



**ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

216 School Street, Dartmouth, NS B3A 2Y4

Website: www.standrewspcc.ca

Minister: Rev. Dr. P.A. "Sandy" McDonald 902-497-8112 (study); 902-466-6247 (h)

Minister Emeritus: Rev. R.A.B. MacLean

**Christmas 1, Sunday, December 31, 2023**

**Service colour: White**

ORDER OF DIVINE WORSHIP 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. (also on You Tube)

Prelude (a time for prayer and reflection)

Placing of the Bible (all who are able standing)

Lighting of the Christ Candle; Doxology (830); Bible Sentence

Hymn: 161 "What child is this"

Prayer of Adoration; Prayer for Pardon and Grace:

**Praise be to you, God our Creator for creating us in your image and for sending us the gift of Jesus! Glory be to you, God our Saviour for making your home in human flesh so that we might have new life now and forever! Thanks be to you, Holy Spirit of God for always being with us and guiding us in our journey.**

**In our journey, keep us from having the envy of King Herod; fill us with the caring spirit of Mary and Joseph; give us the eagerness of the shepherds in our responding to your call; grant us the delight of the Wise Men in offering generous gifts.**

**Forgive us whenever we expect life to be all smooth sailing without rough seas or strong winds. Continue to teach us that our times – past, present and future – are in your loving hands; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Song: 561 "Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy upon us."

Assurance of Pardon

**M.**The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **C. And also with you.**

**Hallelujah** (Hymn 294); The Passing of the Peace

Hymn: 144 "Twas in the moon"; 173 "We three kings" (all seated) Pupils gather at Chancel stairs

Lessons: Isaiah 60:1-6, (p.669); Galatians 4: 4-7 (p.167);

Luke 2: 22-40 (p.51)

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Hymn: 136 "The first nowell"

Sermon

The Offertory

The Creed (539) & The Offertory Prayer (all who are able standing)

Prayers of Thanksgiving and for others; The Lord's Prayer (831)

Hymn: 141 "Good Christians"

Benediction & Choral Amen

Song: "Go Now in Peace" (all seated) (hymn book – inside back cover)

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Postlude

**Welcoming Worshippers:** Mike Barkhouse

**Elevator:** Chris McDonald

**Organist:** Dr. Ken Cameron

**Placing the Bible:** Nancy Heighton

**Pianist:** Cheryl Weeks

**Reader:** Cheryl Weeks

**Offertory:** Jake Barkhouse

**Audio:** Ross Barkhouse, Luke Campbell

**Sun:** 9:00 a.m. Holy Communion; 10:30 a.m. Worship, Church School & Nursery

**A Land Acknowledgement:** We acknowledge that we are in the Mik'kma'ki-the unceded territory and the ancestral homeland of the Mi'kmaq Nation.

The Youth Group is selling the 2024 Presbyterian Church Calendar for \$7 in the lobby.

Finances: As of December 30 (a)Presbyterians Sharing – \$604 is needed to reach our goal and (b) the Operating Account is in a deficit position of \$10,608.30

Craft items in lobby: the Guild would appreciate donations for items.

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**161 – What child is this**

1. 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? This, this is Christ the King,

whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

2. Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you.

Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.

The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high; the virgin sings her lullaby.

Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.

#### **144 'Twas in the moon**

1. 'Twas in the moon of wintertime when all the birds had fled, that mighty Gitchi Manitou sent angel choirs instead; before their light the stars grew dim, and wand'ring hunters heard the hymn: **Refrain:** Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!

2. Within a lodge of broken bark the tender babe was found; a ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped his beauty round; but as the hunter braves drew nigh, the angel song rang loud and high: [R]

3 The earliest moon of wintertime is not so round and fair as was the ring of glory on the helpless infant there. The chiefs from far before him knelt with gifts of fox and beaver pelt. [R]

4. O children of the forest free, the kin of Manitou, the holy child of earth and heav'n is born today for you.

Come, kneel before the radiant boy, who brings you beauty, peace, and joy.

#### **173 We Three Kings**

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

##### **Refrain:**

O star of wonder, star of light, star of royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again, King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign. (R)

3. Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh, prayer and praising, voices raising, worshipping God on high. (R)

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom, sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone cold tomb. (R)

5. Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and sacrifice: hallelujah, hallelujah, sounds through the earth and skies. (R)

#### **136 The first nowell**

1. The first nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

##### **Refrain:**

Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell! Born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. (R)

3. And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; to search for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. (R)

4. This star drew nigh to the northwest; o'er Bethlehem it took its rest; and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay. (R)

5. Then entered in those wise men three full reverently upon their knee, and offered there in his presence their gold and myrrh and frankincense. (R)

6. Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord, that hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood mankind hath bought. (R)

#### **141 Good Christians, all rejoice**

1. Good Christians, all rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now give heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today, ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today; Christ is born today.

2. Good Christians, all rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now you hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this. He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore. Christ was born for this; Christ was born for this.

3. Good Christians, all rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now you need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save, calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall. Christ was born to save; Christ was born to save.