loving memory of my husband Hugo, mother and dad Henry and Verna Tomlinson, remembered by Faith Archer.

In loving memory of members of the Ayers family, remembered by Greta Ayers.

In loving memory of Ray Chalifoux, and Melody Chalifoux (VanSickle), a gift of Pat, Debbie and Michelle and family.

In loving memory of Ollie and Nancy Haddon and Sue Chalmers and my husband Les Chalmers, remembered by Marg and their families.

In memory of loved ones from Marion Curran and family.

In memory of Margaret and Garth, lovingly remembered by Joan Dew.

In loving memory of Web Dixon, remembered by wife, Joyce and children, Joy and Gay.

In loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. William Frew, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Spencer, brothers, Raymond, Russell and George Spencer, sister, Marion Bradley and great-grand daughter, Winnie Mae, remembered by Doug and Shirley Frew and family.

In memory of loved ones, remembered by Helen and Glenn Forbes.

In loving memory of Kenneth and Ev George, and Brian George, remembered by the family.

In loving memory of Kathy Graham, remembered by Bill Graham and family.

In loving memory of Bill and Hettie Graham, Jean and Jim Bell, and Marjorie and David Ashcroft, remembered by Bill Graham and family.

In loving memory of parents and grandparents, Merien and Earl Sloat, and George and Edith Scott, remembered by Raymond, Rebecca and Katie Grandis.

In loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Haddon, remembered by their family.

In loving memory of Margaret and Glen Hayter, Mom, Dad, Gram and Gramps, Great Grammie and Great Granpooh, a gift of Sheree Lynn, Mike, Jason and Lucy.

In memory of our ‘Mum’ and ‘Gran,’ Mary Tracy, our aunts and sisters, Christine Labrasceur, and Lynn McCann, our ‘Papa’ and ‘Dad,’ Gerry Tracy and our ‘Gramma’ and Grampa, Mother and Dad, Glen and Margaret Hayter, lovingly remembered by John, Elaine, Joanna, Sarah, and Nikki Hayter and Jeremy Wickham.

In thanksgiving for blessings received and in memory of loved ones, lovingly remembered by Ruth and Charlie Lavigne.

In memory of our parents, Kathleen and Gordon McPhail, lovingly remembered by the family.

In memory of loved ones, and in thanksgiving for many blessings, lovingly remembered by Mary and Lyle Moran.

In memory of Kathy Wilson, lovingly remembered by the Pusey family and the Morphew family.

In loving memory of Sarah Jane Churchman, Mr. and Mrs. R. Kershaw, A. Louisa Hibbert, and Bill Phillips, remembered by Janey Phillips.

In memory of the Rinker and Redden families, lovingly remembered by Gerry Rinker and family.

In memory of my husband Alexander Scrimgeour, and loving son, Ian, lovingly remembered by Sylvia Scrimgeour, and family.

In loving memory of Beth Simmons, Mary Switzer, Mary Walker-Thiel and Georgina and Gordon Simmons, Sr., remembered by Gord, Mary-Elizabeth and Brad, Pamela, and Joel, and families.

In loving memory of Marg and Bill Spence, a gift from Bob and Carol.

In loving memory of Eve and Earle Armstrong and grandson Ryan Andrew Stallibrass, remembered by Wendy, Ron and Robyn Stallibrass.

In loving memory of dear parents, Mary and Fred Wyville, remembered by Pat, Barbara and Dave, Bonnie and Ed, and families.

In loving memory of Gary Laidlaw, a gift of Seonaid and family.

To the glory of God and in loving memory of my Granny, Zola May, remembered by Ginny Schleihauf.

In memory of Pat Wood from Joan, Gerry, and Marion.

In loving memory of Clarence and Bessie Dease, their daughter, Carol and husband Peter Dicks, a gift of the Dease family.

In loving memory of Don Dease, a gift of Nancy and family.