

Saturday 24 December 2022 – Christmas Eve- 9:00 pm



HYMN - CP137 What Child is This?

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!

Why lies He in such mean estate, Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
This, this is Christ, the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
This, this is Christ, the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Land Acknowledgement

We gather here mindful of the many who, for millennia, have called this valley home or depended on its trails for safe passage. We know this community as Fernie; it is also the unceded territory of the Ktunaxa people and Métis Nation. We strive for reconciliation with our Indigenous siblings, and pray that the Creator will guide our way.

Christmas Eve – Emmanuel

This is the night we have been waiting for – Christmas Eve!

The prophet Isaiah wrote: "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel".

Isaiah 7.14

Tonight we receive the greatest gift.

(light the Paschal candle)

To the Tune of "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

O God-with-Us is born this holy night

His mother wraps him in the cloths so tight;

A helpless baby born in a stall

From hope, peace, joy and love for all.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, has come to us, O Israel.

An Order for Compline

The God of peace grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. **Amen**

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

the maker of heaven and earth.

The angels of God guard us through the night,

and quiet the powers of darkness.

The Spirit of God be our guide,

to lead us to peace and to glory.

It is but lost labour that we haste to rise up early,

and so late take our rest, and eat the bread of anxiety.

For those beloved of God are given gifts

even while they sleep.

Reader: Orlan Weber

Reading: Luke 2.1-20

May God be with you. **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Birth of Jesus

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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.

The Shepherds and the Angels

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

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.'

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

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, O Jesus Christ.

Sermon: The Reverend Canon Andrea L. Brennan –

HYMN – CP122 In the Bleak Mid-Winter

In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone: snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for him whom cherubim worship night and day, a breastful of milk
and a mangerful of hay: enough for him whom angels fall down before,
the ox and ass and camel which adore.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there, cherubim and seraphim
thronged the air, but only his mother, in her maiden bliss,
worshiped the Beloved with a kiss.

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 I can, I give him, give my heart.

If you wish to make a donation to support our ministry
please send a cheque or e-transfer to:

Knox United Church
Box 1808, Fernie, BC VoB 1Mo
knoxferniefinance@gmail.com

Christ Church Anglican
Box 279, Fernie, BC VoB 1Mo
christchurchfernief@gmail.com

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, **the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

**The peace is exchanged verbally only,
with a wave if you're feeling fancy.**

Prayers of the People – Carole Chorostecki

Christ, for whom there was no room in the inn, give courage to all who are homeless; in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Christ, who fled into Egypt, give comfort to all refugees; in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Christ, who fasted in the desert, give relief to all who are starving; in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Christ, who hung in agony on the cross, give strength to all who suffer; in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Emmanuel, Head of the Church
**hear our prayer,
and make us one in heart and mind
to serve you with joy forever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are bold to pray,

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen**

Sending Prayers

Lord it is night.

The night is for stillness.

Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day.

What has been done has been done;

what has not been done has not been done; let it be.

The night is dark.

Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives rest in you.

The night is quiet.

**Let the quietness of your peace enfold us, all dear to us,
and all who have no peace.**

The night heralds the dawn.

Let us look expectantly to a new day, new joys, new possibilities.

In your name we pray. Amen

Extinguishing our Candles

As we move from this time of community and communion

**we hold in our prayers those who are with us in person,
on screen and in our hearts,**

knowing that one day, we know not what day,

**we will be together again, not necessarily as we wish,
but as we are able. Amen**

Sending Song - CP119 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 afar, heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
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.

Upcoming this week...

Sunday 25 December - Christmas Day Worship

10:00 am – Holy Eucharist at Christ Church (blended Worship)

PLEASE NOTE:

Reverend Andrea will be on retreat from 26 December to 5 January

Pastoral Care will be available through Lynda Bird and Carol Chorostecki

Fr. David John will be available for emergencies

Please Note: There will be NO Wednesday Worship on the 28th of December or the 4th of January.

NEXT WORSHIP – 8 January 2023 - Epiphany!!!

As January has five Sundays and we, as a tradition, do not Worship together on the first Sunday after Christmas, the 8th of January will be treated as our First Sunday Worship with Communion (United Church style) at Christ Church Anglican.

Credits: The liturgy today has been compiled with resources from Service of the Word, Common Praise, Prayers of the People from The Church of England, and Night Prayer from New Zealand Prayer Book. Candle lighting litany, candle extinguishing prayer and Prayers of the People written by Reverend Canon Andrea Brennan.

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