

Tsawwassen United Church

1st Sunday After Christmas

Dec. 30, 2007, 10:00 AM

*The season of Christmas is a twelve day celebration
of the gift of Jesus to the world.*

*Portions of the service printed in **bold** are spoken by the whole congregation.
At the points marked “*”, those who are able are invited to stand.*

THE PEOPLE GATHER

- PRELUDE: Christmas Suite ~ Theodore Marier
- INTROIT: Christ is Born VU 41
- LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE
- CALL TO WORSHIP: Isaiah 60:1–6 VU 886
- PRAYER OF APPROACH:
- O God our Creator,
in you alone are the riches of life.
We come from the East and we come from the West
knowing we follow, on our different roads,
the same star to the same place.
May we share what we know of its light,
learn from each other the way to the stable,
worship you, our only wealth,
and serve the world with Gospel gold.**
We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- *CAROL: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice VU 35
- JESUS PRESENTED IN THE TEMPLE: Luke 2:22–24 N.T. page 55
- *CAROL: The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy VU 73
- SIMEON SEES GOD’S SALVATION: Luke 2:25–35 N.T. page 55
- *CAROL: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing VU 48, v. 1&3
- ANNA BEARS WITNESS TO THE REDEEMER:
Luke 2:36–38 N.T. page 56
- CHOIR’S ANTHEM: The Birthday of a King ~ Lloyd Larson
Solo: John Glover
- THE FAMILY RETURNS TO NAZARETH: Luke 2:39–40 N.T. page 56

*CAROL: Once in Royal David's City

VU 62

THE MAGI VISIT HEROD: Matthew 2:1-8

N.T. page 1

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Eternal Light

shine in our hearts;

Eternal Goodness,

deliver us from evil;

Eternal Power,

be our support;

Eternal Wisdom,

scatter the shadows of our ignorance;

Eternal Compassion,

have mercy on us;

that with heart and mind

and soul and strength

we may seek your face,

and be brought by your infinite mercy

to the Holy Presence;

through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE:

Hear the Good News of the Gospel.

The Light shines in the darkness,

and the darkness has not overcome it.

Your sins are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

*CAROL: It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

VU 44, v. 1&2

RESPONSIVE PSALM 72

VU 790, parts 1&3

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*CAROL: Sing Till Sundown

VU 78

THE MAGI FIND THE CHRIST CHILD: Matthew 2:9-12

N.T. page 2

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY DOXOLOGY:

As With Gladness Men of Old

VU 81, v. 1&3

OFFERING PRAYER:

Though we do not bear gifts of gold,
frankincense, and myrrh,
yet we offer ourselves and what we have.
The story continues, Good News abounds.
We worship and serve the living Christ.
Let us rejoice and be glad!

EPISTLE: Ephesians 3:1–12

N.T. page 180

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR:

**Holy God, as we enter this new year,
we thank you for your presence with us
in all the years of our lives.
We have known joy, and also sorrow,
success and failure,
and through it all, you have been with us—
the companion of all our journeys.
Much of life is fleeting
and so we thank you for things that endure:
the love of faithful friends,
wisdom gained from experience,
the reliability of nature,
and your steadfast love.
We thank you for this new year which awaits us;
take us by the hand, and lead us on. Amen.**

*CAROL: I Am the Light of the World

VU 87

SENDING FORTH:

As sages from the East offered you their best,
**so may we honour you, O Christ,
with our highest visions and finest energies.**
As you turned the water to wine at Cana,
**so come to your church,
and teach us to change human tears to joyful song.**
As you were baptized to fulfill all righteousness,
so may your church humbly do your will.
As you gave light to those who followed you on earth,
**so be our light as we follow you
on city streets or country roads.**
**Be revealed among us in power, in word, in sacrament, and in
places where we live and work.**
Glory be to you, O Christ, now and forever. Amen.

*CHORAL SENDING FORTH: Christ is Born
(sing three times)

VU 41

PRELUDE: Let Christians All With Joyful Mirth

~ James Mansfield

Gayle MacDonald, with anthem suggestions by Susan McBeath, Humphrey Memorial U.C.,
Moncton, N.B.

