

St. Andrew's River Heights United Church

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Epiphany

Sunday, January 1, 2012



Our Mission

To send our people into the world
restored, refreshed, forgiven, and joyful;
to live as Christ would have us live,
with love and justice as our goals.

St. Andrew's River Heights United Church
Epiphany
January 1, 2012

ORDER OF SERVICE

*Congregation please stand, as you are able, and join congregational responses in **bold print**.

(Listening aids are available in the narthex; large print bulletins with hymns are available from the usher's table.)

The musical offerings during worship can be very inspirational. Please help us to preserve the sanctity of those offerings to God and God's people by allowing the music to stand alone in silence at its conclusion as it resonates in the sanctuary, in our hearts, and in our souls. If you wish to share your thoughts or appreciation with the musicians, please do so after worship.
Thank you!

PRELUDE:

Sussex Carol (When heaven's bright with mystery)

arr. N. Rawsthorne

CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING

We Gather

WELCOME

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

We Approach Our God

CALL TO WORSHIP:

God of mystery, you place stars in the sky that guide us.
May we find in you the courage and the strength to follow those stars.

PRAYER OF APPROACH (unison):

Loving God, we are reminded this day of the star that guided the wise ones in the story of Christ's birth. It led them to Bethlehem, to worship the Christ, the one who would reveal your love to all the world. We follow this star now, into the story of the wise ones, the story of Jesus, and the story of our own journey into your love and way. Amen.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN: **91**

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

We remember this day, O God, the paths on which we have traveled, from the celebrations of Christmas Day, from holiday destinations, work, Boxing Day sales or sporting events.

If we have moved too fast and not seen you, forgive us God.

If we have talked too much and not heard you, forgive us God.

If we have worked too hard and not had time for you, forgive us God.

If we have been distracted by the excesses of Christmas and not shared, forgive us God. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SUNG RESPONSE: **84** (verse 2)

O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word

CANONBURY

Our bartered, busy lives burn dim,
Too tired to care, too numb to feel.
Come, shine upon our shadowed world;
Your radiance bathes with power to heal.

*HYMN: **95**

Born in the Night, Mary's Child

MARY'S CHILD

CHILDREN'S TIME

We Listen for God's Word

SOLO: A New Year Carol
(Soloist: Linda Feasby)

Text: Traditional/Music: Greensleeves-
a traditional Waits Carol

The old year now away is fled,
The new year it is entered;
Then let us now our sins down-tread,
And joyfully all appear.
Let's merry be this day,
And let us now both sport and play,
Hang grief, cast care away!—
God send you a happy New Year!

And now with New Year's gifts each friend
Unto each other they do send;
God grant we may all our lives amend,
And that the truth may appear.

Now like the snake, your skin cast off
Of evil thoughts and sin,
And so the year begin:—
God send us a happy New Year!

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 2:1-12 N.T. pg.2

read by Colleen Watters

ANTHEM: Carol of the Drum

Text & Music: Katherine K. Davis

MESSAGE: "Follow That Star!"

We Make Our Response

*HYMN: **93**

When Heaven's Bright with Mystery

SUSSEX CAROL

OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY:

The first nowell

arr. N. Rawsthorne

*DOXOLOGY: **353** (see page 7 of bulletin)

'Tis the Gift to Be Simple

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (VU914)

We Go Forth

*RECESSIONAL HYMN: **96**

Will You Come and See the Light

KELVINGROVE

*BLESSING

***BENEDICTION: 84** (verse 4)

O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word

CANONBURY

O Light of Nations, fill the earth;
our faith and hope and love renew.
Come, lead the peoples to your peace,
as stars once led the way to you.

POSTLUDE:

Let all together praise our God

arr. P. Manz



Please join us for coffee, tea and juice
after the service in the downstairs
auditorium.



Welcome to Worship

We extend a special welcome to all our guests and newcomers. Please sign our guest register and introduce yourself to an usher so that we may help you feel at home. Would you like someone to phone you about St. Andrew's River Heights United Church? Please leave your phone number in the register and a representative of the Fellowship and Pastoral Care Committee will be happy to contact you.

You are welcome to take this bulletin home with you. If not, please place your bulletin in the paper-recycling bin.



Simple Gifts

An Appalachian Shaker Song

Joseph Brackett

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free. 'Tis the
gift to come down where we ought to be. And when we find our-selves in the
place just right, 'Twill be in the val - ley of love and de-light.
When true sim-pli-ci-ty is gained. To bow and to bend we shan't be a-sham'd. To
turn, turn will be our de-light, Till by tur-ning, tur-ing we come round right.

The United Church of Canada

ST. ANDREW'S RIVER HEIGHTS UNITED CHURCH

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Phone: 488-1130 † Fax: 488-1132

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00am-3:00pm

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| Ministers: | All the people of the congregation |
| Clergy: | Lesley Fox Karen Lumley |
| Ministry of Music: | Wes Elias Derek Morphy |
| Interim Sunday School Superintendent: | Tara McCallum |
| Office: | Maggie Zoske Bill Craddock |
| Caretaker: | Lou Jubinville |