

*Keady, Kilsyth & North Derby*  
Pastoral Charge  
Kilsyth United Church

Christmas Eve Service  
December 24th, 2013



Minister:  
Rev. Deborah McKellar  
Music:  
Kilsyth Intermediate Choir



*Merry Christmas*

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

**Welcome**

## **OPENING CAROLS**

\*O Come, All Ye Faithful

Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

O, 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,**

**O, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, In the highest! Refrain

\*Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Angels from the realms of glory,

wing your flight o'er all the earth;

ye who sang creation's story,

now proclaim Messiah's birth: Refrain

Come and worship, come and worship,

worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds, in the field abiding,

watching o'er your flocks by night,

God with us is now residing;

yonder shines the infant light: Refrain

Saints, before the altar bending,

watching long in hope and fear;

suddenly the Lord, descending,

in his temple shall appear: Refrain

**(seated) Jingle Bells**

## **A CHRISTMAS PRAYER**

**Anthem - Intermediate Choir**

## **LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

One: Gather round! It is Christmas Eve!

The Christ has come! As we light the Christ candle, may it remind us that Christ is the true centre of our lives.

(light Christ Candle)

**All: We will join the angels in their songs of joy, telling all the world that peace will be given.**

One: We will be with the shepherds, the ordinary humble people who heard the good news and knelt beside the manger.

**All: We will be among the wise men who came bringing gifts. What gifts will we bring?**

One: Could we bring the gift of our own lives this day?

**All: Let us give ourselves.**

**O God, we too gather before the Christ, who comes to us as a fragile child, sharing all that we face. In humble faith, we offer the gifts of our lives, that we may bring your peace and love to others.**

**All: (sing VU#59 vs 1)**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come:  
let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart, prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing....

**Anthem - Intermediate Choir**

**The Christmas Story told in Scripture, Readings & Song**

**SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:18-23**

**READING - "Joseph and Theodiah wonder!"**

**CAROL: "Twas in the Moon of Wintertime"**

'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 wond'ring hunters heard the hymn:

**Refrain: Jesus, your King, is born;  
Jesus is born! In excelsis gloria!**

Within a lodge of broken bark,  
The tender Babe was found  
A ragged robe of rabbit skin

En wrapped His beauty round  
But as the hunter braves drew nigh,  
the angel song rang loud and high: **R**

O children of the forest free,  
the angel song is true  
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: **R**

**SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:-1-5a**

**READING: "Mary wishes for a camel!"**

**SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:6-12**

**CAROL: 74 What Child is This? vs 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?

Refrain: This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

**READING - "And did it happen?"**

**CAROL: 44 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear vs. 1,4**

It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold.  
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,  
from heaven's all gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
to hear the angels sing.

For, lo! the days are hastening on,  
by prophets seen of old,  
when with the ever circling years  
shall come the time foretold.  
When peace shall over all the earth  
its ancient splendour fling.  
And the whole world send back the song  
which now the angels sing.

**Offering & \*Offertory (standing) – 48 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King,  
peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconcile  
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.”

**\*Prayer of Dedication & Thanksgiving**

**All: Loving and generous God, we praise you and thank you for the joys of Christmas: the music, the gathering of family and friends, the gifts we give and receive. We thank you most of all for your great gift to us, the gift born this night – your child Jesus. In thanksgiving we present these offerings of our work and our lives. Help us to reflect the light of your love as Jesus did. Amen.**

**Darkening the Sanctuary & Passing of the Christ Light: You may wish to use the words, “The light of Christ” or “Love’s pure light” as you receive or pass the light. When all are ready, we will sing “Silent Night.”**

**\*Closing Carol (standing)– “Silent Night”**

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 afa  
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.

**\*Blessing**

**\*Sung Benediction - (tune VU 47 "Still, still, still)**

Still, still, still: The night is calm and still.  
The Christ child in his crib lies sleeping,  
Angels round him watch are keeping,  
Still, still, still: the night is calm and still.

Sleep, sleep, sleep; sweet Jesus, softly sleep.  
while Mary sings and gently holds you,  
safely in her arms enfolds you.  
Sleep, sleep, sleep; sweet Jesus softly sleep.

Joy, joy, joy; glad tidings of great joy!  
For through God's holy incarnation  
Christ is born for our salvation  
Joy, joy, joy; glad tidings of great joy!

**(Please extinguish your tapers and leave them at the back of the church as you exit.)**

**On behalf of the Keady, Kilsyth and North Derby United Churches,**

**We wish you and yours a Joyous Christmas!**

**May God's blessings be upon you in this Christmas Season and in the New Year. Traveling mercies!**

**Thank you to all who participated in tonight's service and helped with the preparation.**

With thanks to the following source: "Cloth for the Cradle", Iona Community, Wild Goose Worship Group. GIA Publications, Inc. Chicago, for readings.

**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.**