

Pakenham Pastoral Charge

of the

United Church of Canada

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Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

2018

7:30 pm

Prelude

Processional: "Once in Royal David's City"

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.

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.

Welcome & Introductory Comments – Pastor Bill

Opening Prayer

Light the Candles of the Advent Wreath

Hope, Peace, Joy & Love. The Christ Candle

Hymn: "Hope Is A Star" #VU7 (vs 1,2,3 & 4)

Scripture Passage: The Announcement –

Luke 1:26-40

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

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

Scripture Passage: The Shepherds & Angels

– Luke 2:8-18

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 heaven born 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.

Carol: “O Holy Night” –Cheryl Morris Putman

Reflection: “O Holy Night”- Pastor Bill Checkley

Thought on Giving as Intro to Offering

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 can I give him---give my heart.

Offering Prayer

Anthem: “Long Long Time Ago & News In Bethlehem Town” – St. Andrew’s Choir

(Dimming of the Lights)

Introduction of the Candle Lighting

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 and Choir participants.

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 wreaths to each of the Churches.

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

Our Women's Book Group will meet next on January 14th to continue our conversation about Trust by David Johnson. Bronwen has some copies of An Invisible Thread by Laura Schroff which we will discuss on February 11th. If anyone is interested in joining this group get in touch with Bronwen- 613-256-0889 or at bharman@xplornet.ca.

We are looking for more Volunteers to join our fun committees in the new year. If you are interested please see Pastor Bill or Bronwen Harman.

St. Andrew's Sunday School will meet starting on January 13th following the Christmas Holiday.

Feb. 10, 2019 - Fulton Pancake House Joint Service
At 10.00 am. Pancake Lunch at 11:30 am and then Winter Party. Please bring your sleds, snow shoes, cross country skis etc. All proceeds go to the Zion's United Church in Cedar Hill.

Flowers in the church were donated by:

Robert Blewett in memory of Palmer & Catherine Wilson, Catherine Ruth (Wilson) Blewett, Bert Wilson, John & Don Stewart and Prescott Pierce

Maureen Gillan & family in memory of Art, Shane & James Gillan.

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