

# The prophet's message

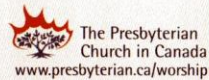
to the community of Judah, struggling to re-establish itself after its years of exile, contains a bright vision of hope. Their scattered children will return, their hearts will be radiantly glad.

Lively images of light, abundance, comfort and prosperity assured a despairing people that their God had not abandoned them to the cruelties of international power politics. Rather, the poetry spoke of the restored community as a centre that would gather the best and brightest of the nations.

The early church and Christian tradition saw in these words a poetic reflection of the radiant joy that accompanies the incarnation of God's light to the world in Jesus Christ. Even today, we believe that God-with-us, Emmanuel, brings light to the darkness of despair, whether that be of a people battered by war or a heart beaten down by depression.

Like dawn light, God's glory has risen upon us.

The Rev. Dr. Patricia Dutcher-Walls is Dean of Studies and Professor of Hebrew Bible at Vancouver School of Theology.





MacNab Street Presbyterian Church  
Epiphany – January 5, 2014

GATHERING

*\*Those who are able, please stand*

PRELUDE

\*ENTRY OF THE WORD

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, shine, for our light has come  
**The glory of the Lord is risen upon us**

Elder, Dora Anie

Nations, come to this light  
**Come to the brightness of this dawn**

See and be radiant  
**Thrill and rejoice**

Let us bring treasure  
**and proclaim the praise of the Lord**

\*PRAISE Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Hymn # 176

PRAYER OF APPROACH

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**You know us, O God,  
more than we care to admit.  
We are too much like Herod: full of fear,  
worried about possible rivals for attention,  
honour and influence.  
And so we lack in wonder.  
We lack in joy.  
O that we might be like the magi, so free to receive  
the simple gift that comes in Jesus.  
Forgive us, O God, and keep coaxing us by your love.  
Keep pulling us, we pray, into joy.  
Christ in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\* GLORIA

Hymn # #298

**Glory be to God the Father, glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Spirit, God almighty, Three-in-One!  
Glory, glory, glory, glory, while eternal ages run.**

\*PRAISE We Three Kings

Hymn #173

\*THE PEACE

Minister: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
People: **And also with you.**  
**With one another: The Peace of Christ.**

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 60: 1-6 (p.766 OT)

PSALTER: Psalm 72 vs 1-7; 10-14 Refrain Dora Anie

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12 (p.2NT)

SERMON: "Drawn by a Star" Rev. Cathy Stewart

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

\*PRAISE All poor ones and humble  
(from The Oxford Book of Carols)

*All poor ones, and humble  
All lame ones, who stumble,  
Come haste ye, nor feel ye afraid;  
For Jesus, our treasure, with love past all measure  
In lowly poor stable was laid.  
Though wise men who found him  
Laid rich gifts around him, yet oxen they gave him their hay:  
And Jesus in beauty accepted their duty; Contented in  
manger he lay.  
Then haste we to show him The praises we owe him;  
Our service he ne'er can despise:  
whose love still is able to show us that stable  
Where softly in manger he lies.*

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

\*DOXOLOGY

**All: 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.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

APOSTLES' CREED #539

\*COMMUNION HYMN How Brightly Beams the Morning Star-vs 1 #180

COMMUNION LITUGY FOR EPIPHANY

(The communion liturgy is based on *A New Zealand Prayer Book*)

Welcome to the people of Christ; Welcome to this holy table;  
Welcome to you who are called to be Christ's body, Christ's work in the world.  
Welcome to you whose baptism makes you salt of the earth and light to the world.

**Amen. Christ is our light, the joy of our salvation.**

Christ is the good shepherd who knows and cares for every one of the sheep in different folds.

**In Christ there is no longer male nor female, rich or poor, Greek or Jew.**

**In Christ the poor are blessed, the simple truth hidden from the wise.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

You said, "Let there be light; there was light.

**Your light shines on in our darkness.**

For you the earth has brought forth life in all its forms.

**You have created us to hear your Word, to do your will, and to be fulfilled in your love.**

It is right to thank you. **With all your witnesses who surround us on every side, countless as heaven's stars, we praise you for our creation and our calling, with loving and joyful hearts.**

*Holy holy holy Lord (sung)*

You sent your son to be for us

**the way we need to follow and the truth we need to know.**

You sent your son to give his life to release us from our sin.

**You send your Holy Spirit to strengthen and to guide, to warn and to revive your church.**

On the night of his arrest . . . (words of institution)

The living bread is broken for the life of the world (*bread broken*)

The life of Christ is poured out that we might have life (*wine poured*)

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God.

**God of the past and present, we your people remember your son.**

**We thank you for his cross and rising again;**

**We take courage from his ascension;**

**We look for his coming in glory**

**And in him we give ourselves to you.**

**We proclaim the mystery of faith**

*Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again (sung)*

**Send your Holy Spirit, that we who receive Christ's body may indeed be the body of Christ**

**And we who share this cup may draw strength from the vine that is Christ.**

*Sharing of the meal*

Prayer after communion

\*PRAISE How Brightly Beams the Morning Star -vs 2 #180

\*SENDING FORTH AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**WELCOME TO MACNAB!**

We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning.

***MacNab is a child friendly church. The Church School & Nursery is located in the building next door known as the Church House. Children who wish to stay with their parents for the church service will find colouring materials in the Narthex (entrance) Ushers will be happy to assist with any questions.***

Everyone is invited to Johnston Hall following the worship service for refreshments and fellowship.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

- ❖ Elsie Drover in St. Joseph's hospital recovering from a fall
- ❖ Bob & Jessie Bigelow
- ❖ Don & Carole MacVicar's Inner City Ministry
- ❖ All who are grieving, facing health uncertainties, lonely or jobless

**ASSISTING US TODAY:**

Greeters: John & Lynda Oliver  
 Ushers: Mary Kerr, Marie Fennell, Anne Hunter, Merle Jones  
 Coffee Servers: Grace Maynard, Jean Hartman, Gerda Wolf, Lynda Milmine  
 Duty Elder: Dora Anie

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH** to the congregation for the Christmas gift basket. Baskets are so much fun! 😊 Cathy

**ASSISTING US NEXT WEEK**

Greeters: Billy Stanfield, Mina Beatt  
 Ushers: Ken & Diane Hopkins, Don & Sheila Campbell  
 Coffee Servers: Doris Ann Hyde-Etherington, Richard & Jeanne Etherington  
 Duty Elder: Irene Duffey

**COFFEE AND TEA:** Surely there are a few people in this congregation who could come in at 9:45 a.m. once or twice a month to set up the coffee!!! You are needed! Seriously!! Please speak to Maureen Wright, Juanita Taylor, or Kevin or Alex, as soon as possible.

**A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held on **Sunday, January 19** after worship. Brown bag lunch. Agenda: small group discussion of the 5 options for the future, and opportunity to ask further questions. Possibly one additional deacon vote. Every single person is welcome and encouraged to attend!

**DEADLINE FOR ANNUAL REPORTS:**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22ND**

**THIS WEEK AT MACNAB:**

|              |               |                |                                   |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Mon</b>   | <b>Jan 6</b>  | <b>4:00pm</b>  | Out of the Cold – Johnston Hall   |
|              |               | <b>8:00pm</b>  | RSCD-Johnston Hall                |
| <b>Tues</b>  | <b>Jan 7</b>  | <b>4:00pm</b>  | Out of the Cold – Johnston Hall   |
|              |               | <b>7:30pm</b>  | RSCD-Johnston Hall                |
| <b>Wed</b>   | <b>Jan 8</b>  | <b>7:00pm</b>  | <b>Session - Parlour</b>          |
|              |               | <b>7:00pm</b>  | RSCD-Johnston Hall                |
| <b>Thurs</b> | <b>Jan 9</b>  | <b>7:30pm</b>  | <b>Choir Practice - Chancel</b>   |
| <b>Sat</b>   | <b>Jan 11</b> | <b>4:00PM</b>  | Out of the Cold Program           |
| <b>Sun</b>   | <b>Jan 12</b> | <b>10:30am</b> | <b>Baptism of the Lord Sunday</b> |

**LOOKING AHEAD:**

|            |               |                |                               |
|------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Sun</b> | <b>Jan 19</b> | <b>11:30am</b> | <b>Congregational Meeting</b> |
|------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------------------|



**MacNab Prayer**

Loving God, by your Spirit the congregation of MacNab was formed, 160 years ago.

This congregation has loved and served the city of Hamilton and the world in many ways over the years.

Now we are in a new place and we need the help of your Spirit to see what you are calling us to do and be.

Open our eyes and our hearts, we pray, so we can, Like Abraham and Sarah, find life in this new land. Help us both “hold on to what is good” and let go of what we no longer need.

Christ, in your mercy, hear our prayer.



**ROBBIE BURNS NIGHT**  
***Celebrating Scotland's Immortal Bard***

***Friday, January 24, 2014 - 6:30 p.m.***  
***In Johnston Hall***

***Dinner, Music & Entertainment***  
***\$20 per person***



Tickets on sale during Coffee Hour in Johnston Hall  
 Or  
 Contact Gerald Smink 905 574-2862 or J'ina Middleton 905 522-2151

MacNab Street Presbyterian Church  
 116 MacNab Street South, Hamilton, Ontario L8P 3C3  
 (905) 529-6896 [macnabsec@cogeco.ca](mailto:macnabsec@cogeco.ca)  
[www.macnabpresbyterian.ca](http://www.macnabpresbyterian.ca)  
 Interim Minister: Rev. Cathy Stewart  
 Director of Music: Dr. Christiaan Teeuwesen

**PSALM 72:1-7; 10-14**

Give the king your justice, O God,  
 and your righteousness to a king's son.  
**May he judge your people with righteousness,  
 and your poor with justice.**

May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,  
 and the hills, in righteousness.  
**May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,  
 give deliverance to the needy,  
 and crush the oppressor.**

May he live while the sun endures,  
 and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.  
**May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,  
 like showers that water the earth.**

In his days may righteousness flourish  
 and peace abound,  
**until the moon is no more. R**

May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles  
 render him tribute,  
 may the kings of Sheba and Seba  
 bring gifts.  
**May all the kings fall down before him,  
 all nations give him service. R**

For he delivers the needy when they call,  
 the poor and those who have no helper.  
**He has pity on the weak, and the needy,  
 and saves the lives of the needy.**

From oppression and violence he redeems their life;  
**and precious is their blood in his sight. R**

