

The True Meaning of Christmas

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

Matthew 1:18-25 KJV



Jesus is the reason for the season

May God grant you the light in Christmas, which is faith;

The warmth of Christmas, which is love;

The radiance of Christmas, which is purity;

The righteousness of Christmas, which is justice;

The belief in Christmas, which is truth;

The all of Christmas, which is Christ.

King's Gate United Church

**A CONGREGATION OF THE UNITED CHURCH IN
JAMAICA AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS**

(Congregational, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian)

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Christmas Day Service

CHRISTMAS

At Christmas, we remember and celebrate the nativity of Christ and the Incarnation (God taking human form). Whereas during Advent we anticipate the fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah, at Christmas, we identify with the angels who proclaimed "Glory to God in the highest." with the shepherds, who were afraid but nevertheless offered worship; and with Mary, who pondered the meaning of these events in her heart (Luke 2:13-20).



Wednesday, December 25, 2024

6:30 a.m.

Enter to Worship... Depart to Serve!

Minister:	Rev. Garwell Bacchas
Leader:	Bro. Cecil Scott
Elder:	Elder Paul Downer
Musicians:	Bro. Darron Fraser - Piano
	Bro. Stephen Reid - Bass
	Bro. Sean Mesquita - Drums



Order Of Worship



PREPARATION TIME

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

L/ Lift up your hearts in prayer. Lift up your voices in praise, for the Lord has drawn near and dwells among us.

C/ **God is here! The Messiah has come! We open our eyes to see Him and lift our hearts to worship Him. We have come to exalt the name of Jesus, our Saviour and King and to bring glory to God the Father.**

A/ **In our worship we demonstrate the mind of Christ in declaring to God that He is the supreme authority in our lives. We bow before**

Him in submission to our Lord and King.

L/ Come, let us worship the Lord!



CAROL: "O Come All Ye Faithful..."

1. O, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O, come ye, o, come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;

*O, come, let us adore Him, o, come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

2. God of God, Light of light,
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created:

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O, sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born for our salvation,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

(Please be seated)

A Moment of Silence

A/ **God has come out of the sanctuary of heaven in Jesus Christ. God of mystery, God of revelation, God of joyful sound, we worship with the most profound devotion and with the simplest wonder at the foot of a manger bed, singing in the Spirit so that our joy may be received as true worship, in the Name of Jesus Christ.**

A PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

L/ Jesus, Son of the Living God, splendor of the Father, Eternal Light

C/ **Lord, we praise and adore You.**



That man will live forever more,
Because of Christmas day.



THE SPOKEN WORD:

"Behold He Come: Jesus Our Immanuel"

Rev. Garwell Bacchas

CAROL OF REJOICING:

"Joy To The World..."

1. Joy to the world! The Lord has come: Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and heaven and nature sing.
2. Joy to the world! The Saviour reigns: Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat and sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness, and wonders of His love
And wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

BENEDICTION

A Time of Greetings—We Wish You A Merry Christmas



CAROL: “O Holy Night....”

1. O Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining.
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O, night when Christ was born;
O night divine! O night divine!
2. Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
So led by light of a Star sweetly gleaming,
There came the wise men from the Orient land.
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger;
In all our trials born to be our friend
He knows our need, He rescues us from danger,
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!

4th Scripture Reading:

Luke 2:8-14

Bro. Darron Fraser

(Please stand)

CAROL: “Long Time Ago In Bethlehem...”

1. Long time ago in Bethlehem,
So the holy Bible say,
Mary's boy child, Jesus Christ,
Was born on Christmas day.

*Hark, now hear the angels sing,
A new King born today,
And man will live forever more,
Because of Christmas day.*
2. While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
Them see a bright new shining star,
Them hear a choir sing,
The music seemed to come from afar.
3. Now Joseph and his wife Mary,
Come to Bethlehem that night,
Them find no place to born her child,
Not a single room was in sight.
4. Trumpets sound and angels sing,
Listen to what they say,

L/ Jesus, King of glory, Son of justice, Son of the Virgin Mary.

C/ Lord, we praise and magnify Your name.

L/ Wonderful Counsellor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

C/ Lord, we praise Your glorious name.

L/ Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, friend of all, source of life and holiness,
our help and our refuge

C/ Lord, we praise and adore You.

**A/ Almighty God, You wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully
restored the dignity of human nature. In Your mercy, by the power
of the Holy Spirit, grant that we may share the divine life of Jesus
Christ, who humbled Himself to share our humanity and who now
lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever. Amen.**

Confession Chorus: “Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne...”

1. Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy kingly crown,
When Thou camest to earth for me;
But in Bethlehem's home was there found no room
For Thy holy nativity.
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
There is room in my heart for Thee.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L/ Holy God, when we allow darkness to overcome the light,

C/ Forgive us, Lord.

L/ When we reduce Christmas to a mere commercial merry making season,

C/ Have mercy on us, Father.

Prayer continues in silence

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L/ She will give birth to a Son and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because
He will save His people from their sins.

CAROL: “Christians Awake Salute The Happy Morn....”

1. Christians, awake, salute the happy morn
Whereon the Savior of the world was born.
Rise to adore the mystery of love
Which hosts of angels chanted from above,
With them the joyful tidings first begun
Of God incarnate and the virgin's Son.
2. Then to the watchful shepherds it was told,
Who heard th'angelic herald's voice, "Behold,
I bring good tidings of a Savior's birth
To you and all the nations of the earth;
This day hath God fulfilled His promised Word;
This day is born a Savior, Christ the Lord."

3. To Bethl'hem straight th'enlightened shepherds ran
To see the wonder God had wrought for man
And found, with Joseph and the blessèd maid,
Her Son, the Savior, in a manger laid;
Then to their flocks, still praising God, return,
And their glad hearts with holy rapture burn.

4. Then may we hope, th'angelic hosts among,
To sing, redeemed, a glad triumphal song.
He that was born upon this joyful day
Around us all His glory shall display.
Saved by His love, incessantly we sing
Eternal praise to Heav'n's almighty King.

LIGHTING OF CHRIST CANDLE

L/ Christ Jesus, who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,

C/ **But made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.**

A/ **The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

THE ACT OF LIGHTING THE CANDLE

A/ **Come, Lord Jesus, our light and our salvation. Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

WELCOME

THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

(Please stand)

CAROL: “Angels We Have Heard On High....”

1. Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains;
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.

*Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo*

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heavenly song.

3. Come to Bethlehem and see



Christ, whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ, the Lord, the new-born King.

4. See Him in a manger laid,
Whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend their aid,
While our hearts in love we raise

(Please remain seated)

1st Scripture Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

Sis. Rubie Edwards

CAROL: “O Come O Come Emanuel....”

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee,
O Israel.*

2. O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

2nd Scripture Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

Elder Paul Downer

(Please stand)

CAROL: “Hark The Herald Angels Sing ...”

1. Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the new born King,
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic hosts proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem

*Hark! the herald angels sing,
Glory to the new born King.*

2. Hail the heaven-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by; born that men no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth; born to give them second birth.

3rd Scripture Reading: Luke 2:4-7

Sis. Claudette Bacchas

(Please remain seated)

