

December 20th, 2020 Advent 4: Love

Worship Link: <https://youtu.be/hFmkJPvO0lk>

PRELUDE: *The Saints Carol; First Nowell*

Players: Michael Lemiski & Andrew Parkin

CAROL SING:

#161 *What Child is this? (vs 1)*

Tune: Greensleeves Words: WC Dix

♪ What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary

#149 *Away in a manger*

by William J Kirkpatrick

♪ Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid 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 little Lord Jesus no crying he makes
I love you Lord Jesus, look down from the **sky**
And stay by my side 'til morning is nigh

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
And fit us for Heaven to live with you there

#133 *Go tell it on the mountain (vs 1)*

African American Traditional

♪ *Chorus: Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.*

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens there **shone a holy light**
Chorus

LIGHTING OF THE 4th ADVENT CANDLE: Love (Michael Lemiski & Anne Brockenshire)

- *(Our advent liturgy is provided by the Presbyterian Church in Canada and attached in your email – this year written by TPC former minister Rev. Kristine O'Brien!! Please join in reading as: "The People" as the words are on the screen or print out the attachment)*

Sung Response: #119 (vs 4)

by Brian Wren

♪ Love is a flame that burns in our heart, Jesus has come and will never depart!
Refrain: When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

CHILDREN'S TIME:

OFFERING: Anthem: *Lo, how a rose*

PRAYER: Refrain: #136 *The First Nowell (vs 2,4,6)*

English Traditional 17th century

Let us pray:

♫ *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! Noel, noel, noel, noel, born is the king of Israel*

O God, as we gaze upon this star in coming days –

♫ *This **star** drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay.
Noel, noel, noel, noel, born is the king of Israel*

We come with prayers for the world – we ask that

♫ *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 our souls
has bought. Noel, noel, noel, noel, born is the king of Israel*

God of light – we thank you for the scientists and immunologistsAMEN

SCRIPTURE: John 1:1-16 (NRSV) (Readers: Advent Bible Study Group)

This is the word of the Lord! **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: *They won't be expecting that!*

CAROL: #165 *O Little Town of Bethlehem (vs 1 2 &4)*

by Philip Brooks

♫ Oh little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie above thy deep and dreamless
sleep the silent **stars** go by - yet in thy dark streets shineth, the everlasting light
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

♫ For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above while mortals sleep the angels
keep their watch of wondering love. Oh morning **stars** together, proclaim thy holy
birth. And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.

♫ O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in; be
born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
Oh come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel.

BENEDICTION & POSTLUDE *Where shepherds lately knelt*