

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

Fredericton, N.B.

190 Years of Glorifying God through Worship, Proclaiming the Gospel of Christ and Serving others in Christ's name

December 24th, 2022

Christmas Eve

3 PM

GATHERING TOGETHER

PRELUDE: O Holy Night - Bish

SCRIPTURAL GREETING:

I greet you in the name of the One born this night; Jesus, our Emmanuel
May the hope, peace, joy and love of Christ with you all
And also with you.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY: (Responsive) *

Over the last four weeks we have been preparing for tonight,

We prepared our hearts and our homes

We waited and watched for God to Show up, for God's signs in the world.

Each week we lit one candle as we focused on God's

Hope (light purple)

Peace (Light Purple)

Joy (Light Pink)

and Love (Light purple)

Tonight is the night we have been waiting for

the night that Christ comes

the night Jesus is born.

tonight we light the candle right in the middle of it all.

the one surrounded by hope, peace, joy and love

We light the white one for Jesus.

for tonight is the night he came.

SUNG RESPONSE: A Candle is Burning

VU 6 vs 5

*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.*

GETTING READY TO TELL THE STORY:

OPENING HYMN: *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

VU 60

*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.*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

TELLING THE STORY: A - E

HYMN: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

VU 64 v1

*O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.*

TELLING THE STORY: F - G

HYMN: *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

VU 48

*Hark! the herald Angels sing,
'Glory to the newborn king,
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!'*

*Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'
Hark! the Herald Angels sing,
'Glory to the new-born King!'*

TELLING THE STORY: H - J

HYMN: *Joy to the World*

VU 59

*Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns:
let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

TELLING THE STORY: K - M

HYMN: *Away in a Manger*

VU 69 v1-2

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

*The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

TELLING THE STORY: N – O

OFFERTORY HYMN: *In the Bleak Midwinter*

VU 55 v4

*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;
yet what I can I give him - give my heart.*

OFFERING PRAYER:

TELLING THE STORY: P – Q

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE:

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 power and the glory, forever and ever Amen.**

TELLING THE STORY: R - S

HYMN: *We Three Kings*

*We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain,
moor and mountain,
following yonder star.*

*O Star of wonder, star of light
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guides us to thy perfect light.*

TELLING THE STORY: T – X

HANDING OUT THE LIGHT:

HYMN: *Silent Night, Holy Night*

VU 67

*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 Hallelujah,
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.*

TELLING THE STORY: Y – Z

BENEDICTION AND COMMISSIONING:

CORAL CLOSING: *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

VU 43 (refrain x2)

*Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere.
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born.*

POSTLUDE: Hark the Herald Angels Sing – Long

**Adapted from - Christmas ABC originally written by Erin Klassen posted on Young Clergy Women Project, adapted by Robb McCoy @ fatpastor.me December 19, 2013.*