

Bellshill Central Parish Church of Scotland
346 Main Street, Bellshill, ML4 1BA

Minister: Rev Kevin de Beer BTh (Hons)

Sunday 17th December 2017
11 o'clock



Service of Lessons and Carols
with the Church Choir

In the time before the service begins you may like to offer the following prayer as part of your own preparation for worship, and for the days of Christmas that lie ahead.

We pray you, Lord, to purify our hearts,
that they may be worthy to become your dwelling place.
Let us never fail to find room for you,
but come and abide in us,
that we also may abide in you,
for at this time you were born into the world for us,
and live and reign, King of kings and Lord of lords,
now and for ever. Amen.

Welcome and intimations

Introit Light of the World

Call to worship.

Hymn Hark the Herald Angels sing

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’.*

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail, the Incarnate Deity,
pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel!
*Hark! the herald angels sing,
‘Glory to the new-born King’*

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 man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth:
*Hark! the herald angels sing,
‘Glory to the new-born King’*

Prayer and Lords prayer

Lighting of Advent candles

Like a candle flame, Flickering small in our darkness
Uncreated light, Shines through infant eyes
God is with us, alleluia! Come to save us, alleluia!

Carol Tomorrow shall be my dancing day

Readings Isaiah 9. Vs 2, 6-7, and Isaiah 11. Vs 1 to 3 and 6 to 10

Hymn **Once in royal David's city**
(vs 1 solo, vs2 choir, vs 3-4 everyone)

1 Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her Baby
in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

3 And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that Child so dear and helpless
is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

2 He came down to earth from
heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall.
With the poor and meek and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

4 Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high,
where his children gather round,
bright like stars, with glory
crowned.

Readings Isaiah 40. 1 to 5 and Luke 1. 26 to 35 and 38

Carol Christmas Lullaby (Rutter)

Readings Luke 1. 39 to 45 and Luke 2. 1 to 7

Carol Still, Still, Still (Austrian Carol, arr. Mack Walberg)

Hymn **O little town of Bethlehem**

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see you lie!
Above your deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in your streets is shining the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in you tonight.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.
For Christ is born of Mary; and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

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;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

Readings Luke 2. 8 to 16

Carol The Light of Christ (in M.P)

Reading Matthew 2. 1 to 11

Hymn As with gladness men of old

1 As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold,
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onwards, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we
evermore be led to thee.

2 As with joyful steps they sped,
Saviour, to thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before
thee, whom heaven and earth
adore;
so may we with willing feet
ever seek thy mercy-seat.

3 As they offered gifts most rare
at thy homely cradle bare;
so may we with holy joy,
pure, and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heavenly
King.

4 Holy Jesus, every day
keep us in the narrow way;
and, when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds thy glory hide.

5 In the heavenly country bright,
need they no created light;
thou its light, its joy, its crown,
thou its sun which goes not down;
there for ever may we sing
alleluias to our King.

Prayers for others and for ourselves

Reading John 1. 1 to 14

Carol Hallelujah (Leonard Cohen)

Our offerings for the work of the Church are uplifted and dedicated

Hymn 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,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven
above, 'Glory to God
in the highest':

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

Benediction and Three-fold (sung) amen



WE
WISH
YOU A
MERRY
CHRISTMAS