



DURBANVILLE METHODIST CHURCH

**WELCOMES YOU TO OUR
CAROL SERVICE**



17 DECEMBER 2023

09H00

Dear Friends

Thank you for joining us for the Carol Service, as we pause to listen to the Gospels telling the Christmas story and to sing Christmas carols that encapsulate and express the joy, devotion, and awe-inspiring scenes of the nativity of Jesus.

As we approach Christmas, let us take a moment to reflect on the importance of celebrating our shared humanity with Christ. This time of year is a reminder that we are all connected by our faith and our love for one another. It is easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the season, but I encourage you to take a step back and remember what this time of year is truly about. It is about coming together as a community, sharing our love and our blessings with one another, and celebrating that God took on our humanity and experienced life as a human, living amongst humans. In Jesus' birth, God says it is good to be human.

As we look forward to the coming of the reign of God in its fullness, we can trust that Jesus will come again just as Jesus has come into our past and into our suffering world. Let us remember that we are all children of God, and that we are all called to love and serve one another.

This holiday season, let us celebrate our shared humanity with Christ, and let us remember the true meaning of Christmas.

Joy and Peace

Vuyelwa



HALLELUJAH (CHRISTMAS)

**I've heard about this baby boy, Who's come to earth to bring us joy
And I just want to sing this song to you
It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth
The minor fall, the major lift, With every breath I'm singing Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah**

**A couple came to Bethlehem, Expecting child, they searched the inn
To find a place for You were coming soon
There was no room for them to stay
So in a manger filled with hay, God's only Son was born, oh Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah**

**The shepherds left their flocks by night, To see this baby wrapped in light
A host of angels led them all to You
It was just as the angels said
You'll find Him in a manger bed, Immanuel and Savior, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah**

**A star shown bright up in the east, To Bethlehem, the wisemen three
Came many miles and journeyed long for You
And to the place at which You were
Their frankincense and gold and myrrh, They gave to You and cried out Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah**

**I know You came to rescue me, This baby boy would grow to be
A man and one day die for me and you
My sins would drive the nails in You
That rugged cross was my cross, too, Still every breath You drew was Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah**

O HOLY NIGHT

O holy night the stars are brightly shining
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn

Fall on your knees ,O hear the angel voices,
O night divine, O night when Christ was born,
O night divine, O night O night divine

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming
Here came the wise men from Orient land
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger
In all our trials born to be our Friend

He knows our need, To our weakness is no stranger
Behold your King, Before Him lowly bend
Behold your King, Before Him lowly bend

Truly He taught us to love one another
His law is love and His gospel is peace
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother
And in His name all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we
Let all within us praise His holy name

Christ is the Lord, O praise His name forever
His power and glory, Evermore proclaim
His power and glory, Evermore proclaim

WELCOME TO DURBANVILLE METHODIST CHURCH

CALYPSO CAROL

**See Him lying on a bed of straw
A draughty stable with an open door
Mary cradling the babe she bore
The Prince of glory is His name**

**O now carry me to Bethlehem
To see the Lord appear to men
Just as poor as was the stable then
The Prince of glory when He came**

**Star of silver, sweep across the skies
Show where Jesus in the manger lies
Shepherds, swiftly from your stupor rise
To see the Saviour of the world**

**Angels, sing again the song you sang
Bring God's glory to the heart of man
Sing that Bethlehem's little baby can
Be salvation to the soul**

**Mine are riches, from your poverty
From your innocence, eternity
Mine, forgiveness by your death for me
Child of sorrow for my joy**

Michael Perry

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OUR CALL TO WORSHIP TODAY:

Our brother and friend, Jesus Christ

He came to us. Born of a woman,
He took on flesh and blood like us.

Our brother and friend, Jesus Christ

He lived among us as one of us,
He felt compassion and kindness,
He endured hardship.

Our brother and friend, Jesus Christ

He lives in us and we in Him. He will come again for us,
He will bring us to His glory and honour,
He will welcome us and celebrate with us.

Let us rejoice and celebrate our shared humanity with Christ.

ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

**Angels from the realms of glory
Wing your flight o'er all the earth
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth
Come and worship, Come and worship,
Worship Christ the new-born King**

**Shepherds in the field abiding
Watching o'er your flocks by night
God with man is now residing
Yonder shines the infant light
Come and worship, Come and worship,
Worship Christ the new-born King**

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel
You are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Emmanuel, Emmanuel
Come have Your way among us
We welcome you here Lord Jesus
Come have Your way among us
We welcome you here Lord Jesus**

**Come and worship, worship Christ the new-born King
God is with us, even now His love is here
His love is here**

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel
Emmanuel, Emmanuel**

PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE JOY

How does a weary world practice joy?

By dancing and celebrating with family and friends.

By hanging Christmas lights and holding sleepy babies.

By singing loudly and looking for good news.

By telling the story of Jesus and showing up for our community.

There are a million ways to practice joy.

So today we light the candle of joy as a reminder and a charge.

(Light a pink candle)

With God's help, may we bring joy into a weary world.

Amen.

OFFERING

OUR GOD SAVES & JOY TO THE WORLD

**In the name of the Father, in the name of the Son
In the name of the Spirit, Lord we come
We're gathered together, to lift up Your Name
To call on our Saviour, to fall on Your grace**

**Hear the joyful sound of our offering
As Your saints bow down, as Your people sing
We will rise with You, Lifted on Your wings
And the world will see that**

**Our God saves, Our God saves
There is hope, In Your name**

**Mourning turns, To songs of praise
Our God saves, Our God Saves**

**Joy to the world the Lord is come, Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and heaven and nature sing**

**Joy to the world the Saviour reigns, Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy**

**He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love
And wonders, and wonders of His love**

BLESSING OF THE OFFERING

ADVENT MESSAGE HOW DOES A WEARY WORLD REJOICE WE CELEBRATE OUR HUMANITY

LESSON 1 CHRIST'S BIRTH FORETOLD BY THE PROPHET ISAIAH

ISAIAH 9:1A, 6-7

9 [a] Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

**⁶ 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.**

**⁷ 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.**

COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS

**Come Thou long-expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the saints Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart**

**Born Thy people to deliver
Born a Child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne**

THE FIRST NOEL

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep

Noel noel noel noel
Born is the King of Israel

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night

And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far
To seek for a King was their intent
And to follow the star wherever it went

This star drew nigh to the north-west
Over Bethlehem it took its rest
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay

Then entered in those wise men three
Full reverently on bended knee
And offered there in His presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
That hath made heaven and earth of nought
And with His blood mankind hath bought

LESSON 2

THE ANGEL GABRIEL APPEARS TO THE VIRGIN MARY

LUKE 1: 26 – 38

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

²⁶In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

²⁹Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

³⁴"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

³⁵The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called^[a] the Son of God. ³⁶Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷For no word from God will ever fail."

³⁸"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

a. Luke 1:35 Or *So the child to be born will be called holy,*

MARY DID YOU KNOW

Mary did you know That your baby boy Would one day walk on water
Mary did you know That your baby boy Would save our sons and daughters
Did you know That your baby boy Has come to make you new
This Child that you delivered
Will soon deliver you

Mary did you know That your baby boy Would give sight to the blind man
Mary did you know That your baby boy Would calm a storm with His hand
Did you know That your baby boy Has walked where angels trod
And when you kiss your little baby
You've kissed the face of God
Oh Mary did you know
(Mary did you know)

The blind will see
The deaf will hear
The dead will live again
The lame will leap
The dumb will speak
The praises of the Lamb

Oh Mary did you know That your baby boy Is Lord of all creation
Mary did you know That your baby boy Will one day rule the nations
Did you know That your baby boy Is heaven's perfect Lamb
And the sleeping Child you're holding
Is the great I Am

LESSON 3

THE SHEPHERDS GO TO THE MANGER

LUKE 2: 8-18

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED

**While shepherds watched their flocks by night
All seated on the ground
The angel of the Lord came down
And glory shone around**

**Fear not said he for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind
Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind**

**To you in David's town this day
Is born of David's line
A Saviour who is Christ the Lord
And this shall be the sign**

**The heavenly babe you there shall find
To human view displayed
All meanly wrapped in swaddling bands
And in a manger laid**

**All glory be to God on high
And on the earth be peace
Goodwill hence forth from heav'n to men
Begin and never cease**

AWAY IN A MANGER

**Away in a manger no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head
The stars in the bright sky
Looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay**

**The Cattle are lowing, the baby awakes
But the little Lord Jesus no crying He makes
I love Thee, Lord Jesus,
Looked down from the sky
And stay by my side, until morning is nigh**

**Be near me Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray
Bless all the dear children
In Thy tender care
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there**

LESSON 4

THE WISE MEN ARE LED BY THE STAR TO JESUS

MATTHEW 2: 1-2; 7-11

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi^[a] from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

a. Matthew 2:1 Traditionally *wise men*

SILENT NIGHT

**Silent night holy night
All is calm I'm singin' all is bright
'Round yon virgin mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Oh sleep in heavenly peace**

**Silent night holy night
Shepherds quake oh at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia
Christ the Savior is born
Christ the Savior is born**

**Silent night holy night
Son of God oh 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**

LESSON 5
JOHN UNFOLDS THE GREAT MYSTERY OF THE WAY
GOD BECAME HUMAN IN JESUS

JOHN 1: 1 – 5, 9 – 14

The Word Became Flesh

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was with God in the beginning. **3** Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. **4** In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome^[a] it.

9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. **10** He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. **11** He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. **12** Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— **13** children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

a. John 1:5 Or *understood*

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

**Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born king
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With the angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn king**

**Christ by highest heaven adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the godhead see
Hail the incarnate deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus our Immanuel
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn king**

**Hail the heaven-born prince of peace
Hail the son of righteousness
Light and life to all he brings
Risen with healing in his wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn king**

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

**O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold him, born the king of angels**

**O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord**

**True God of true God, light of light eternal,
Lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb
Son of the Father, begotten, not created**

**See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze
We too will thither, bend our joyful footsteps**

**Lo, star-led chieftains, Magi, Christ adoring
Offer him incense, gold, myrrh
We to the Christ-child, bring our heart's oblations:**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above
'Glory to God, in the highest'**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

**Angels we have heard on high
Singing sweetly through the night
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their brave delight**

**Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo**

**Shepherd, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tiding did you hear?**

**Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing'
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the new born King**

Edward Shippen Barnes | James Chadwick
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THANK YOU

BENEDICTION

**May the Source of life hold you in the faith; the Word of life speak clearly in truth
around you; and Breath of life, of grace, of wisdom, sing in your inmost being this
day and all your days. Amen.**

LISTEN TO THE SOUND

**Listen to the sound of the angels singing their gospel song.
Listen to the joyful news they're bringing: Jesus has come!
Glory to God in the highest heaven, peace on the earth.
Hope is rising, fear subsiding, where the song is heard.**

**So let your gospel song be heard,
raise your voice in all the earth;
join the angels singing 'glory'.
Let your festive anthem sound;
hope and joy and peace abound,
as we sing the Christmas story.**

**Come with a song of celebration, come to your king.
Fall to your knees in adoration and worship him.
He is the Lord of earth and heaven, God's only son.
Lift up a shout to all creation: Jesus has come!**

Sing, sing, sing, to the King, King, King, who has come!

We at Durbanville Methodist Church, would like to thank each and every one of you, for attending today's service with us.

We would like to remind you of our services over the festive season.

Sunday	24 December	09h00	In Person
Sunday	24 December	23h00	In Person
Monday	25 December	08h00	In Person
Sunday	31 December	09h00	ONLINE ONLY

The church office will be closed from 22 December 2023, and will reopen on 2 January 2024.





DURBANVILLE METHODIST CHURCH

CHURCH OFFICE TIMES

**MONDAY – THURSDAY
08H00 – 15H00**

**FRIDAY
08H00 – 13H00**

021 976 0595

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU OVER OUR FESTIVE SERVICES