

**South Kinloss Presbyterian Church**  
**Christmas Eve 2024**

- + **Musical Prelude**
- + **Welcome**
- + **Lighting the Christ Candle: The Gilchrist-Hawi Family**
- + **Hymn #159 Oh come, all ye faithful (verses 1 &5)**
- + **Prayer of Approach and The Lord's Prayer**  
God of mystery and wonder; on this holy night, the angels sing your praises with joy and we join their chorus. The shepherds welcome your saving love, born in a manger and join them in adoration. Mary and Joseph ponder your promise, cradled in their arms and we join in their love for you. And so we come to praise you, singing with the angels, amazed with the shepherds, cradling the Christ Child in our hearts. Glory to you, O God. *Hear us now as we pray the words Jesus taught us to pray, saying*  
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**
- + **Choir Anthem: On Christmas Night**

- + **Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14, 9:6-7 *The Sign of Immanuel***  
Again, the Lord spoke to Ahaz, "Ask the Lord your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the Lord to the test." Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.
- + **Hymn #149 Away in a manger**
- + **Reading: Matthew 1:18-25 *Joseph Accepts Jesus as His Son***  
This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,

“Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”). When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

+ **Hymn #139 Hark! the herald angels sing**

+ **Reading: Luke 2:8-14 *The Birth of Jesus***

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.”

+ **Hymn #138 While shepherds watched (vs 1, 3, & 6)**

+ **Meditation: Eve**

+ **Choir Anthem: Join The Angels**

+ **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Eternal God; tonight, you come among us in the figure of a baby, a newborn reaching out to us, to bring a smile to our lips and hope to our hearts. Thank you for your tenderness with which you touch our lives. Tonight, as we remember the baby laying in a manger, we pray for peace: Peace in all the places where there is anger or war or fear. Peace in all the hearts that know sorrow or stress. Cradle all these people and places in your love so the world may sleep in heavenly peace this night.

Tonight, as we remember the shepherds coming in haste, and the wise men coming in wonder, open our hearts to reach out to the Christ Child, to receive the gift you offer us in him, even as we offer our love to you in his name. Hear our silent prayers now. [silence].

Bless us in the year ahead so we can share your love with all the lives that touch ours with joy. We pray these and all things in Jesus’ name and for His sake. Amen.

+ **Hymn #153 Joy to the world (verses 1 & 4)**

+ **Benediction**

+ **Candle Lighting**

+ **Hymn #154 Silent Night**

+ **Musical Postlude**