

Christmas Eve All-Ages Service

December 24, 2024

Prelude

Words of Welcome & Lighting of The Christ Candle

***Carol: O come, all ye faithful**

No. 159

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

3. 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)

4. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
'Glory to God in the highest!'
(Refrain)

Prayer of Approach & Confession

What shall we offer you, O Christ, on this the eve of your birth? It is for our sakes that you have revealed yourself to us in a human being.
Every creature made through you, offers you thanks.

The angels offer a hymn;
the heavens, a star;

the wise men, gifts;
the shepherds, their wonder;

the earth, its cave;
the animals, the manger;

and we, a human mother.

O God, who has given us your beloved Christ child,

have mercy upon us and give us new life this Christmas.
Amen.

May the Peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

***Carol: Angels we have heard on high**

No. 147

1. Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tiding be
Which inspire your heavenly
song? **(Refrain)**

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo

Gloria in excelsis Deo

3. Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels
sing;
come, adore on bended knee,
Christ, the Lord, the newborn
King.
(Refrain)

4. See him in a manger laid,
whom the choirs of angels
praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while our hearts in love we raise.
(Refrain)

Scripture Reading: Luke 2: 1-20

Kim Stanbury

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 All went to their own towns to be registered. 4 Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5 He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11 to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,
14 'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' 16 So they went

with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.
17When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about
this child; 18and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told
them. 19But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her
heart. 20The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they
had heard and seen, as it had been told them. Amen.

Sermon: TELLING THE CHRISTMAS STORY TOGETHER

Dr. Harris

***Carol: Away in a manger**

No. 149

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.
3. Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with you there.

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

"Away in a manger...."

We pray for those away from family:

**Those not at home due to work commitments; those who must
travel this night; those who are in prison... (silence)**

"No crib for a bed...."

We pray for those who have no home:

Those who have suffered because of floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, and fire; those who are living through the devastations caused by war, conflict and violence; those who must live on the streets and in alleyways without adequate food and clothing, for refugees the world over...(silence)

“The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head....”

We pray for those needing rest:

Those who are struggling to make ends meet; those who labour through the night so that we might rest; those who fear what lies ahead and have no rest; those who are protesting for greater justice, human rights and freedoms, struggling against tyrannical regimes and leaders; those who cannot sleep because of pain, loneliness or grief...(silence)

“The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay....”

We pray for the illumination of God’s revelation upon us all:

Upon those who have lost their faith; upon those who are uncertain about their future; upon those who need their confidence and hope restored; upon those who hold power in corporations, nations and our communities...(silence)

“The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.”

We pray for those whose labours are done:

Those who have departed from our midst, those who find rest in the assurance of God’s presence...(silence)

For all these, O God, we offer our prayers to you. And we rest assured that you hear our prayers, through Christ our Lord who taught us to pray saying,

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Carol: Hark! the herald angels sing

No. 139

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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

Carol: Joy to the world

No. 153

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

2. Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns:
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Benediction

***Threefold Amen**

Postlude

**Remain seated if you are more comfortable*

Coming Events

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service,
7:30pm

Sunday, December 29

Special Christmas Service based on
“The 12 Days of Christmas” Carol /
Sacrament of Baptism

Sunday, January 5

Epiphany Sunday

Sunday, January 12

Baptism of Jesus Sunday – Dr. Carol
Loudon

Friday, January 17

PA Day Camp

Sunday, January 19

Epiphany 2 Sunday

Open Mic (more details coming
soon)

Wednesday, January 22

Ancient Prayer practice: *Lectio Divina*,
7:30pm

Friday, January 24

Youth Group, 7-9pm

Sunday, January 26

Epiphany 3 Sunday

Tuesday, January 28

Book Club, “Remarkably Bright
Creatures” by Shelby Van Pelt,
7:30pm via zoom

Winter Study begins: The Gospel of
John, 7:30pm

Wednesday, January 29

Thank you for making Armour Heights a part of your
Christmas traditions.
To contribute to the life and ministry of Armour Heights
Presbyterian Church, please scan here:



Armour Heights Presbyterian Church
105 Wilson Avenue, Toronto M5M 2Z9
Church: (416) 485-4000, estone@armourheights.org
Website: www.armourheights.org
“Discover the vitality of faith”