

Christmas Eve - Family Worship  
December 24, 2017, 4:00pm





## The Community Gathers for Worship

Prelude:

Violin, Kate Thompson

*The First Noel*

*Please use this time to settle for worship*

**\*Please stand as you are able**

**\*Processional Carol:**

Congregation

#27 "Gentle Mary Laid her Child" (TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM)

**\*Lighting of the Advent Wreath Liturgy**

The Crowell Family & Congregation

The prophets sang of his coming so long ago, songs that resonate in our hearts still. A song of transformation for which the world will never be the same.

**We sing the song of Christ, rejoicing that Emmanuel, God with us, is here.**

Light the candle of Christ, light the light for all to see, light the light we all must hold.

Light the light, the fire of life, let the candle reveal God's glory, Jesus Christ has come to earth and for us shall come again.

**\*Choral Response and Lighting**

*The candle is lit.*

**Christ is the light, Christ is the light.**

**Christ is the light to show the way,**

**Christ is the light to show the way.**

**Light the candle of Christ,**

**Light the candle of Christ.**

**Welcome & Rehearsal**

Rev. Jenny Drewitz

**Musical Solo**

James Hazelton

*The Angel Gabriel*

**Scripture: Matthew 1:18-21, 24 (pg. 1)**

Ben Strange

**Las Posadas Responsive Reading**

We come together, waiting for the Promised one

**Come, Lord Jesus, Come**

Stir our hearts, O God, to prepare a place for your only Child.

**Come, Lord Jesus, Come**

Purify our thoughts, our words and deed, O God, that we may serve gladly and with compassion.

**Come, Lord Jesus, Come**

Grant us awareness, O God, that we might become conscious of the needs of our neighbours.

**Come, Lord Jesus, Come**

Strengthen our commitment, O God, that we give freely and live fully as signs of Christ's presence.

**Come, Lord Jesus, Come**

Let us travel together in this journey of preparation

**Scripture:** Luke 2:1-7 (pg. 58)

Brooklyn Webber

**Anthem**

Songsters & Jr. Songsters

*Do You Hear What I Hear?* - Baker

**Journey to the 1<sup>st</sup> Door**

Mary, Joseph, and Narration – and Fellow Travellers

**Innkeeper (sung):** You look dirty and you smell. Will you please keep moving? For your kind there is no place, for our inn in decent.

**Scripture:** Matthew 1:22-23 (pg. 1)

Lorelai Stevenson

**Journey to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Door**

Mary, Joseph, and Narration – and Fellow Travellers

**Innkeeper (sung):** For your reasons we care not. Every room is taken. Can't you see the place is full? You are bad for business.

**\*Carol:**

Congregation

#24 "Away in a Manger" (CRADLE SONG)

**Journey to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Door**

Mary, Joseph, and Narration – and Fellow Travellers

**Innkeeper (sung):** Oh my goodness do come in. You can use the manger. For the rooms that we do have are for a rich traveler.

Offering:

Grace Notes

*Mary's Boy Child- Hairston*

**\*Presentation of the Offering:** Doxology (VENI EMMANUEL)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Christ, all people here below,  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.  
Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel,  
Shall come to thee O Israel.

Christmas Prayer

Rev. Dr. Rusty Edwards

**\*Closing Carol**

Congregation

#40 "Joy to the World" (ANTIOCH)

**\*Blessing**

Congregation

Happy Birthday To You  
Happy Birthday To You  
Happy Birthday Dear Jesus  
Happy Birthday To You

**\*Benediction**

Rev. Jenny Drewitz

Postlude

Grace Notes

*Go Tell it on the Mountain- trad.*

## ***Festive Notes***

Candy canes and a very festive looking clergy await you in the Narthex following the service. Thank you to Deacon Bryan Darrell for adding clerical light to this afternoon's festivities.

Thank you to Mary (Diana Hazelton) and Joseph (Julian Summers) for guiding our way to Bethlehem.

## **Music Notes**

Thank you to Music Director Lynette Wahlstrom, Grace Notes Women's Choir, Songsters, Jr. Songsters, our Soloists and all who brought their talents to our service today.

## **Faith Development Notes**

### **Breakfast at Epiphany**

**Saturday, January 6, 9:00am**

**First Baptist Church Halifax, Assembly Room**

This is an all ages faith formation event to celebrate epiphany, the story of the magi going to see the Christ child. This is the perfect way to end the Christmas season as a family. Come, smell the frankincense and myrrh, touch the gold and live into the story. Breakfast (by free will donation) will include pancakes, bacon, scrambled eggs, orange slices and drinks. Please RSVP to Rev. Jenny Drewitz ([jennydrewitz@fbchalifax.ca](mailto:jennydrewitz@fbchalifax.ca)) by January 3. Also, if you have an electric hot plate that you are willing to lend to the Thomson family, our chefs for the event, please let us know.

### **New Parent and Tot Drop-In Program**

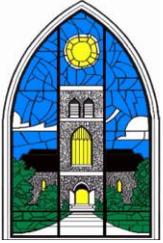
**Weekly Tuesdays from 9:45-11:15 am, beginning Jan. 9**

**First Baptist Church Halifax, Creche (second floor)**

Parents/guardians and children up to age 5 are welcome to come for a morning drop in play time in the First Baptist Creche. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with other parents in the neighbourhood and meet new children. This is a free program; coffee and light peanut-free snacks will be provided. The drop in will be free play with a closing circle time of story and song at 11:00 am. Please feel free to contact Rev. Jenny Drewitz with any questions, [jennydrewitz@fbchalifax.ca](mailto:jennydrewitz@fbchalifax.ca).



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First Baptist Church Halifax - Where Faith Comes To Life!

Founded in 1827

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**Ms. Lynette Wahlstrom**, Director of Music

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**Dr. Pauline Allsop**, Deacon Emerita

### Our Mission

To be an inclusive and ecumenical community of believers in Jesus Christ, committed to proclaim God's mission of love by word and deed.

### Our Vision

To be a Christ-centered community of diverse people experiencing God's unconditional love and acceptance, finding opportunities to grow and nurture our faith, and sharing that love, acceptance and faith with the world.

*"Using gifts God has given us to do the work God is calling us to do!"*

*Welcome to First Baptist Church Halifax! If you are visiting with us today, please know how glad we are to have you with us as we worship God together. We invite you to complete a visitor's card, located in the hymnal rack in front of you, and place it in the offering plate later in the service.*