

THE NEVER-ENDING STORY

LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS



MUSWELL HILL METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, . December 18th, 1994, 6.30 pm

SIDE A

ORDER OF SERVICE

INTROIT : The coming child

OPENING SENTENCES

Leader My friends, let us love one another, for love is of God.

All And whoever loves is born of God and knows God.

Leader Whoever does not love, does not know God

All for God is love.

Leader In this was the love of God made manifest among us

All that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

Leader In this is love, not that we loved God

All but that he loved us,

Leader My friends, if God so loved us we also ought to love one another.

HYMN 79 Of the Father's love begotten
Verse 6⁺ Sing, ye heights of heav'n, his praises;
Angels and archangels sing!
Where so e'er ye be, ye faithful,
Let your joyous anthems ring
Every tongue his name confessing,
Countless voices answering,
Evermore and evermore.

During the singing of this hymn, candles will be lit around the church.

PRAYER OF PRAISE

FIRST READING Genesis 9.8-17 God's promise to Noah

CHOIR Ding dong ding

SECOND READING Isaiah 9.2, 6-7
The prophet looks forward to the light of Christ.

CHOIR Come thou redeemer of the earth

PAT SOLO

HYMN 104 Good Christians all rejoice,

THIRD READING Isaiah 59.14-20
God's promise of justice

CHOIR What child is this? *CLARINET*

FOURTH READING Luke 1.26-38
The angel Gabriel visits Mary.

HYMN 107 In the bleak midwinter

FIFTH READING Luke 2.1-7
Jesus is born.

HYMN 114 Once in royal David's city

SIXTH READING Luke 2.8-20
Shepherds hear good news

CHOIR Torches!

HYMN 118 See him lying on a bed of straw *INSTRUMENTS*

SEVENTH READING Matthew 2.1-12
Visitors from the East come to
worship Jesus.

TURN OVER SIDE B

THE OFFERING
The choir sing: Past three O'clock. *SOLO'S*

POETRY The story continues

HYMN 108 It came upon the midnight clear.

EIGHTH READING Revelation 21.1-7
Jesus, the beginning and the end.

HYMN 241 Lo, he comes with clouds descending
The choir sings an extra verse between verses 2 and 3.

PRAYERS

Sung Response:

All To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
in you I trust, O my God.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom 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 kingdom, the power and the
glory, for ever and ever, Amen.

HYMN 110 O come all ye faithful
Omitting the final verse

THE BLESSING

Leader The Lord be with you

All And also with you

Leader Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Leader May he who by his incarnation gathered into
one things earthly and heavenly, bestow upon
you the fullness of inward peace and
goodwill; and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be
upon you and remain with you always.

All Amen

RECESSIONAL Chorale