

MOUNTAIN VIEW UNITED CHURCH
85 MacBeath Ave., Moncton NB E1C 6Z3
Christmas Eve -December 24, 2024

Worship Leader
Director of Music
Office Administrator
Custodian



Rev. Jacob Shaw
Jason Noble
Liz Simmons
Carson McDavid

Prelude

Gathering Music O Holy Night Choir

God is good, all the time... all the time, God is good.

Words of Welcome/Announcements

Advent Wreath - Lighting The Christ Candle

Why do we gather this night?

To celebrate the birth of the Christ.

Who is this Christ?

The One, the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Why has this child come to us?

**To bring the Kingdom of God, to share with us God's
hope, peace, joy and love.**

How should we give thanks?

**In worship, praise, and song, we shall rejoice for the
King will be born this night.**

Advent Hymn A Candle Is Burning (Vs5) VU#6

**We honour Messiah with Christ-candle's flame,
our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim.
O come, all you faithful, rejoice in this night,
as God comes among us, the Christian's true light.**

[Light the Christ Candle]

Opening Prayer

**God of Light and Love, this is a holy night. We come
longing to hear Your story once again. Speak your words
of revelation to us, let us come to know the gift You have
sent us, Your Son. Let Your way, truth, and life be known
to our hearts all the better because of the glory of Christ's
birth. Amen.**

Children come forward during the signing of this song

**Children's Time: Great Truths are Learned Over Time
Children's Hymn Go, Tell It on the Mountain VU#43**

Ministry of Music

Prayer of Confession

**Lord, we often come to Christmas longing for a cozy story
of a baby born in a manger. But the way of the Christ, the
truth of God, and the life in the Spirit brings with it great
strength and challenge. Through the Christ child, God
brings forth justice, righteousness, and mercy for all the
world. Enlarge our minds, increase our vision, and make
steadfast our hearts to what is unveiled to us this
Christmas night. *(Silence for private prayer)***

Words of Assurance

May all our reflections and pauses into stillness be for your glory, and may our ears and eyes be open to the magnitude of God with us. Amen.

Scripture 1: Matthew 1:18-23 read by Gary Carey

Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing VU#48

- 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 with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! R**

**3 Hail, the heavenborn 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 us from the earth,
born to give us second birth. R**

Scripture 2: Luke 2:1-7 read by Rev. Shaw

Hymn: Away in a Manger VU#69

**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 for ever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.**

Scripture 3: Luke 2: 8-14 read by Rev. Shaw

Hymn: Angels We Have Heard on High VU#38

- 1** Angels we have heard on high
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
- 2** Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song? R
- 3** Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. R
- 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. R

Message

Hymn: What Child Is This

VU#74

- 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?
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

- 2 Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading. R**

- 3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, one and all, to own him.
The King of Kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him. R**

Invitation to Share Offering

Offering Collection Song: See amid the Winter's Snow VU#76

***Offering Song In the Bleak Midwinter Vs4 VU#55**

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what can I give him – give my heart.**

Offertory Prayer

Lord we come to You with our offering, we are generous to Your ministry because You were first generous to us. Multiply the fruitfulness of our offering so that our labor can support the important work that Your Son's birth once began. Amen

Prayers of the People

Offertory, Personal Prayers, Lord's Prayer, Given to God

Lighting from the New Christ Candle and Spreading of the Light

Hymn: Silent Night, Holy Night VU#67

1 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.

2 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.

**3 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.**

Benediction

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all, now and forever.

Amen.

Merry Christmas



Postlude † † † † † † † † † † † † † † †

**Bulletins today are In Loving Memory of Fred Blacklock
placed by wife Ruth and Family.**

Scripture 1: Matt 1:18-23

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph, her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

Scripture 2: Luke 2:1-7

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

So, Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger because there was no guest room available for them.

Scripture: Luke 2:8-14

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,
“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”