

T'was the first Sunday after Christmas

and all thru the church, not a creature was stirring,
oh well, maybe a mouse!

The gifts have been unwrapped and put away,
decorations have come down, the nativity scene
put away, and Christmas has come and gone for
another year.

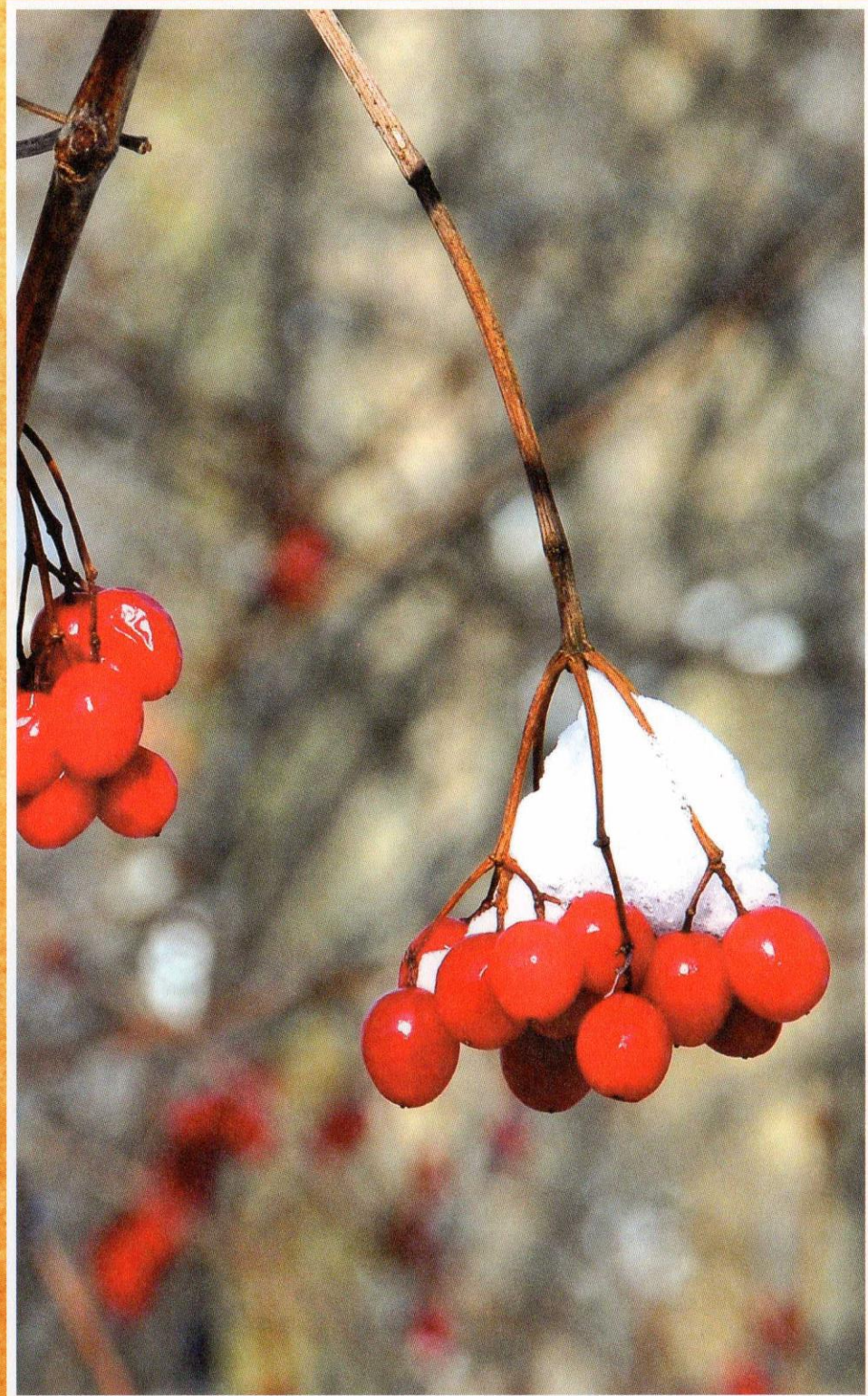
The hustle and bustle of the season has left us all a
little tired and when the Christmas bills replace the
Christmas cards we are in anything but a merry and
worshipful mood. But then the psalmist speaks and
reminds us that we are to continue praising God
from the highest heaven.

"Praise the Lord! Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and
women alike, old and young together! Praise the
Lord!"

So let us raise our voices and Praise the Lord for the
joyful gift of the Christ child is not just for Christmas
day but lives in our hearts all year through.

The Rev. Kim Barlow is minister at St. Peter's in Stanley, NB.

Photo by Bonnie Sitter, Exeter, ON



MacNab Street Presbyterian Church
December 28, 2014-Christmas 1
GATHERING

**Those who are able, please stand*

* ENTRY OF THE WORD

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Isaiah 61)

Elder, John Shields

We exult for joy in Yahweh

Our souls rejoice in our God

Who has clothed us in garments of salvation

Wrapped us in a cloak of saving justice

Like a bridegroom wearing his garland,

Like a bride adorned in her jewels.

As the earth sends up its shoots

And a garden makes seeds sprout,

So the Lord makes saving justice and praise

Spring up in the sight of all nations.

Come, let us worship God together.

*CAROL 135 Christians Awake

PRAYER OF APPROACH

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,**

by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

Enfold us in your mercy and forgive us,

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways

to the glory of your name.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts, debtors)

*CAROL 139 Hark the Herald Angels Sing

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.

*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

HEBREW SCRIPTURE Isaiah 62: 1-3 (P.768 OT)

EPISTLE LESSON Galatians 4:4-7 (p.200 NT)

*HYMN #134 Lord who was rich

GOSPEL Luke 2:22-40 (p.60) NT)

THE WORD in conversation - Simeon and Anna ponder

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*CAROL 158 The Hands that First Held Mary's Child

*PSALTER PSALM #148, Refrain #1

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC Still, Still, Still Austrian Trad.- Arr W. Ehret
Emily Colbert-Soloist

*DOXOLOGY

All: Praise him all creatures here below;

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

**Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

John Shields

*CAROL 141 Good Christians All rejoice

*BENEDICTION & THREE-FOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE (*please remain seated*)

WELCOME TO MACNAB

We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors.

Special thanks to Gerald Smink for his ministry of music this morning.

Thank you also to Jack and Joyce Brown for being Simeon and Anna for us today.

MacNab is a child friendly church. The Church School program will resume January 11th. In the meantime colouring materials are provided in the Narthex (entrance)

Hearing assistance is also available. Ushers will be happy to assist with any questions.

ASSISTING US TODAY

Church School: Lynda Milmine

Greeters Bill Stanfield

Ushers: Jim Myers, Myrtle Inwood,
Claire Salmon, Myrna Cumberbatch

Coffee Servers Bill & Maureen Wright, Bob & Marion Cameron

Duty Elder: John Shields

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- ❖ Archie McQuillie in Joseph Brant Hospital
- ❖ Ena McCullough in St. Joseph's Hospital recovering from a fall
- ❖ Shirley Humphries in St Joseph's Hospital
- ❖ Ethel Pfander in St Joseph's Hospital
- ❖ Elsie Drover at St Joseph's Villa
- ❖ Our nation and our broken world
- ❖ The Search Committee
- ❖ Don & Carole MacVicar's Inner City Ministry
- ❖ All who are grieving, facing health uncertainties, lonely or jobless

THANK YOU! To the Congregation for the lovely Christmas baskets that were delivered to each of the staff this past week – and to the busy elves who packaged and delivered them!

OFFICE HOURS:

Tues, Wed: 8:30am-12:30pm

ASSISTING US NEXT WEEK

Church School: Church School program resumes January 11

Greeters: Jean Hartman, Grace Maynard, Gerda Wolf

Ushers: Alex Abraham, Lila Stanfield, Doug & Nancy Coutts

Coffee Servers: Frank & Irene Mills, Harry & Annette Callaghan

Duty Deacon: Lila Stanfield

THIS WEEK AT MACNAB:

Mon	Dec 29	4:00pm	Out of the Cold-Johnston Hall
		7-8:30pm	Over-comers-Church House
Thurs	Jan 1	HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!	
Sat	Jan 3	4:00pm	Out of the Cold-Johnston Hall
Sun	Jan 4	10:30am	Epiphany Sunday

GIFTS THAT REALLY DO KEEP ON GIVING!

Your special Christmas Offering gifts will be used throughout the coming year by our Mission and Service Committee to respond to the needs of our community, and to spread God's love in tangible ways throughout the city of Hamilton, across Canada, and around the world.

Thank you in advance for your generosity to those who need it most.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT –DECEMBER 28, 2014

Precious treasure remains in the house of the wise, but the fool devours it.

PSALM 148 Refrain 1

Heav'n and earth and all creation, praise and magnify God's name.

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;

praise the Lord in the heights!

**Praise the Lord, all the angels,
praise the Lord, all the host of heaven!**

Praise the Lord, sun and moon;

praise the Lord, all you shining stars!

praise the Lord, you highest heavens,

and you waters above the heavens!

**Let them praise the name of the Lord,
who commanded and they were created,
who established them forever and ever,
and fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed. R**

Praise the Lord from the earth.

**You sea monsters and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling God's command!**

Mountains and all hills,

fruit trees and all cedars!

**Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!**

Rulers of the earth and all peoples,

leaders and all judges of the earth!

Young men and women alike,

old and young together!

**Let them praise the name of the Lord,
whose name alone is exalted,
whose glory is above earth and heaven. R**

The Lord has raised up a horn for the people,

praise for all the faithful,

for the people of Israel who are close to their God.

Praise the Lord! R