



# Ferryhill Parish Church

The Church of Scotland

Christmas Day Family Service

Friday 25 December 2015

10:00 a.m.



You are very welcome to Ferryhill Parish Church.

Please sit wherever you like. If you are visiting then please sign the visitors' book in the foyer. Children are always welcome and the foyer is available during the service should you wish to use it.

Today's worship is led by:

Peter Johnston (Minister)

Kevin Haggart (Organist)

Yvonne Haig (Beadle)

Noel Hughson (Reader)

The flowers in the sanctuary have been donated this week by the flower committee.



Welcome

Call to Worship

Carol

Joy to the world

CH 320

Opening Prayer

We celebrate with noise  
something that happened so quietly;  
we sing and we pull crackers  
about something that was just a whisper:  
your Word  
became flesh.  
Jesus you are born among us.

God,  
while we may imagine it was all very quiet  
this news is not something we can keep quiet  
or talk about in whispers.

So we will celebrate today  
with words that speak of alleluias  
and are filled with hope  
and peace  
and joy  
and justice  
and good news.

So may we shout loudly enough  
that the world hears:  
you are born among us  
and we are not scared to let everyone hear.  
So be it.  
Amen.

Lighting the Christmas Candle

## Carol

## The Candles at Advent

Words: Cecilia Young  
Music: Peter Johnston

1. The candles at Advent as Christmas draws near;  
their strong and unfaltering flames we hold dear.  
And each has a message God's promise reminds,  
in sending our Saviour, whose life to us binds.
2. The first of the candles brings Hope with its light,  
through times of despair or whatever our plight.  
When reaching to touch its most delicate ray,  
the faithful and trusting through him find the way.

*Light of darkness, Hope is to come,  
for God will send his Son.*

*Hope everlasting when he shall come down,  
the long awaited One.*

3. The Love that this candle tells of shall endure;  
is always forgiving, and caring and sure.  
Our Lord is to come and he comes us to lead:  
to teach us to love in our word and our deed.

*Light of darkness, Love is to come,  
for God will send his Son.*

*Love everlasting when he shall come down,  
the long awaited One.*

4. Now, Peace is the candle, its elusive flame,  
some search for relentlessly; striving in vain.  
In quiet reflection, considering God's grace,  
then those ever thankful shall surely find Peace.

*Light of darkness, Peace is to come,  
for God will send his Son.*

*Peace everlasting when he shall come down,  
the long awaited One.*

5. The light from this candle, emitting great Joy,  
bring thoughts of our Saviour who comes as a boy.  
So let us be joyful, while singing his praise,  
and welcome his coming then follow his way.

*Light of darkness, Joy is to come,  
for God will send his Son.  
Joy everlasting when he shall come down,  
the long awaited One.*

6. The light that is Christ shall endure for all days  
and those who go near share its brilliant rays:  
a life of compassion, obedience and love  
was sent by his Father from heaven above.

*Light of darkness, waiting is done,  
for God has sent his Son.  
Promise fulfilled and all praise be to God  
for now the time has come!*

Sharing Gifts

What presents have we opened already?

Sharing Story

Christmas Offering

Prayer of Dedication

God of love,  
we offer you ourselves this day  
we offer words and actions,  
we offer our bodies, minds and spirits  
for you to take and use as you desire.  
Receive these gifts of money this day  
as symbols of all that we offer.  
Amen.



Carol	Come and join the celebration	CH 321
Reflection		
Carol	Who would think that what was needed	CH 295
Epilogue		
Carol	Hark! the herald angels sing	CH 301
The Sending		

Have a wonderful Christmas Day  
and may God's peace and grace go with you all!

# Useful Information



## Join us Sunday

Sunday 27 December: Tableaux and Carols  
11:00 Worship for all ages

## Contacts

Please contact the Minister, Rev Peter Johnston, for information about Church Membership, Baptism, or being married in Church, or complete one of the cards available in the Hymn Book and hand it in as you leave.



## Ferryhill Parish Church

Fonthill Road  
Aberdeen  
AB11 6UD

## Minister

Rev Peter Johnston  
Tel: 01224 949192  
Email: [peter.johnston@ferryhillparishchurch.org](mailto:peter.johnston@ferryhillparishchurch.org)

## Office

Tel: 01224 213093  
Email: [office@ferryhillparishchurch.org](mailto:office@ferryhillparishchurch.org)  
Web: [www.ferryhillparishchurch.org](http://www.ferryhillparishchurch.org)

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**A Kirk for All  
at Ferryhill**