**New Kilpatrick**

**Christmas Eve and Christmas Day**

**Podcast**

**John 1:1-5**

**Gathering**

This is where we believe again

Tell the story and trust again

That flesh is just the right size

To fit all of God

And hope

And light

And promise

And forgiveness

And love

And so we find ourselves

In this unique place

With a mother and father and a God

None of whom are able to comprehend

The weight of the promise

They bear

**Welcome**

Hello, I’m Roddy Hamilton the minister of new Kilpatrick Parish and on behalf of us all, I hope this season is special, peaceful and a time to pause and reflect just for a few moments on the promise we are given.

And in this time, I hope the promises we speak of become the sound of a child crying and gurgling and lying in a manger. So, in this short time together, be it Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, we create that unique community that expects and hopes and dares believe, God has become one of us.

**Reading: John 1:1-5**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

The same was in the beginning with God.

All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

**Prayer**

The smallest word of God

The tiniest hope

The most fragile light

All come together

Speak here

Are proclaimed among us

Pronounced by angels

In the biggest word there is:

Love

Come and be born as one of us

The word becomes flesh

No longer print

No longer a story

No longer a creed

But human

In all our imperfect form

May we make room for you here

In the guise of every stranger

Love

Come and be born as one of us

In all the good news

We are drawn to

And so readily hold

May we recognise the truth

Of the vulnerable and frightened way

Heaven comes to earth

May we find you

In the love that loved you into being

Come and be born as one of us

In all our journeys

May we find they all lead here

To the story of the stable

The child who is born

The time that is right

And the world waiting for love

That will lead us

Towards each other again

Love

Come and be born among us

**Reflection**

There is a silence

That holds the worry and fear

Of a mother giving birth

That holds the hesitation of a God

Letting go heaven

And moving into flesh

That holds the anxiety of a father

Whose wife is birthing

A child not his own

That holds the angel chorus

Waiting for their first note

In a song of good news

That holds the stars in place

And leads the wise ones

To the place of birth

That holds the shepherds’ excitement

First with the news:

The prince of peace is born

There is a silence here

That holds each one of us

In a promise of God

(Silence)

Let us break the silence

And proclaim the ancient promise

Immanuel is among us

**Benediction**

Go in peace

Share that peace

Know that peace

Be that peace in the world

And the grace