

**Merry Christmas, Mbotama,  
Kreesmasko shubhkaamnaa, 메리  
크리스마스, Mitho Makosi Kesikansi  
Malamu, Maligayang Pasko, Joyeux  
Noël, Jabbama be salla Kirismati, Krismasi Njema, Niibaa' anami'egiizhigad**

**Knox United Church**  
December 24, 2020  
**Christmas Eve**

*As we join together in worship we acknowledge that we live on Turtle Island, land that Creator brought out of the waters so all could have life. Turtle Island is the traditional territory of Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Métis Nation.*

**Carol:** Feliz Navidad

Refrain: **Feliz navidad, Feliz navidad, Feliz navidad  
Prospero año y Felicidad** (repeat)

**I wanna wish you a merry Christmas (3x)  
From the bottom of my heart** Refrain

**We wanna wish you a merry Christmas (3x)  
From the bottom of our heart**

**Call to Worship**

One: Like the shepherds, we come to the stable, uncertain of what we have heard and seen,

**All: Longing to hear a word of peace and joy.**

One: Like the wise ones, we have journeys to make, gifts to offer, and hope in our hearts,

**All: That this world can change for the better.**

One: Here in the stillness of winter's night, we gather to share the light of Christ, a light that shines in the nightfall.

**All: We gather in the wonder of this night to share our joy and thanks for new life.**

**Introduction to the Prophecy**

**Isaiah 9: 6-7**

**Carol: VU # 60 "O Come all ye Faithful" Verses,1,3,5**

1. 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.

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God in the highest.  
Venite adoremus, venite adoremus, venite adoremus Dominum.
  
5. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born on Christmas morning,  
Jesus, to thee all glory be given.  
Word of Creator, now in flesh appearing.  
O Come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O Come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

### **Advent Candle Lighting:**

**Lighting the Candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love**

### **Enciente – Hope in the Time of Pandemic**

### **Children’s Music Ministry: “Christmas is a Time for Love” – Julianna and Clarence Ortiz**

#### **Lighting of the Christ Candle**

We live in a world longing for meaning...

We light the Christ Candle to welcome Jesus into our lives and our living

*(Christ candle is lit)*

**ALL: God is with us, born in Jesus this night. Light breaks through the darkness. Love lights the world this Christmas. Amen.**

#### **Singing: VU #6 “A Candle is Burning” (Verse #5)**

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.

#### **Passing of the Peace**

One: Peace be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## **The Promise Takes Shape**

**Luke 1: 26-35**

### **Carol: VU #73 The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy**

1. The virgin Mary had a baby boy (3x)  
And they say that his name is Jesus.

#### **Refrain**

**He come from the glory, he come from the glorious kingdom,  
He come from the glory, he come from the glorious kingdom,  
O yes, Believer! O yes! Believer!  
He come from the glory, he come from the glorious kingdom.**

2. The angels sang when the baby was born (3x)  
And they say that his name is Jesus. **R**
3. The shepherds came where the baby was born (3x)  
And they say that his name is Jesus. **R**

## **Candle Lighting**

### **Prayer**

### **Carol: VU #64 O Little Town of Bethlehem**

1. 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.
2. For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above  
While mortals sleep the angels keep their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together, proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.
3. How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessed gift of heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

## **The Night in Bethlehem**

**Luke 2: 1-7**

### **Carol, VU #71 Twas in the Moon of Wintertime**

1. Twas in the moon of wintertime, when all the birds had fled,  
That mighty Gitchi Manitou sent angle choirs instead;  
Before their light their stars grew dim,  
And wandering hunters heard the hymn:

#### **Refrain**

**Jesus your king is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis Gloria.**

2. Within a lodge of broken bark the tender babe was found,  
a ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped his beauty round,  
but as the hunter braves drew nigh, the angel song rang loud and high:  
Jesus your king is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis Gloria. **R**
3. The earliest moon of wintertime is not so round and fair  
as was the ring of glory on the helpless infant there.  
The chiefs from far before him knelt with  
gifts of fox and beaver pelt.  
Jesus your king is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis Gloria. **R**
4. O children of the forest free, the angel song is true,  
The holy child of earth and heaven is born today for you,  
Come kneel before the radiant boy,  
Who brings you beauty, peace and joy.  
Jesus your king is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis Gloria. **R**

## **Candle Lighting**

### **Prayer**

### **Carol: VU #75 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks, Versus 1-4**

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night all  
seated on the ground, the angel of the  
Lord came down, and glory shone around.
2. "Fear not," said he, for mighty dread had

seized their troubled mind, “glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and humankind.

3. “To you in David’s town this day is born of David’s line a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:
4. “The heavenly babe you there shall find to human view displayed, all meanly wrapped in swaddling bands, and in a manger laid.”

### **Telling the Shepherds**

**Luke 2: 8-18**

### **Arriving in Bethlehem**

**Luke 2: 16-20**

**Music Ministry: “Do You Have Room” – Rachel Landrecht and Neil Weisensel**

### **Candle Lighting**

#### **Prayer**

**Carol: VU 91 The First Nowell, Verses 1-5**

1. The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay a keeping their sheep  
on a cold winter’s night that was so deep.

#### **Refrain**

**Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.**

2. They looked up and saw a star,  
shining in the east, beyond them far;  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night. **R**
3. And by the light of that same star,  
three wise men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went. **R**

4. This star drew nigh to the north west;  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
and there it did both stop and stay,  
right over the place where Jesus lay. **R**
5. Then entered in those wise men three,  
full reverently upon their knee,  
and offered there in his presence  
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. **R**

## **The Gift of the Magi**

### **Matthew 2: 1-12**

#### **Carol: VU #74 What Child is This**

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?  
**Refrain**  
**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. Who 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 sal-  
vation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him. **R**

## **Candle Lighting**

### **Prayer**

#### **Carol: VU 59 Joy to the World**

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her  
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 all their songs em-

ply, 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 sings 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 earth 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.

### **Sharing our Gifts with the Christ Child**

#### **Offering Song: VU #55 In The Bleak Mid Winter, Verse 4**

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

#### **Candle Lighting**

##### **Prayer**

#### **Candle Lighting**

As we sing Silent Night, you are invited to light the candles that you have gathered at home and to pass the light of the Christ Child from one to another.

#### **Singing: VU 67 "Silent Night"**

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.

## **Blessing**

## **Organ Postlude**