

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Minister: The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

Music Director: Gillian Lyons

Choir Director and Soloist: Terri-Lynn Mitchell

December 24th, 2020

Christmas Eve

"To you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord."

– Luke 2: 11



Welcome and Announcements

- The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

Introit:

African Noel

West Indian Carol, arr. Johnson

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Hope is a Candle

Christ is the light that the prophets awaited,
Christ is the lion, the lamb, and the child.
Christ is the love and the mystery and laughter -
candles make way! Christ is the day.

Lighting the Christ Candle

- The Fergusson Family

(see PWS&D insert)

Praise:

"Oh come, all ye faithful"

#159

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.

God of God, Light of light, born unto Mary, the virgin blest, very God, begotten, not created:

Refrain

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle, leaving their flocks draw nigh with holy fear; we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps:

Refrain

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

Refrain

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

Refrain

Prayer of Confession:

We confess that in a year that has seen much waiting and trial, we have often found ourselves numb to your work in our lives. We confess that we have not always turned to you in faithful prayer, nor turned toward our neighbour in loving service. Forgive us, O Lord, make in us a new heart. That as you are coming to save us and make all things new, you would also remove our trespasses from us and give us a new heart to love you and one another. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Children's Time

"Let the Bright Seraphim"

Handel

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 9: 2-7

Psalms 96

Luke 2: 1-20

Sermon:

"The Light has Come"

-The Rev. Roberto DeSandoli

Praise:

"Silent Night"

#154

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.

Invitation to the Offering "The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy" West Indian Carol, arr. Pethel

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People

Leader: Lord in your mercy...

All: Hear our prayer.

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

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

Praise:

"Hark! The herald angels sing"

#139

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 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 on earth with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King.

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 the lost of earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing glory to the newborn King.

Benediction and Sung Response (#114):

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.

A-men, a-men, a - - - men

Choral Postlude

"Hallelujah Chorus"

-Handel, arr. Hopson



The offering will go to the St. Andrew's Session Benevolence Fund, which is used to offer assistance to people with urgent financial needs.

The Christ Candle



Written by the Rev. Kristine O'Brien
(Director of Crieff Hills)

- L: Behold, I bring you good news of great joy;
for to you is born in the city of David
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord!
- P: Jesus has arrived in grace and mystery,
renewing faded hopes
and announcing peace to a weary world.
- L: Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom God favours!
- P: Jesus comes among us in power and glory,
inspiring joy and calling us to lives that are full of God's love.
- L: Jesus, the light of the world, is born.
- P: Let Christ's light shine
in the darkest corners of our lives.
Let Christ's light shine
in the darkest corners of our world.
God is with us.

(The candle is lit)

- L: Let us pray:
- P: God of grace and glory,
as we celebrate this Christmas,
transform our hearts and our lives
so that your Good News
is not an old story
but a fresh truth lived out every day
through the power of Jesus Christ.
Amen.



Presbyterian
World Service
& Development

WeRespond.ca

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Christ is Born!

Our church, through
Presbyterian World Service & Development,
is faithfully responding to God's call to help those in need.

Inspired by God's promise of abundant life, our church responds to the call to walk with and serve those in need. With compassion, justice and love, through PWS&D, we are working to assist the most vulnerable and marginalized.

We are responding to poverty, injustice, oppression and disasters around the world. Together we walk hand-in-hand with the hungry and sick, those confronted by prejudice, the persecuted and those affected by conflict and violence.

We are helping to restore human dignity, ease the pain of want, promote self-help and encourage community cooperation to benefit all.

As we celebrate Christ's birth, let us be reminded to stand in solidarity with those facing adversity. Without your support and your voice, this vital work would not be possible!

This Christmas, please support PWS&D.

WeRespond.ca



Presbyterian
World Service
& Development

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#1 – There have been reports that some people have stopped receiving emails from the church. Perhaps only bulletins. This seems to happen exclusively with sasktel.net addresses. Something changes in how you are able to receive emails. If this happens to you, contact SaskTel.

#2 – Offering envelopes are available in the church office. More and more people are using electronic methods for offerings, but if you would like to have offering envelopes, please let Dorothy know.

#3 - The end of the year is quickly approaching! Please ensure that all invoices for payment, and any donations are received by the office asap.

#4 – The church offices will be closed over the holidays. December 25 – January 3, inclusive.

Saskatoon St. Andrew's Coffee Hour at 12:30 pm Sundays: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81575438545>

IN-PERSON WORSHIP IS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Please note that due to the recent local uptick in Covid-19 cases, St. Andrew's will be closed to in-person worship until further notice. We will continue to meet online at 11:00am every Sunday on our website (standrews-saskatoon.com). We hope to see you again soon!



Hope is a Candle - GALLOWAY TAM

Type: Words and Music; First Line: Hope Is a Candle

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