

St. Davids-Queenston United Church

December 14, 2025, Third Sunday of Advent

Blue Christmas Service

Land Acknowledgement

There were people here long before we came to live on this land as settlers and descendants of settlers. We acknowledge these many Nations of Indigenous people who first lived and currently live here. We give thanks to this land, the territory(s) of these Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples. We do this to acknowledge our responsibility to enhance and promote peace among all who now share this land, as well as good stewardship of it and its resources.

(* Please stand, as you are able)

GATHERING AND MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS)

*OPENING HYMN:# VU 64 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Voice 1: Glory to God in the highest! The day draws nearer and nearer. The flame of hope ignited in our hearts grows stronger and stronger. (the candle of hope is lit)

May the hope of God be with you all.

Voice 2: Although the world is still troubled, our sense of peace glows and grows, as we take steps towards generosity and justice. (the candle of peace is lit) The path grows brighter and brighter, clearer and clearer.

May the peace of God be with you all.

Voice 3: God will save the lame and gather the outcast. God will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. Our hearts rejoice as our third candle is lit, the candle of joy. (the candle of joy is lit)

May the Joy of God be with you all.

Voice 4: May this candle's glow be the gentle love of the newborn Jesus, surrounding and soothing every heart aching with grief, loss, stress, or pain.

Introit: VU 60 O “Come All Ye Faithful”, verse 3

CALL TO WORSHIP

Love, in the midst of apathy, hate is not the opposite of love, apathy is.

When apathy sets in, love is a choice. Love is a verb. Love is less what we feel and more what we do.

An act of love. A labour of love.

We come choosing love when apathy is easier, choosing love when it means it may come with pain.

Let us pray for Emmanuel, for love that resists apathy, for wisdom to choose the way of love even when it is woven together with pain and sorrow.

GATHERING PRAYER

We gather this morning, to remember...

those who have touched our lives, glad memories and happy stories, and love that we hold dear.

We name those who have been life itself to us. We gather in the name of Jesus,

vulnerable as an infant, joyful and happy as a youth, wise and caring as an adult.

We gather in the presence of God, who brings life and light to all.

All life is precious in God's sight.

No one is ever alone or forgotten.

Come, let us gather in the Spirit of hope and peace.

We worship, in the name of joy and love.

We pray to you who is; **“Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name; thy kin’dom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kin’dom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.”**

HYMN: VU # 74 “What Child is This”

ST. DAVIDS-QUEENSTON UNITED CHURCH

MISSION STATEMENT:

**Welcoming all to: Gather in God’s Grace,
Grow in Christian Faith and
Go in Community Service.**

SACRED MUSIC: A Christmas Blessing

LEARN TOGETHER: (Youth and Children’s time)

SCRIPTURE READING, PRAYERS, AND REFLECTION:

Hymn Those Hearts That We Have Treasured (VU 494, v. 1)

Isaiah 40:1, 6–8: (Losing One We Love)

¹ Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

⁶ A voice says, “Cry!” And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people is grass.

⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Prayer

... (silence)

Hymn Those Hearts That We Have Treasured (VU 494, v. 2)

Psalms 139:7–12: (Healing and Memory)

⁷ Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

⁸ If I ascend to heaven, thou art there! If I make my bed in Sheol, thou art there!

⁹ If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

¹⁰ even there thy hand shall lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.

¹¹ If I say, “Let only darkness cover me, and the light about me be night,”

¹² even the darkness is not dark to thee, the night is bright as the day; for darkness is as light with thee.

Prayer

... (silence)

Hymn Those Hearts That We Have Treasured (VU 494, v. 3)

John 14:1–4, 18–19: Living with Hope and Love

¹ “Let not your hearts be troubled; believe ^[a] in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way where I am going.”

¹⁸ “I will not leave you desolate; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Yet a little while, and the world will see me no more, but you will see me; because I live, you will live also.

Prayer

... (silence)

Hymn “There is Room for All” (MV 62)

CEREMONY OF COMMEMORATION

PRAYER OF LAMENT

O Holy God, we do not feel that Christmas spirit of light, joy and happiness. Others are ready for presents and special jammies and giggles, and we sit in the darkness, alone. Things have fallen apart. We miss people dearly.

Come, find us. Come, help us. Come, enfold us in your steadfast love and care.

WORDS OF GRACE

God loves you more than you can imagine. Even when you can't feel it, your heartbeat reminds you that you sing the song of the cosmos without trying. Jesus is always reaching out to you with understanding and compassion.

We are blessed, loved, and held close. Amen.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES AND HEALING RITUAL

INTERCESSION FOR HEALING:

The God of strength moves within us;

the God of courage hears our distress.

The God of hope reveals wholeness to us;

the God of healing touches us when we are broken.

When the pain overwhelms us, when the burden is too heavy,

we turn to our God, who is sustaining and redeeming.

When there is loneliness, when there is isolation,

we turn to our God, who is loving and present.

For God created us, redeemed us and sustains us,

and we are not alone. Lead us in your ways, O God, and bring us your healing touch. Amen.

OFFERTORY HYMN : VU #55 "In The Bleak Midwinter"

What can I give him? Poor as I am. If I were a shepherd

I would bring a lamb. If I were a Wiseman I would do my part.

Yet what I can I give him. Give my heart.

OFFERING PRAYER:

Loving God, in this season of longing and light, we bring our offerings before You. We bring not only our gifts, but also our hearts; hearts that hold both gratitude and grief, both memory and hope. Bless these gifts, we pray. May they become Your hands of comfort for those walking through shadows, Your voice of hope for those listening in silence, and Your embrace for all who feel alone. We offer all this in the name of the One who comes to us in our deepest night, Jesus Christ, our Emmanuel, Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN # VU 47 "Still, Still, Still"

COMMISSIONING AND VESPER

Go now from this space, carrying the fragile light of Advent hope and peace into the shadows of this season.

Remember that God meets us

not only in our joy, but in our "blue" in our waiting, our wondering, our weariness. May the coming joy of the Christ Child sustain you as you walk, and may His peace guard your heart until the dawn breaks fully. Go in the tender mercy of God. **Amen.**

*Go now in peace, never be afraid,
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day;
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true,
Know he will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe,
Reach out to others so all the world can see;
God will be there, watching from above,
Go now in peace, in faith and in love. Amen*

* PIANO POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the CE hall following the Worship service this morning

A Journey Through Advent 2025: Nov 30(Sun) ~ Dec 24(Wed). 2025, Join us this Advent season as we anticipate the celebration of Christ's birth. Each Sunday, we'll light a candle of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, culminating in the lighting of the Christ Candle on Christmas Eve.

December 14th - Blue Christmas service during morning service

December 14th - Christmas Candlelight Service (led by the choir at 7:00pm)

December 24th - Christmas Eve service, 7pm

Secret Angel Caroling: Dec 16(Tues) 2025, 1:00 pm, You are invited to join our Christmas caroling! If you would like to be the Angels, please contact Rev. Baek or the Spiritual Care Committee.

The annual Memorial Poinsettia fundraiser begins today. If you would like to dedicate a poinsettia in memory of a loved one, please see Sandra Macdonald. The donations received fund the flowers placed on the altar for our weekly services, as well as the Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas decor. The "In Loving Memory" insert will be published with the December 21st bulletin.

Committee annual reports: Chairpersons, please provide your committee's annual report to the office to commence the compilation of the church annual report. **Reports should be submitted by December 31, 2025**

Thank you to Betty Cant for being the greeter, to Marianne McRae for being the worship leader, to Ananda Xu for leading the Sunday School, to Lisa Brillon and the choir for their musical contribution, to the Ladies in the Kitchen for preparing coffee and goodies for the coffee hour and to Allen Zhang/Bill Utting/Steve Hardaker for livestreaming the Worship Service this morning.

Continuing prayers have been requested for Jim Gates, Bob Kerr, Jim Griffiths, Matt Jones, Mary Buttle, Ivy Evans, Roy and Jennie Harwood, Michael Antoniuk, Sandi Sinclair, Ginny Slingerland, Elizabeth Whan and Anthony Logan Siconolfi.

Continuing prayers have also been requested for Marcia Tyrell.

St. Davids-Queenston United Church

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Phone: 905-262-5242 Website: www.stdavids-queenstonuc.ca

Rev. YongSeok Baek Email: sdgminister@gmail.com

Voluntary Associate Minister: **Rev. Doug Jones**

Organist and Choir Director: **Lisa Brillon**

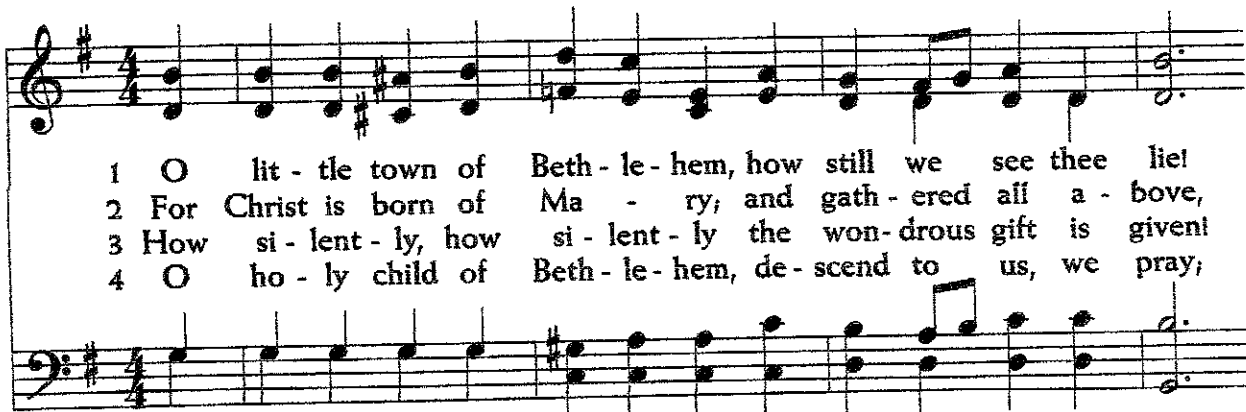
Sunday School Coordinator: **Sue Foss**

Administrative Secretary: **Kathleen Elliott** Email: sdgsecretary@bellnet.ca

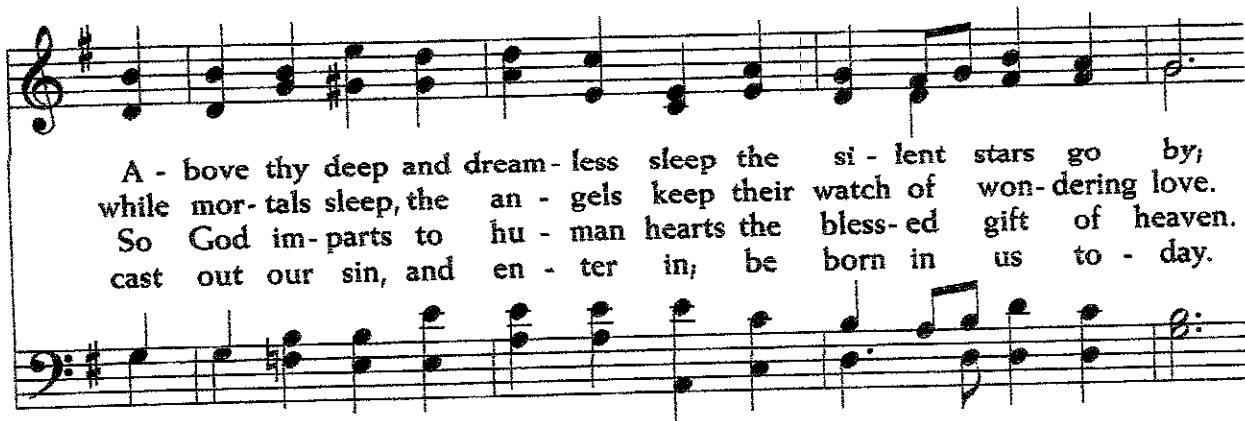
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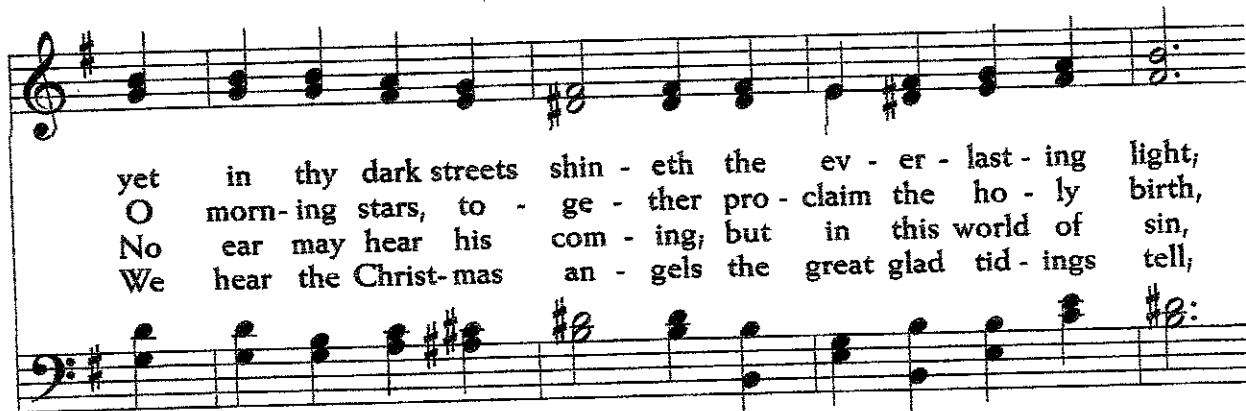
O Little Town of Bethlehem



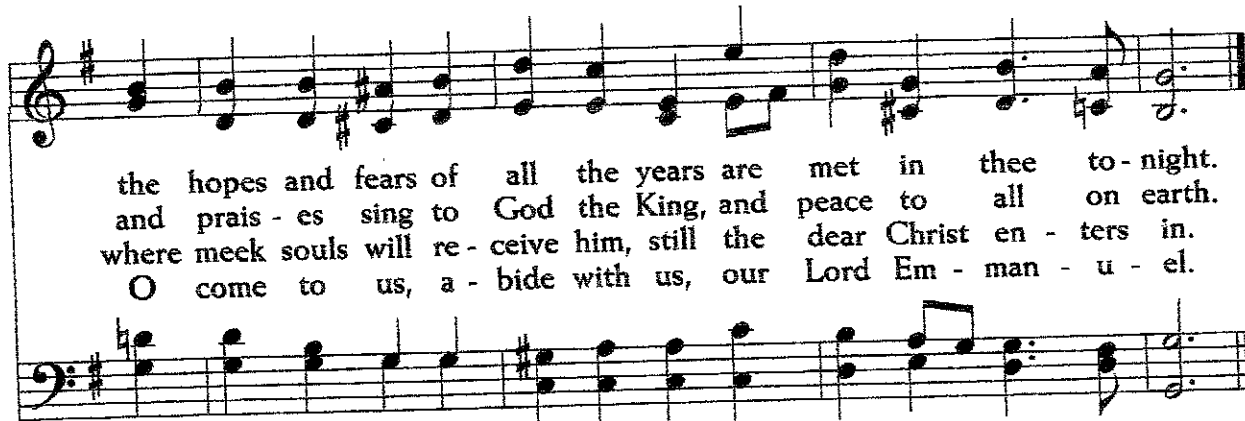
1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry, and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ed gift of heaven.
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light,
 O morn - ing stars, to - ge - ther pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell,



the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

G D G D G C G D

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2 God of God, light of light,
 ♦ 3 Sing, choirs of ang - els, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 See how the shep - herds sum - moned to his cra - dle,
 5 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

Em D A D G D G D A D

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem:
 lo, he ab - hors not the vir - gin's womb;
 ♦ sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove;
 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh with low - ly fear;
 Je - sus, to thee be glo - ry given;

G Am G Am G D G Em Am D

come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 ve - ry God, be - got - ten, not cre - a - ted:
 ♦ glo - ry to God in the high - est:
 we too will thi - ther bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

Refrain

G D

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,
 ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,

60 Pg 2

CHRISTMAS

The musical score is written for a piano accompaniment. It features a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains the first line of the melody and the first line of the bass accompaniment. The second system contains the second line of the melody and the second line of the bass accompaniment. The lyrics are: "O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord. ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num." The chords are indicated above the treble staff: G, D7, G, D, Em, D, G, C, G, D, G.

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.
ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.

What Child Is This

Em D G D

1 What child is this, who laid to rest, on
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Em Am B Em D G

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear, for
 one and all, to own him. The King of Kings sal -

D Em Am B Em

an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

Refrain Bm G D Em Am B

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing,

494 Those Hearts That We Have Treasured

C G C G Am F G C Am Em F

1 Those hearts that we have trea - sured, those lives that
 2 They still give hope and com - fort, they did not
 3 From hearts that we have trea - sured, from lives that

C G C F C G C Em Am F G C

we have shared, those loves that walked be - side us,
 lose the fight, they showed us truth and good - ness,
 we have shared, from loves that walked be - side us,

F C F C G G7 C G7 C F C

those friends for whom we've cared, their bless - ing rests up -
 they shine in - to our night. Re - mem - ber days of
 from friends for whom we've cared, we've learned to trea - sure

Dm G C Am Em F Dm Am F C Em

on us, their life is mem - o - ry, their suf - fer -
 glad - ness, re - mem - ber times of joy, re - mem - ber
 kind - ness, we've learned that grace pro - vides, we've learned to

#494 Pg 2

FUNERAL

C Em Am F G C F C F C G Gz C

ing is o - ver, their spir - its are set free.
all the mo - ments that grief can not de - stroy.
be to - geth - er, we've learned that love a - bides.

The musical score consists of two staves. The treble staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bass staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is written in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The guitar chords are written above the treble staff. The score is for a piece titled 'Funeral'.

Once in Royal David's City

Descant

4 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en who, with
 3 For he is our life - long pat - tern, dai - ly,
 4 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his

own re - deem - ing love, for that child who seemed so

low - ly cat - tle - shed, where a moth - er laid her
 God, is ov - er all, and his shel - ter was a
 when on earth he grew, he was temp - ted, scorned, re -
 own re - deem - ing love, for that child who seemed so

help - less is our Lord in heaven a - bove; and he

ba - by in a man - ger for his bed. Ma - ry
 sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall. There a -
 jec - ted, tears and smiles like us he knew. Thus he
 help - less is our Lord in heaven a - bove; and he

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander 1848, alt.

Music: Henry John Gauntlett 1849, harm. Arthur Henry Mann,
 desc. David Willcocks 1970

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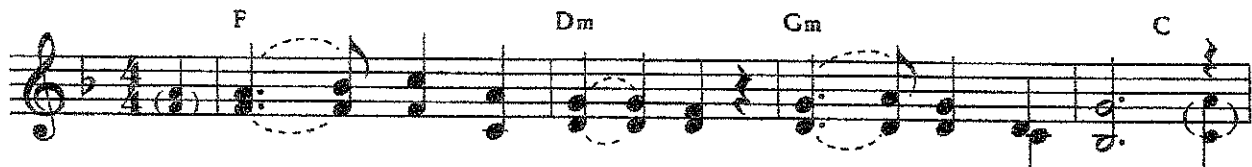
8 7 8 7 7 7

leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.

was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
mong the poor and low - ly lived on earth our Sav - iour ho - ly.
feels for all our sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.
leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.

In the Bleak Midwinter

55



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain,
3 E - nough for him, whom che - ru - bim wor - ship night and day, a
4 What can I give him, poor as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
breast full of milk, and a man - ger full of hay. E -
If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;



snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed the
nough for him, whom an - gels fall down be - fore, the
if I were a wise man, I would do my part, yet



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
Lord God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
ox and ass and cam - el which a - dore.
what I can I give him — give my heart.



Still, Still, Still

47

1 Still, still, still: the night is calm and
 2 Sleep, sleep, sleep: sweet Je - sus, soft - ly
 3 Joy, joy, joy, glad tid - ings of great

still. The Christ - child in his crib lies sleep - ing,
 sleep, while Ma - ry sings and gent - ly holds you,
 joy! For through God's ho - ly in - car - na - tion

an - gels round him watch are keep - ing.
 safe - ly in her arms en - folds you.
 Christ is born for our sal - va - tion.

Still, still, still: the night is calm and still.
 Sleep, sleep, sleep: sweet Je - sus soft - ly sleep.
 Joy, joy, joy, glad tid - ings of great joy!

Words: Austrian carol, trans. John Rutter 1994

Music: Austrian melody, arr. Walter Ebret 1963

STILL, STILL, STILL

3 6 9 8 3 6

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