

Carols and Cookies Worship January 1, 2023

Welcome:

We greet you in the name of God: Creator, Love Incarnate, and Spirit of Life. May hope, peace, joy and love be with you as we pass the peace to one another. Peace be with you....**and also with you.**

Acknowledgements:

Let us acknowledge together that we meet and live on Treaty land and are members of affirming pastoral charges.

We gather today in relaxed fellowship to celebrate the season and be with each other going into a new year. Please feel free to enjoy the refreshments as we sing and pray together.

Introit: MV 220 verses 1 and 2 Hope shines, Peace shines

Opening prayer in unison: VU # 63

Hymns: VU #43 Go Tell It on the Mountain
VU # 48 Hark the Herald Angels Sing
VU # 68 Poor Folks and Humble

The scripture readings today are from Matthew chapter 2 verses 1 to 12 and will be divided into three readings.

Reading one: Matthew 2: 1 – 6

Hymns: Oh Holy Night
VU # 73 Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy

Words of Assurance:

Fear not, I bring you tidings of great joy for all people!
God comes in Jesus, son of Mary, to show us love incarnate. In Christ, God forgives us, encourages us, and frees us to love others. Thanks be to God.

Offering: AS we bring forward the offering plate let us sing the refrain from
VU # 82 A light is Gleaming

Prayer: May these gifts open others to the blessings we receive this Christmas: the gift of childlike wonder, the gift of radiant hope, the gift of peace which passes all understanding, the gift of joy which knows no bounds. With these gifts we bring

ourselves, O God, in response to the greatest gift of all – the babe in Bethlehem, so to honour him and continue his work in our world.

Reading two Matthew 2: 7 – 8

Hymns: VU # 38 Angels We Have Heard on High
VU # 74 What Child is This

Prayers of the Community:

We thank Sharon Doerksen for this offering of prayer on our behalf.
And we light this candle of remembrance and meditation to help us centre our hearts and minds.

Reading three: Matthew 2: 9 – 12

Hymns: MV # 134 There Was A Child in Galilee (Dreaming Mary)
VU # 4 God of all Places
VU # 59 Joy to the World

Closing prayer in unison: VU # 53

Sending Forth:

As we go into the world:

May the joy of the angels sing in our voices;
may the hope of the shepherds enliven our minds;
may the strong faith of Mary strengthen our spirits;
and may the love of the baby shine in our hearts.
So that to all we meet w may be srvants of God's hope, peace, joy and love.

Extroit: MV # 220 verses 3 and 4 Joy shines, Love shines