

"And having been warned

in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road." (Matthew 2:12)

Having caught sight of authentic kingship in Bethlehem, the stargazers felt no need to retrace their steps to consult with King Herod in Jerusalem on their way home.

The humble scene they encountered in Bethlehem put everything to shame they had seen in any palace.

In a baby who could not even speak
they saw the Word of God.

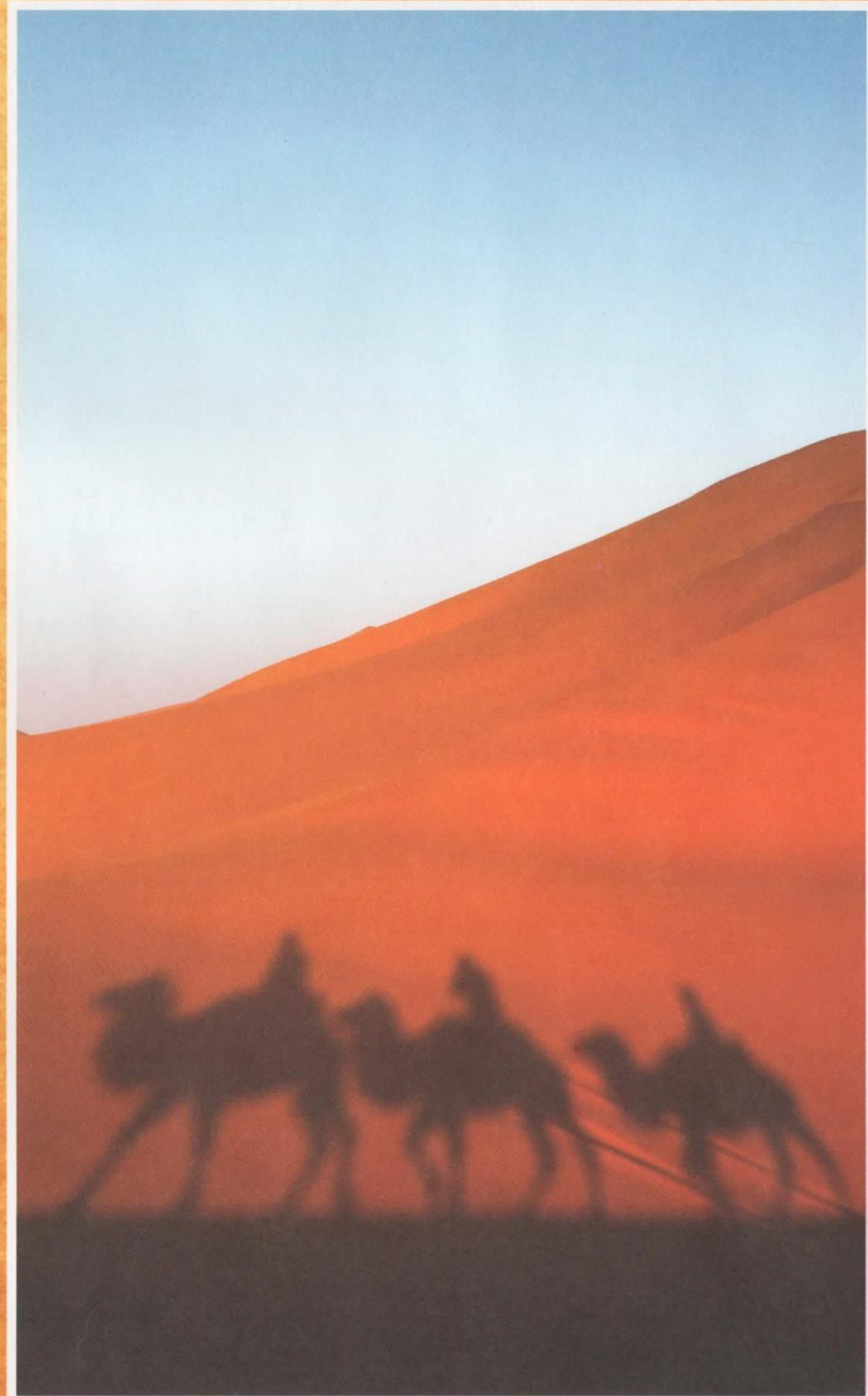
In an infant nestled in a feedbox
they saw enthroned the King of kings.

In the poverty and simplicity of a cattle-stall,
their faith led them to understand
that there was a new and better power
at work in the world.

In their faith we come to understand a pattern of faith
for all of us.

Faith calls us to find Christ in the common and
the ordinary:

to find the Word of God in human words,
to be born to a deeper life through ordinary water,
to taste the grace of God in common bread and wine,
to find the Son of God in one another.



**MacNab Street Presbyterian Church
January 4, 2015 – Epiphany Sunday**

GATHERING

**Those who are able, please stand*

* ENTRY OF THE WORD

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Isaiah 60)

Deacon, Lila Stanfield

Arise, shine, for our light has come

The glory of the Lord is risen upon us

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION -UNISON

You know us, O God.

We are not so sure we would have been like the magi,

willing to drop everything

and go on a journey

following a star,

paying attention to some light in the night sky.

We don't always even notice,

Let alone follow,

The light that You yet make to shine in this world.

Forgive us our blindness, we pray.

Open our eyes and our hearts.

Christ, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts, debtors)

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

*PRAISE The First Nowell vs 3-6

Hymn #136

The WORD in conversation (*Children's time*)

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

PSALTER Psalm 72:1-7 Refrain #1

Lila Stanfield

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

SERMON "Attending to the Light"

Rev. Cathy Stewart

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*PRAISE All Poor Men and Humble (see insert)

Hymn #140
1972 Book of Praise

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC Alleluia!

J. S. Bach

*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

*PRAISE What Star Is This Hymn #170

*BENEDICTION & THREE-FOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE (please remain seated)

"In this story of the magi, Jesus is acknowledged by those who know nothing beyond what the silent stars tell."

WELCOME TO MACNAB

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

DEADLINE FOR ANNUAL REPORTS: WED. JANUARY 21ST

ASSISTING US TODAY

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

ASSISTING US NEXT WEEK

Greeters Bill Stanfield, Mina Beatt
Ushers: John Shields, Jennifer Applewhaite, Bob & Marion Cameron
Coffee Servers David & Jean Stone, Lila Stanfield
Duty Elder: Bill Wright

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- ❖ Family and friends of Heather Johnston who died December 27th and whose service took place here on January 2nd
- ❖ Archie McQuilkie 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
- ❖ Don & Carole MacVicar's Inner City Ministry
- ❖ All who are grieving, facing health uncertainties, lonely or jobless

PRAYER CONCERNS: please note the new (purple cover) notebook in the narthex where prayer concerns can be entered before the service. The minister will extract the page just before 10:30 and include concerns in the Prayers that day. If you wish your concern to be passed on to the Prayer Group, please add an * beside your concern. It is sometimes good to put your own name beside the concern (so the minister or Prayer Group can follow up).

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY BIBLE TEXTS AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX

REV. STEWART WILL BE OUT OF TOWN FOR 3 DAYS THIS WEEK (Wed-Fri) Therefore there will be no office hours on Thursday. Rev. Geddes will be available for emergency pastoral care. Call Kevin Russell 905 527-6416

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 8:30am-12:30pm

THIS WEEK AT MACNAB:

Mon	Jan 5	4:00pm	Out of the Cold-Johnston Hall
		7:45pm	RSCD – Johnston Hall
		7-8:30pm	Over-comers-Church House
Wed	Jan 7	10:30am	Un-decorating of the Sanctuary
			Helpers welcome
		7:30pm	RSCD- Johnston Hall
Thurs	Jan 8	1:30pm	RSCD-Johnston Hall
		7:30pm	Choir Practice-Sanctuary
Sat	Jan 10	4:00pm	Out of the Cold-Johnston Hall
Sun	Jan 11	10:30am	Baptism of the Lord Sunday



LOOKING AHEAD

Fri Jan 23 6:30pm A Scottish Dinner:
\$20/person

Tickets on sale at Coffee Hour

Includes the Haggis, entertainment and recitations by Bob Docherty.

PSALM 72:1-7

Refrain: All rulers bow before you, and gold and incense bring.

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

ALL POOR MEN AND HUMBLE-Hymn #140 1972 Book of Praise

All poor men and humble, all lame men who stumble,
Come hast ye nor feel ye afraid; For Jesus, our treasure,
With love past all measure, In lowly poor manger 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.