

Pakenham Pastoral Charge

of the
United Church of Canada

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Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 2017

7:30 pm

Prelude

Welcome & Introductory Comments – Jeff de Jonge

Prelude Solo: "O Holy Night" – Cheryl Morris-Putman

Setting the Stage – Jeff de Jonge

Processional: "Once in Royal David's City"

Solo portion: Analiesa Reid

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who, with God,
is over all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall.
There among the poor and lowly lived on earth our Saviour
holy.

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For he is our lifelong pattern; daily, when on earth he grew,
he was tempted, scorned, rejected, tears and smiles like us
he knew.

Thus he feels for all our sadness, and he shared in all our
gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that child who seemed so helpless
is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Opening Meditative Thought-Prayer -Ester Corrigan

Anthem: "On This Winter Night" – St. Andrew's Choir

Scripture Passage: The Announcement –
Luke 1:26-40 –Ester Corrigan

Dramatic Reading: A Letter to Mary – Jeff de Jonge

Carol: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

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
How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessed gift of heaven,
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

Scripture Passage: The Birth

Luke 2:1-7 – Julie Wilson

Lighting the Christ Candle – Jeff de Jonge

Carol: “What Child is This?”

What child is this, who laid to rest,
on Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Chorus: This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian sing, for with us here
the silent word is pleading.

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh;
Come, one and all, to own him.
The King of Kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone him

Reading: “I Wonder What He Was Like”

-Julie Wilson

Scripture Passage: The Shepherds & Angels

– Luke 2:8-18 – Richard Fitzgibbon

Carol: “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

Hark! The herald angels sing: “Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God & 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 newborn King!”

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail, the incarnate deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Hail, the heavenborn Prince of Peace!

Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.

Thought on Giving as Intro to Offering

– Richard Fitzgibbon

Offering Prayer – Richard Fitzgibbon

Duet: “When I Kneel at the Manger Tonight”

- Rhonda Tees & Ken Souliere

Scripture Passage: The Word Became Flesh

John 1:1-12, 14, 16 - Ester Corrigan

Anthem: “When Christmas Comes”

– St. Andrew’s Choir

(Dimming of the Lights)

Introduction of the Candle Lighting – Jeff

Candle Lighting

Carol: “Silent Night, Holy 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 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.

Benediction

(Candles extinguished & Lights up)

Postlude

We wish to express thanks to all the participants tonight, from both Cedar Hill & Pakenham: the greeters, ushers, stage hands, candle lighters, readers, soloists and Choir participants. Cheryl Jarvis-Woods is extended a special thank you for being our Music Director for the night.

A hearty thanks to the Martin Family of the Cedar Hill Christmas Tree farm, from the Congregations of Zion United, Cedar Hill and St. Andrew’s United, Pakenham for the donations of trees to each of the Churches.

The wreaths at St. Andrews, (also from the Cedar Hill Christmas Tree Farm) and the Christmas Poinsettias were donated by Robert Blewett in memory of Palmer and Catherine Wilson, Catherine Ruth (Wilson) Blewett, Bert Wilson and John Stewart.

Thanks also to Mike Fingland for setting up and decorating our outside tree, as well as to Ritchie & Margie Argue and their daughter Paige for setting up the outside crèche scene.

**Do have a joyful, loving,
blessed and celebrative
Christmas and Christmas Season.
To All: A Merry Christmas Indeed!**