



Christmas Eve Worship
at the
Covenanter Church

1989 Grand Pré Road, Grand Pré, NS

COVENANTER CHURCH, GRAND PRÉ
Orchard Valley Pastoral Charge
The United Church of Canada

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Tuesday, December 24, 2019 – 11:00 pm

Christmas Eve

Prelude Music

Welcome and Appreciation

Centering in Silence

Introit (solo): “O Holy Night” vss 1, 2
(Caroline Burton)

Poem: “In Search of our Kneeling Places”
(by Ann Weems)

Call to Worship:

One: We waited.

All: And imagined a saviour.

One: We imagined power.

**All: One like the world but stronger
and on our side.**

One: We imagined a king on a strong white
horse wielding a sword.

All: We got a baby born in a stable among the livestock.

One: We imagined the work done for us through the destruction of our enemies.

All: We receive a baby who will teach us our calling to seek reconciliation and to love enthusiastically and completely.

One: Praise be to God for the unexpected babe of Bethlehem.

All: Praise to the wisdom of love. Amen!

Carol: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

HOPE

Lighting the Candle of Hope

Reading: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Reflection: Listen

Carol: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

PEACE

Lighting the Candle of Peace

Reading: Luke 2:1-7

Reflection: Scents

Carol: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Prayer of Intercession

Solo: "Gesù Bambino"
(Caroline Burton)

JOY

Lighting the Candle of Joy

Reading: Luke 2:8-14

Reflective

Reading: Gabriel's Annunciation

Carol: "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"

LOVE

Lighting the Candle of Love

Reading: Luke 2:15-20

Reflection: Touch

Anthem: "Still, Still, Still"
Covenanter Choir and Orchard Valley Chimes

CHRIST

Lighting the Christ Candle

Reading: John 1:1-5, 10-14

Reflection: **Light/Sight**

Carol: "Joy to The World"

Prayer for Christmas Eve:

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ your light shines in our darkness, giving joy in our sorrow and presence in our loneliness. Fill us with the mystery of your Word made flesh, until our hearts overflow with praise and joy, for he is the beginning and the end of all that exists, living forevermore. Amen.

Solo: "O Holy Night" vs. 3

Poem: "Against Our Better Judgement"
(Ann Weems)

Words of Blessing:

Go out into Christmas Day in the peace of Jesus Christ. May his peace, which lightens the soul with faith, lifts the spirit with hope and leavens the world with love, be yours tonight and always. And the blessing of

God – Creator, Son and Spirit – go with you, and stay with you, now and always. Amen.

Carol: "Silent Night, Holy Night"

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.

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.

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.

(reprise, a cappella)

Silent night, Holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin, mother and child

Holy infant, tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Postlude



Welcome!

A warm welcome to all who gather for worship. If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book.

In the spirit of this late evening Christmas Eve Service, we ask that we all endeavour to keep noise to a minimum. Please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.



Special thanks to:

Presiders: Rev'd. Don Sellsted
Rev'd. Timothy J. McFarland

**Organist/
Choir Director:** Ken Hassell

Choir: Covenanter Choir
Orchard Valley United
Church Chimes

Soloist: Caroline Burton

Monitor: Jim Keech

Greeter: Betty Curry

A Retiring Offering is taken at the door for the continued maintenance of The Covenanter Church.

Thank you to Brian Twohey for making washroom facilities available at his house, next door to the church.



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of the United Church of Canada**
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