

## The Light of the World Christmas Candlelight Service

*\*Please stand, if able*

*As you enter, please take a candle which will be lit at the end of the service.*

**Prelude** “I saw three ships”  
“Come, all ye shepherds”  
“We three kings”  
“Pastorale”

arr. G. Young  
G. MacMaster

**Introit** “In the bleak mid-winter”  
(vocals: The Muth Family)

### **GOD CREATES LIGHT**

*Lights in the sanctuary are turned off; the first Advent Candle is lit.*

**Genesis 1: 1 – 5 (The Message)** – Read by Kate Borthwick  
**Carol #149** “*Away in a manger*”

### **GOD IS LIGHT**

*The second Advent Candle is lit.*

**2 Chronicles 7: 1 – 3 (The Message)**

**\*Carol #138** “*While shepherds watched*”

### **GOD SENDS GOD’S LIGHT TO THE NATIONS**

*The third Advent Candle is lit.*

**Isaiah 60: 1 – 3, 19 – 20 (The Message)**

**\*Carol #179** “*Arise, shine out, your light has come*”



### **Benediction**

*During “Silent Night”, the Christ Candle is used to light the readers’ candles, which are in turn used to light the candles of the congregants, until the sanctuary is lit with the candles of each person.*

### **Postlude** – “Silent Night”

(guitar: Alexander Muth)

(violin: Isaac Muth)

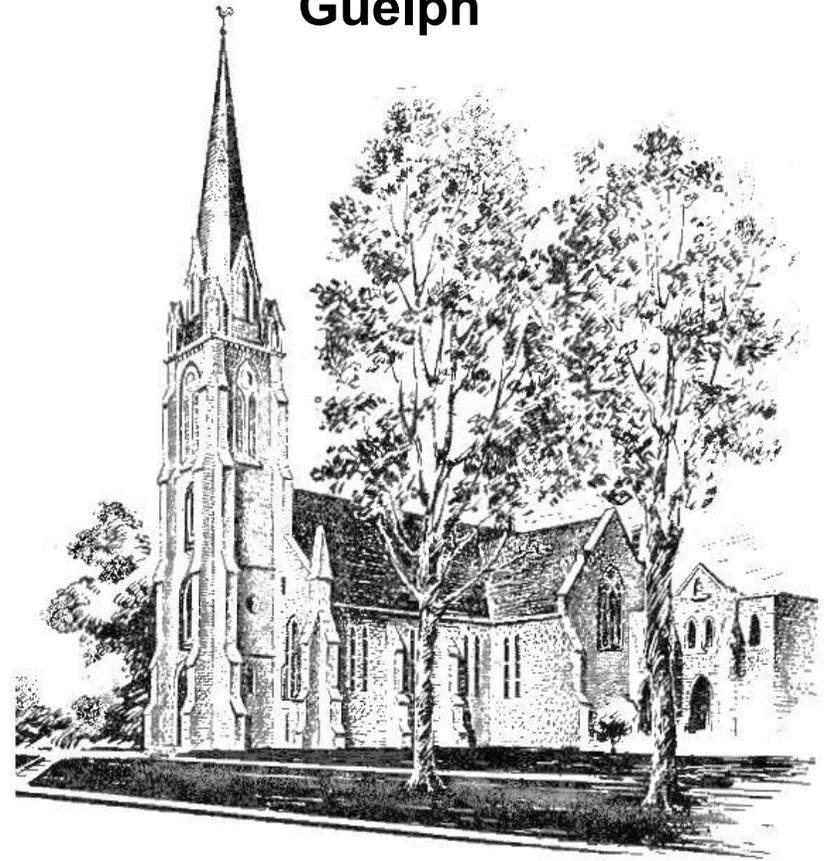
*Please extinguish your candle as you leave and place extinguished candles and holders in the boxes at the exits.*

# THE *Wonder* OF CHRISTMAS

Are you a visitor this evening, or a newcomer to the Guelph area? If so, welcome to St. Andrew’s! Christmas Eve is often a time when people come to church for the first time, or the first time in a long time. We recognize that people here tonight come for many reasons. It may be nostalgia, a desire for God, curiosity, hope for a new beginning, wonder, or something else that brings them. We affirm that the ancient Bible story speaks to each life, saying “with God, all things are possible.”

May the blessing of the Christ child will be with you and all those you love and care for. We hope to see you again.

Christmas Eve  
**St. Andrew's  
Presbyterian Church  
Guelph**



Let your  
*light*  
shine.  
Matthew 5:16

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**Rev. John Borthwick**, Minister  
**Fred Gingrich**, Organist  
**Rev. Dr. Robert Spencer**, Minister in Association  
**Laurissa Di Ilio**, Director of Youth and Children's Ministry  
**Shainna Poulin**, Administrative Assistant

**\*Doxology** Old 100th

*Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

**\*Offering Prayer**

**Prayers of the People**

And we are bold to continue our prayers,  
saying the prayer that Jesus taught us, 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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN.**

**THE LIGHT OF HEAVEN**

**Revelation 21: 1 – 5, 22 – 25 (The Message)**

**\*Carol #162 “On Christmas night, all Christians sing”**

**JESUS COMES AS THE LIGHT**

*The fourth Advent Candle is lit.*

**John 1: 1 – 3; John 8: 12 (The Message)**

**\*Lighting of the Christ Candle:  
(See Insert)**

*The Spencer Family*



**\*Carol #159 “Oh come, all ye faithful”**

**WE PREFER THE DARKNESS**

*The four candles of the Advent Wreath are extinguished.*

**John 3: 19 – 21 (The Message)**

**\*Carol #148 “It came upon the midnight clear”**

**JESUS DESCENDS INTO DARKNESS**

*The Christ Candle is extinguished, leaving the sanctuary dark except for the decorative candles.*

**Matthew 27: 45 – 46 (The Message)**

**\*Carol #153 “Joy to the world”**

**GOD SHINES GOD’S LIGHT UPON US**

*The Christ Candle is lit again.*

**Psalms 67: 1 – 3 (New Revised Standard Version)**

**\*Carol #141 Good Christians, all rejoice”**

**Offering**

**Offertory** “Lo, how a rose”

(Instrumental: The Muth Family)

# Christmas Eve/ Christmas Day



*Produced by Presbyterian World Service & Development  
Written by The Rev. Jeffrey Murray*

- L:** The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light!
- P:** **The grace of God has dawned upon the world with healing for all.**
- L:** Lord, in your mercy, let your hope shine  
in the night of oppression and turmoil.
- P:** **Our God, let your light shine in the darkness!**
- L:** Lord, in your mercy, let your peace shine  
for the families that wander across land, water and wilderness  
to find refuge from war and persecution.
- P:** **Our God, let your light shine in the darkness!**
- L:** Lord, in your mercy, let joy shine  
on the homeless  
who keep watch by night in the fields,  
in stables,  
in parks and in our streets.
- P:** **Our God, let your light shine in the darkness!**
- L:** Lord, in your mercy, may your love shine for  
the lowly mother and child,  
for the marginalized and abandoned.
- P:** **Christ is born! Christ is our light that shines  
in the darkness,  
and the darkness will not overcome  
the Light of the World.**

*(Light the Christ candle.)*

