

Welcome to Port Williams United Baptist Church

During this Christmas season, we pray that our worship services will bring to you the hope, peace, joy and love that light the way toward Christmas. Visitors are encouraged to sign our guest book (at the back of the sanctuary) or to fill out a Visitor Card (in the pew) before leaving. Thank you.

* indicates that the congregation is invited to stand

Prelude

Dr. Christianne Rushton

* **Welcoming Each Other**

Rev. Dr. John Churchill

Announcements

Prayer and Preparation

Call to Worship

Rev. Barbara Bishop

* **Hymn of Praise** “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” **48**

The Lighting of the Advent Candle of Love:

Reader One: As Mary rejoiced in God’s gift to her and sang out her praise, we give thanks today that God chose her to give birth to Jesus.

Reader Two: As Mary’s soul magnified the Lord, we ponder with awe the miraculous greatness of our God.

Reader Three: As God lifts up the lowly and scatters the proud, we pray for a Christmas that gives promise of a just peace in our world.

Reader Four: As God shows mercy from generation to generation, we give thanks for families who honour God in their lives and in their homes.

(Please pause as we light four candles, then respond.)

All: Loving God, come and shine your light in the world!

Advent Song: A Candle Is Burning (vs 4) 6

A candle is burning, a candle of love,

A candle to point us to heaven above.

A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,

For Jesus is bringing God’s love to our earth.

The Scripture Luke 1: 46-55 (p.44)

Carol Buckley

Sermon: “*Crashing Angels*” Rev. Barbara Bishop

* **Hymn of Response** “The First Nowell” (vs 1,2,6) 91

* **Benediction**

* **Choral Benediction**

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” (vs 2) 35

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!

Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!

He hath opened heaven’s door, and we are blest forevermore.

Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Postlude and Quiet Reflection

Today’s Candle of Love is lit by representatives of the Thursday coffee group. Being a church family means not only working with each other for the sake of the gospel, but enjoying one another.