

# Keady, Kilsyth & North Derby Pastoral Charge

Sunday, December 15, 2013  
Kilsyth United Church  
Advent 3 and Children's Pageant

Minister

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Musicians:

Jennifer Wardell - Keady

Marilyn McComb - Kilsyth

Connie Radbourne - North Derby

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

## Welcome & Announcements

**Lighting the Christ Candle** (based on Genesis and John's gospel)

L: In the beginning of creation, when God made heaven and earth, the earth was without form and void.

**All: God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from darkness.**

L: When all things began, the Word already was. The Word dwelt with God, and what God was, the Word was. Through him all things came to be; no single thing was created without him. All that came to be was alive with his life, and that life was the light of the world.

**All: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out.**

(Christ Candle is lit) L: The light in all of life. **All: Thanks be to God!**

## 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, un 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**

(by David Schmidt, "Before the Amen", 2007 Maren and Maria Tirabassi)

Voice 1: We are waiting. We often find ourselves tired and frustrated. So much of our world seems caught in turmoil. At times it feels as if darkness closes in on us. Where is the hope? the peace? Where is the joy?

Voice 2: The divine word is sent to a young teen in a little land in the Middle East. "God is doing a new thing in me. I'm going to bring a new life into the world, to bring about change, to offer love and salvation." What will be her answer? We wait with bated breath.

Voice 1: "Let it happen as you say, O God. May the fruit of my womb bring good news to us all."

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

**Voice 2: 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 this season 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

**A Presentation by the Sunday School -  
"A Christmas to Believe In"**

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

**L: The Prince of Peace be with you.**

**P: And also with you.**

**Minute for Mission**

**The Offering & Offertory: VU#55 "In the Bleak Mid Winter" vs. 1, 4**

**\*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 Carol - 59 "Joy to the World"**

**\*Advent Benediction**

**L: God of the watching ones, the waiting ones, the slow and suffering ones, the angels in heaven, the child in the womb,**

**P: Give us your benediction, your good word for our souls, that we might rest and rise in the kindness of your company. Amen.**

**\*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: Christ-candle lighting; Benediction - "Cloth for the Cradle", Iona Community, 1997 Wild Goose Resource Group. GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive North American Distributor. Seasons of the Spirit - Advent 2013, Wood Lake Publishing.

### **Announcements**

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

Many, many thanks to the Sunday School children and their teachers for their presentation of the Christmas story. We are blessed to have these teachers who volunteer to assume a full roster of teaching Sundays - Angela Johnston, Cheryl Oatt, Cathy McKay, Angela Vokes and Heather Vokes.

#### **New Doors!**

At next week's service the new doors will be dedicated in memory of Irene McConnell. Many thanks to the Stewards and family members who worked on this project and who chose such beautiful doors to grace the church entrance. And our gratitude to Chris Vokes for installation.

#### **The Intermediate Choir will be singing next Sunday.**

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!

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**