

Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada
December 24, 2023 – 5:30 pm

Christmas Eve

Central Queens' Mission Statement

Central Queens United Church is a loving and living community called to support the life stages of all people, celebrating joy and sharing in pain. Through faith and fellowship, we are united by God's love to live and serve as Disciples of Christ.

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

Welcome

O come, all ye faithful
O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, Born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Announcements

Lighting Advent Candles

Hymn Joy to the World VU #59

Prayer

God of grace, we rejoice that you chose to dwell among us.
Fill us with your spirit, that we may hear again the
announcement of Jesus coming, and proclaim the good news
of your promise fulfilled. Amen.

Musical Selection Away in a Manager by the Sunday School

The Christmas Story

Scene 1 – Luke 2:1-5 (Mary and Joseph on the way to Bethlehem)

Hymn O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Scene 2 – Luke 2:6-7 (Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus in the stable)

Hymn What Child is This VU #74

Scene 3 – Luke 2:8-14 (Angels and Shepherds)

Hymn The First Nowell

The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

Scene 4 – Matthew 2:1-11 (Magi on their way to Bethlehem)

Hymn We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain following yonder star.
Oh, star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy Perfect Light.

Musical Selection Sr Choir

Offertory

* Presentation of Offering In the Bleak Midwinter VU #55 vs 4

*Offertory Prayer

Love shone from the stable at Bethlehem; love will come clear from these offerings: a love that reaches out to link hands with the suffering,

a love that encourages the dispirited,

a love that will accept the vulnerable,

a love worked out in faith community,

a love that crosses oceans and ethnic groups, a Jesus-type love.

In the name of Jesus, these offerings will be blessed. Amen.

Solo For Peace

by Mai Dykerman

Sharing the Light

Hymn

Silent Night

VU #67

Blessing

Go tell it on the mountain

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born. Amen.

