

Keady, Kilsyth & North Derby Pastoral Charge

Sunday, December 15, 2013
Chalmers-Keady United Church
Advent 3
Children's Sunday: "Joyful Play"

Minister
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Musician:
Jennifer Wandell - Keady
Marilyn McComb - Kilsyth
Connie Radbourne - North Derby

*an invitation to rise in body or spirit, as you are comfortable

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

L: In this blessed season, O God, we come to you with thanksgiving in our hearts; first for the joy --

P: the joy we hear raised in song, shared in a choir most triumphant, praising the story of Jesus' birth.

Sung Response - "Gloria, in excelsis Deo." (refrain #38)

L: Secondly, for the peace of these most quiet days;

P: when the world remains still, as it was for the shepherds on lost hills.

Sung response - "Gloria, in excelsis Deo"

L: Thirdly, God, for the love you have given us,

P: and for the love you showed when you told Mary that she need not be afraid, even in the midst of a most surprising and mysterious thing.

Sung response - "Gloria, in excelsis Deo"

L: And lastly, for Christ himself.

P: Thank you for sending him to us to spread a message of forgiveness and acceptance to all people. We praise your Holy name. Amen.

***Opening Carol - 6 "A Candle is Burning" vs 1-4**

Advent Candle-Lighting - The Candle of Joy

Voice 1: Into our world, as into Mary's womb...

All: Comes a little child, to lighten the dark.

Voice 2: Into the forgotten places, as into the stable....

All: Comes a little child, friend of all creatures.

Voice 1: Into the lives of the poor, bringing hope;
into the lives of the powerful, bringing caution;
into the lives of the weary, bringing rest;
into the lives of the stressed, bringing play;
into the lives of the lonely, bringing love and care;
and into our lives and longings,
whatever our estate....

All: Comes a little child, to brighten our days, and lift our hearts.

Voice 2: This is good news, tidings of joy:

the Christ child is coming, and blessed are those who wait on the Lord.

All: Therefore come quickly, Lord. We await you.

Light the pink candle of joy, and then two blue ones representing peace and hope.

Voice 1: Let us pray:

ALL: As you brought the word of good news and joy to Mary and through her to our world, rekindle anew in us a sense of joy as we prepare to celebrate your nativity. Amen.

Sung response: (tune 7, Hope is a Star")

**Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn
telling the world that the Saviour is born.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first, and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**

Gospel Reading: Luke 1:47-55

Gospel Meditation

A Time for Sharing Gifts and a Playful Spirit

(words to the carols and songs being sung will be projected on the screen)

***We Greet One Another with the Sign of Christ's Peace**

L: The Prince of Peace, the child of joyful play, be with you now and always.

P: And also with you.

Minute for Mission

The Offering & *Offertory: vs 1: "He's got the whole world in his hands" (vs 2: he's got all the little children, in his hands....)

***Prayer of Dedication** (in unison)

You have nurtured us, O God, sheltered us and fed us by your love. As we have been given, may we give: freely, fully, and thankfully for all our many blessings. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

***Closing Hymn - "Give me Oil"**

**1. Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,
give me oil in my lamp, I pray.
Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,
Keep me burning till the break of day.**

**Refrain: Sing hosannah! sing hosannah!
Sing hosanna to the Servant King. (x2)**

**vs. 2 Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising...
vs. 3 Give me play in my life, keep me wholesome...
vs. 4 Give me love in my heart, keep me caring...**

***Advent Benediction**

Voice 1: Star light, star bright, the first star I see tonight.

I wish I may, I wish I might have the wish I wish tonight.

Voice 2: I wish that all who see this star, wherever on the earth they are, would make one wish for the world tonight, all of us together with our eyes shut tight:

ALL: A wish for peace and love and joy, more precious things than any toy, there is enough, if we will share, for every creature, everywhere.

***Advent Sung Benediction-** (tune is VU 48 "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing")

**Saviour, dwell with us that we
may go forth, your light to be.
Send us out, good news to sing:
Hope, peace, joy and love to bring.
God incarnate, with us dwell.
Come, O Come, Emmanuel.
Come, Lord Jesus, don't delay;
shine your peace through us this day.
Saviour, dwell with us that we
may go forth, your light to be.**

Sources: Advent Candle-lighting (adapted) - "Cloth for the Cradle", Iona Community, 1997 Wild Goose Resource Group. GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive North American Distributor. Benediction - "Father Fox's Christmas Rhymes, Clyde Watson, First Square Fish Editions 2007. Seasons of the Spirit -Advent 2013, Wood Lake Publishing.

Announcements

Many thanks to Mary Louise and our young people for leading today's service. May we all make time for play in this Christmas season.

Be sure to join us for our joint Christmas Eve service at 7:00 pm at the Kilsyth church. Efforts have been made this year to shorten the length of the service so our young ones are not too restless. Everyone welcome!

Kilsyth Intermediate Choir Concert – Monday, Dec. 16th at 7:00pm: Refreshments will be served. Free-will offering. Proceeds to Hospice of Grey Bruce and Kilsyth United Church.

After the Christmas and Boxing Day festivities, join us at **North Derby for another joint worship service on Sunday, December 29, at 10:30 am.** There will be just one service on this Sunday. Come early for worship, then enjoy the rest of the day in leisure.

Book Group

We've selected "The Book of Negroes" by Canadian writer Lawrence Hill as our next book. The date to meet has not yet been chosen, but will be announced with lots of lead-

time. If you've not read this remarkable book, you might want to add it to your Christmas list.

Upcoming Services

Tues Dec 24 - Christmas Eve, Joint Service at Kilsyth 7 pm

Sun Dec 29 - Joint Service at North Derby, 10:30 am No Sunday School

Sun Jan 5 - no Sunday School