



ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

216 School Street, Dartmouth, NS B3A 2Y4

Website: www.standrewspccc.ca

Interim Moderator: Rev. Calvin Burt; Minister Emeritus: Rev. R.A. B. MacLean

Session Clerk: Cheryl E. Weeks – 902-435-4112

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024 6:00 p.m.

Service colour: White

ORDER OF DIVINE WORSHIP

Organ Prelude; Placing of the Bible (All who are able standing)

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Carol: 159 (vs. 1, 2, 4 & 5) "O come, all ye faithful"

Prayer of Adoration; Prayer for Pardon and Grace: (Unison)

God of wonder and hope, we marvel at your desire and invitation for connection. In the sea of hurt, to a world longing for hope, you bring light. In the extravagance of your generosity, you come in the flesh to be with us, to teach us, to love us. You have given us a world abundant with your love.

Yet, even with your abiding presence of love, we seek temporary remedies for our wounds of disconnection. We seek acceptance in society rather than claiming ourselves as your beloved children. We seek comfort in items and quick fixes. We seek control rather than trusting in your goodness. We seek to be gods ourselves and eliminate hardship. We honor the birth of Jesus who was born in human flesh, but we fail to see the dignity in the human lives around us.

Lord, teach us to silence our own hearts and minds, that we may listen for the movement of the Holy Spirit, and feel your presence in the depths of our being. God of joy, help us to hear the hymn of triumph through the gift of your son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Minister: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **All: And also with you.**

Carol: 138 "While shepherds watched"

The Lighting of the Christ Candle in the Advent Wreath (see insert) Mike & Heather Barkhouse

Lessons: Isaiah 9:2-7; Responsive Psalm 146; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:1-16

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

Meditation and Prayer

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

Announcing the Offering of our gifts; gifts will be brought forward following The Offertory Carol: 148 (vs. 1, 2 4 &5) "It came upon the midnight clear"

Living Faith (in unison, all who are able remain standing)

From Israel came the Messiah; in Jesus of Nazareth God kept the promise of salvation. We understand his coming in the light of the Old Testament. Born of the seed of David, he lived a Jew among Jews. Child of an Israelite woman, he fulfilled God's promise that Israel would be a light to the nations. In Christ God came to dispel the world's darkness.

Offertory Prayer

The Lord's Supper (564 Book of Praise)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Carols during Communion 139; 161

Communion and Remembrance of our ancestors in the faith

Carols during Candle lighting 149; 165 vs. 1,3, 4; 154

Benediction & Choral Amen

Organ Postlude

Welcoming Worshippers: Gerry & Nancy Archibald

Conducting the Service: Rev. Whitney Canning **Reader:** Ian Murray

Organist: Dr. Kenneth Cameron **Elevator Guide:** Heather Barkhouse

Audio: Ross Barkhouse, Luke Campbell, Erin Sloan

Communion: Wine: red; Juice: white

Sunday, December 29, 2024 Worship: 10:30 a.m.— First Sunday after Christmas

The Youth Group is selling 2025 Presbyterian Church Calendars in the lobby for \$7.00.

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.

"Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth."

O come, all ye faithful

1. Oh come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, oh come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem. Come and behold him, born the King of angels:

Refrain: Oh come, let us adore him, oh come, let us adore him, oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heaven above: "Glory to God in the highest!" *Refrain*

3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. *Refrain*

While shepherds watched

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.

2. 'Fear not,' said he, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind;
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you, all human kind.

3. 'To you, in David's town, this day
is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord,
and this shall be the sign:

4. 'The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid.'

5. Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

6. 'All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace,
good will henceforth from heaven to earth
begin, and never cease!'

It came upon the midnight clear

1. It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
'To all the earth goodwill and peace, from heaven's all gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

2. Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings
unfurled, and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing, and ever
o'er its babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

4. And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.
Oh rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing.

5. For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
when with the evercircling years shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth God's promised splendours fling,
and all the world take up the song, which now the angels sing.