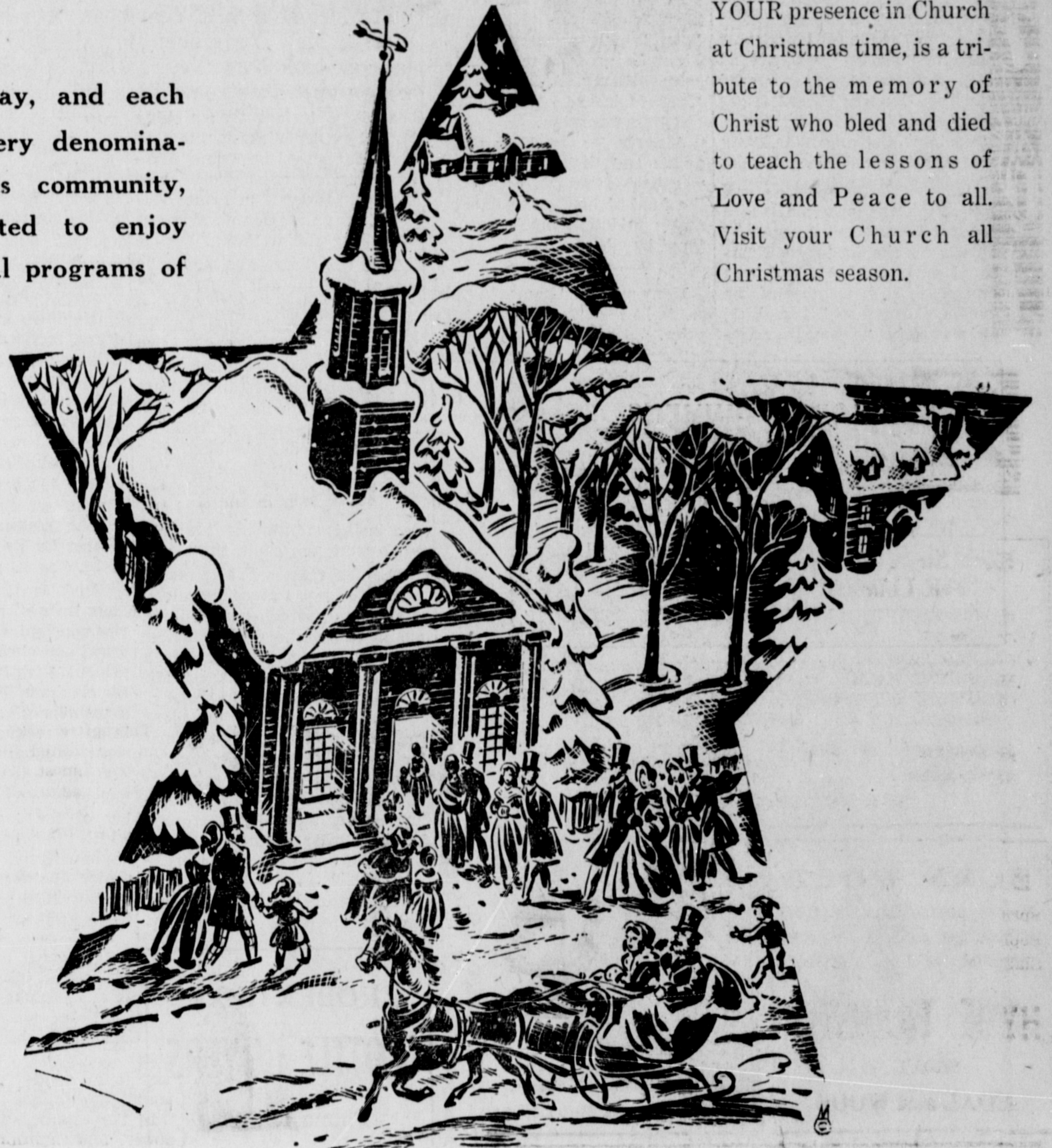


# Christmas Services in the Churches

**Christmas** is a universal holiday, and each faith observes it in its own way. Every denomination has its house of worship in this community, where all are warmly, cordially invited to enjoy Christmas services, music; and special programs of interest to children, 'teen agers, and service folk.

YOUR presence in Church at Christmas time, is a tribute to the memory of Christ who bled and died to teach the lessons of Love and Peace to all. Visit your Church all Christmas season.



## Twenty Centuries . . . Since Christ

The birth of the Saviour did not, then and there, establish peace on earth and goodwill among men, nor does the ending of war as we have done this year.

Caesar did not topple from his pinnacle at the precise moment. Herod, king of Judea, did not join the Wise Men in adoration of the Holy Child.

But: There were shepherds watching over their flocks some two or three miles from the Stable of Bethlehem. The Angel of the Lord appeared unto them.

This Christmas Day we will remember the children in His Name—for theirs is the Peace of tomorrow—and, hearing the carols of good will above the present turmoil, we are the shepherds of Bethlehem. It is for us to work towards real Peace and Goodwill.

### The Message of Christmas

By MOST REV. O. JORDAN, O.M.I.  
Vicar Apostolic of Prince Rupert

"It is Christmas again!"

With that lightness of heart and gaiety we say the words. Is there any time of the year, any holiday that inspires such spontaneous, such universal joy and gladness? Men and women the world over, in every walk of life, shed their care and woe because Christmas has come once more.

You might say it is magic. It is. It is divine magic. It is a transformation wrought in our minds and hearts by the coming of God's Son to earth. Christmas is the anniversary of His birth and our happiness is an answer to the Angels' song: "Peace on earth to men of good will."

The happiness of Christmas is given by the Divine Child. We draw near His manger-bed; we gaze enraptured on His baby charms; our hearts melt at the sight of His gentle Mother, bearing her Son in a lowly stable. Yet, consider that every detail of the event was chosen by the Babe Himself. Unlike other men, this Man could and did choose the conditions of His birth. Consider the possibilities. He might have been an emperor's son, born to command immediate and world-wide attention; He might have come in a blaze of terrifying majesty, as He will on judgment day. His aim, however, was not to impress or to terrify men; it was to redeem them and to win their love. The means He used were not the human means of power, wealth or force; but the divine means of meekness and humbleness heart. His coming to us in not a matter of overwhelming our minds with evidence, but rather of winning our hearts by affection.

As He came to us in lowliness, our approach to Him must be in the same spirit of humility. If we are to see God in the Divine Child, it must be through faith. At the first Christmas, He gave our faith a little help, for He left no doubt concerning His humanity; but we shall never know His divinity except by the humble road of faith.

Herein lies the essence of Christmas—and all our feasting is meaningless unless we recognize it—"this day, there is born to us a Saviour, Who is Christ the Lord."

The "stable" in which Christ was born did not conform to the modern conception of the word. Stables in those days were shelters hewn as caves out of rocky ledges.

First carols were sung in the streets in 1224. The lyrics of carols have been largely the work of the clergy.

### The Ever-New Message

By RT. REV. J. B. GIBSON,  
Bishop of Caledonia

The wonder of the story of Christmas is that although nearly two thousand years have passed since Bethlehem became the centre of the world the story is ever new. You cannot say the word Christmas without the syllable Christ. Yet lots of people try to keep Christmas without any thought of Christ.

If you want proof of this you have only to look at the Christmas cards so widely circulated at this season. Most of them have no reference to Christ whatever. They deal with the frills of Christmas and leave out the heart of it.

The great message of that first Christmas Day, the theme of all its glad music sung by the Angels is that a Saviour was born unto the world. The good news is still good and is still news. He is the good news always good and always new. He is the only Saviour; there is no other. He is our Saviour in every way that we need one.

This year when Christmas comes to the world as a greater symbol of hope than ever before we feel in our hearts the joy of the Angels. We feel happy over who fought for our democratic way of life and pray that they may find security and peace. We think of those whose living presence has gone, and how difficult it is to be merry. Yet the light of Christmas is never so bright as when it shines in dark places. To every lonely life Christmas brings a message of courage and good cheer. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son" nothing can separate us from the love of God.

Let us reverently join the mighty throng of pilgrims who worship at the manger throne and express our thankfulness for the message of peace the Christ-child has to give. How that message rings out this Christmastide! For in the momentous year of 1945 a forward step has been taken toward securing a durable peace for the world. It is the spirit of promise. It tells of splendid possibilities ahead. It brings the promise of new beginnings. Better things are going to take place, indeed it says they are begun already. There may be darkness around but it tells us to light the Christmas candles. For men and nations it promises beyond the night a glad bright day. It promises that the ideal of peace and good-will lifted before the world every Christmas shall not decay, that the Star of Bethlehem will shine on the angry waters of human strife until they have been awed into stillness. It cheers us, in the name of God with the assurance that life cannot go wrong ultimately as men follow the lead of the newborn King.

United Church of Canada

#### First United Church

R. A. Wilson, M.A., Minister  
Mr. C. A. Davis, Choir Leader

Christmas Service:  
Sunday, December 23

11:00 a.m.—Worship. "The Paradox of Christmas." Guest Speaker: Capt. H. Kerley.  
12:15—Sunday School.  
7:30 p.m.—Evening Service. "Men Who Found Jesus."  
8:45 p.m.—Carol Singing.

Christmas Eve

7:00—Vesper Service led by C.G.I.T.  
"GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST"

#### Paul's Lutheran Church

Fifth Avenue and McBride Street  
Rev. A. O. Aasen, Pastor

"This is the day the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it."

Sunday, December 23

10 a.m.—Morning Worship. Pastor's theme, "Christian's a Happy and Carefree People." Choir singing.  
7:30 p.m.—Evening Service.

Christmas Day (Two Services)

10 a.m.—Service in English. Pastor's theme, "Show us the Father and It Sufficeth us." Choir singing.  
10:30 p.m.—Service in Norwegian. Pastor's theme, "We Won More in the Birth of Christ in the Manger Than We Lost Through the Fall of Adam in Paradise."

#### First Baptist Church

Christmas Services

Rev. T. B. Wetmore, Minister

Greetings in the most beloved Name spoken among men.

10 a.m.—Morning Worship. Subject: "Peace and the Prince of Peace."  
10:15 p.m.—Sunday School.

10:30 p.m.—"The Bethlehem Road." Special duet—Miss Elsie Schilder and Miss Mary Calder.

Song Service at the close of Evening Service.

ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN IN THIS HAPPY HOUR.

#### Regular Baptist

Services I.O.D.E. Hall (5th Avenue and McBride St.)

Preach Christ . . . Crucified, Crowned, Coming

Sunday, December 23—Christmas Services

10:15 p.m.—SUNDAY SCHOOL, ILLUSTRATED FLANNEL-GRAPH LESSON "THE CHRISTMAS STORY."

10:30 p.m.—GOSPEL SERVICE—CHRISTMAS MESSAGE: "THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS OVER THE MANGER." Speaker, G. R. S. BLACKABY.

If you enjoy hearty gospel singing—come!

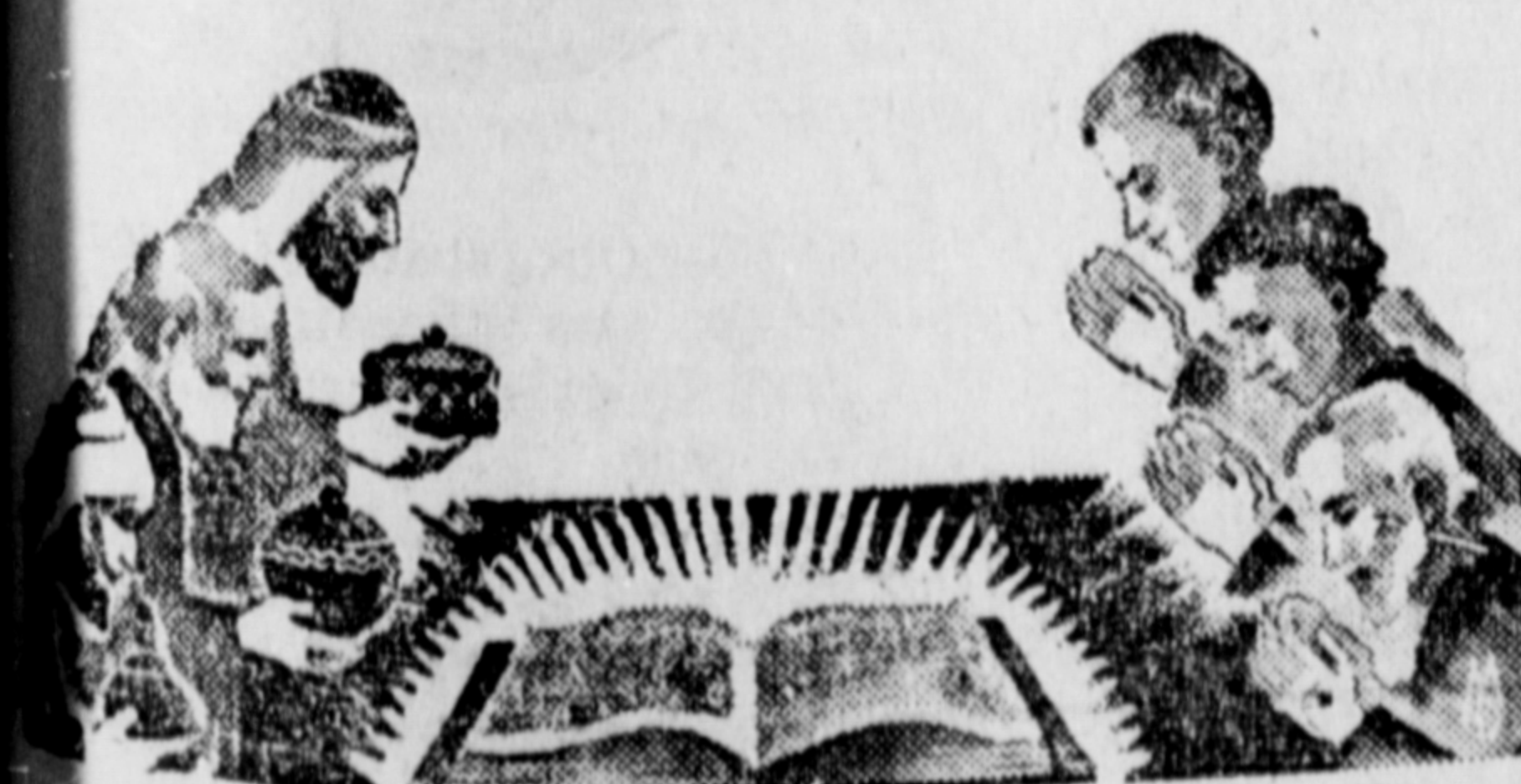
The Whole Bible for the Whole World.



#### Annunciation Pro-Cathedral

"... and it came to pass, that when they were there her days were accomplished, that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him up in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger . . ."

Pontifical High Mass at mid-night.  
His Excellency Most Rev. Anthony Jordan, O.M.I.  
Masses on Christmas Day at 8, 9 and 10:30 o'clock.  
Benediction in the afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.



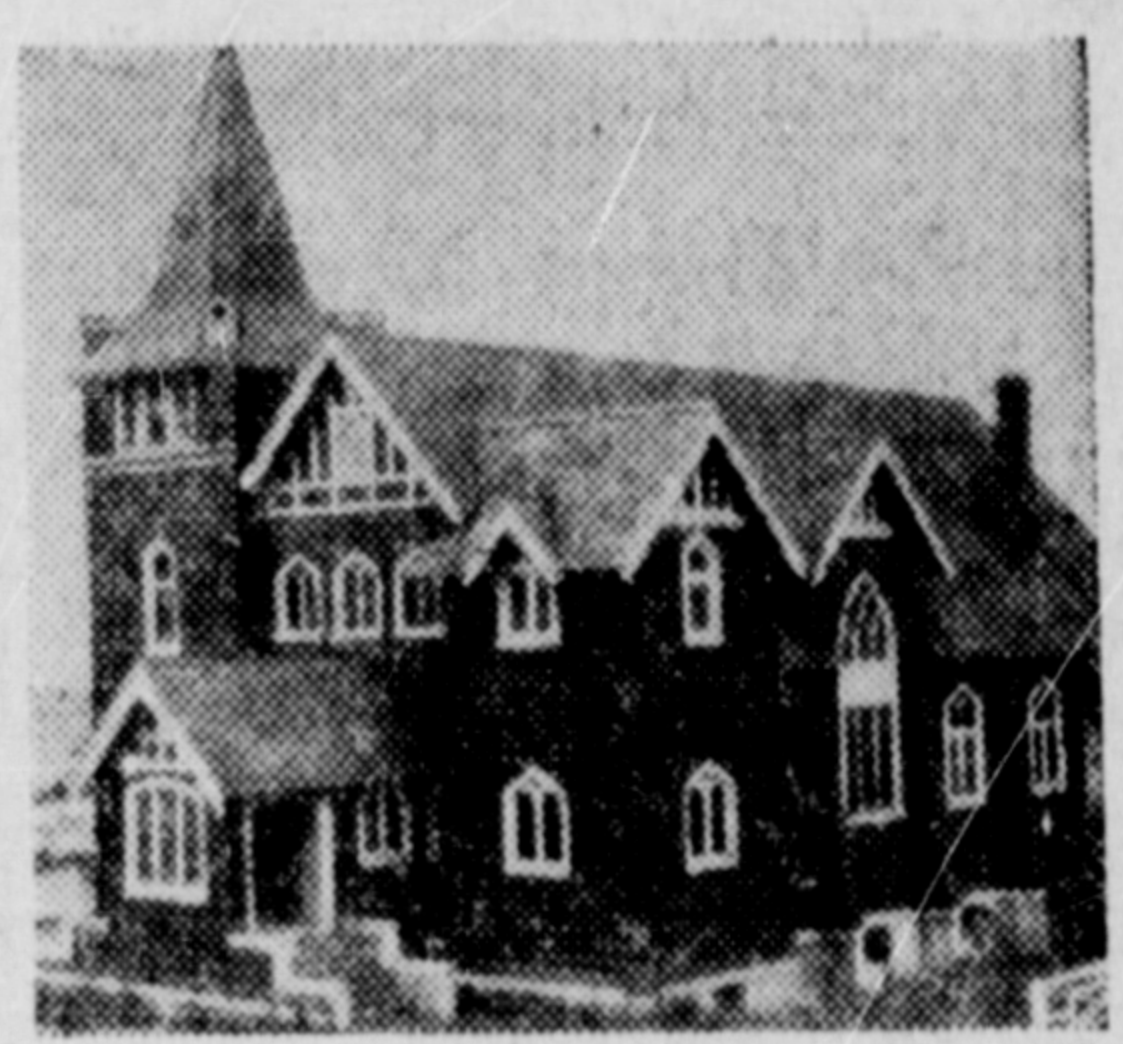
#### First Presbyterian Church

Fourth Avenue East  
Rev. A. F. MacSween, B.A., Minister  
Mrs. E. J. Smith, Choir Leader

Christmas Sunday, 1945

11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship. The Church School will worship with the congregation at this service. Anthem—Junior Choir: "The King of Kings Is Born, 'Hallelujah.'" Duet Shirley Hougan, Georgina Mitchell: "We May Find Him Still."

7:30 p.m.—"O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM." A Christmas cantata—Senior Choir. Soloists: Mrs. W. M. Martin, Miss Marion Owens, Mr. J. A. Teng.  
A cordial invitation to worship with this congregation is extended to all.



#### St. Andrew's Cathedral

Bishop—Rt. Rev. J. B. Gibson, D.D.  
Organist and Choirmaster—Peter Lien.

Sunday School Superintendent—Frank Skinner.

Sunday, December 23

10:00 a.m.—Bible Class.  
11:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer and Sermon. Preacher—Rev. Gordon Smith.  
12:30 p.m.—Sunday School.  
7:30 p.m.—CAROL SERVICE.

Christmas Eve  
11:15 p.m.—Holy Communion.

Christmas Day  
9:00 a.m.—Holy Communion.  
11:00 a.m.—Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.



#### Full Gospel Tabernacle

221 Sixth Avenue West

Rev. J. Linney, Pastor

Sunday, December 23

11:00 a.m.—Text: "Born of the Virgin."  
12:15 p.m.—Sunday School.  
7:30 p.m.—Text: "On Earth Peace and Goodwill."

Christmas Day

11:00 a.m.—Christmas Service.

Special music at all services.



#### Soldiers' and Airmen's Christian Association

Christmas Greetings!

"... A multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth PEACE, goodwill toward men."

Peace, perfect peace, in this dark world of sin?  
The blood of Jesus whispers peace within.

Peace, perfect peace, by thronging duties pressed?  
To do the will of Jesus, this is rest.

Peace, perfect peace, with sorrows surging round?  
On Jesus' bosom nought but calm is found.

Illustrated carol song service at the S.A.C.A. Lodge, Sunday, December 23, 9 p.m.



#### Salvation Army

Citadel, Grenville Court

Your presence in Church at Christmas time is a tribute to the memory of Christ who bled and died to bring salvation and to teach the lessons of Love and Peace to all. Visit your Church all Christmas season.

Sunday, December 23

11:00 a.m.—Holiness meeting.  
12:15 p.m.—Company meeting.  
7:30 p.m.—Salvation meeting.

Christmas Music.

Christmas Day

Service at 10:30 a.m.



#### St. Peter's Anglican Church

(SEAL COVE)

UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN,  
UNTO US A SON IS GIVEN.

The Christmas Festival will be celebrated in St. Peter's Church at the following services:

December 23

10:00 a.m.—Holy Communion.  
11:00 a.m.—Family Service combining the Bible Class, Sunday School and Parents.  
7:45 p.m.—A Choral Service will be held in the Parish Hall. Come and sing carols and Christmas hymns and hear the old familiar story of the Birth of the Savior.

December 25—Christmas Day

A Watch Night Service with Holy Communion will be celebrated at 12 midnight Christmas Eve.  
A Christmas Service will be held at 11 a.m. Christmas Day. Christmas is a Christian holiday, a remembrance of the coming to all mankind of the Son of God. Let us celebrate it this year in a Christian fashion.