Opening Carol: CP "All Poor Folk and Humble"

1.The History of Christmas Hymn # CP "O Come All Ye Faithful"

2. The Meaning of Christmas

Let us pray together prayer #2- The baby in the manger was a message of God's love and yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and sister and offer them your hand. We pray that each Christmas finds us quicker to love friends and family, even total strangers for it is Christmas every time we let God love others through us. Amen

Hymn # CP 137 "What Child is This"

3. Came Down from Heaven

Let us pray prayer #3:

Gracious God, may the Christmas light glow in our windows, may the music of the carols warm our discouraged souls and make us want to sing again.

May the manger scene catch our eye and hold us in its fascination. May we realize that every gift is as special as we want to make it. May the Christmas tree draw us to its dazzling lights.

May our love be even more dazzling and welcome everyone home. May Jesus and Mary and Joseph bless us all and keep us patient and happy and joyous all season long.

May we remember the sick and the lonely and the hungry and the frightened and any whose names we may want to say aloud or in the silence of our hearts. *pause*

And may it be, no matter what, may this have been the best Christmas ever. This we ask in Jesus' name, Amen Hymn # CP 123 "Once in Royal David's City"

4. Mary Did You Know

Let us pray prayer #4 :

Gracious God, help us to hear that message that one homeless night, long ago, in a place called Bethlehem, our Saviour was born. Help us to celebrate Christmas by laying down our power, honour and prestige, all our vanity, pride and self-will at the manger so that we may stand by the lowly and let God alone be exalted **Our offertory Hymn #128 "THE VIRGIN MARY HAD A BABY BOY"**

<u>5. No Room</u>

Let us pray together prayer#5

Precious Jesus, during this busy Christmas season, help me to be more like Wally. Don't let me be a robot that just repeats the script from memory. Don't let me be so busy that I push for my way over Your ways or above the needs of others.

Even in the crowds help me see individuals who need a room or a smile or maybe a kind word, Amen

Hymn# MP 237" Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

6. Bless All the Dear Children

And together prayer#6:

Precious Jesus, we pray and ask for your blessings upon our sons and daughters, our grandchildren and great-grandchildren our nephews and nieces.

We entrust them into your tender care.

The greatest prayer of our hearts is that we would all be together forever in heaven with you. In your incomparable name we pray. Amen

Hymn #CP126 "Away in a Manger"

7. God is not Dead

Victory in Jesus, my Saviour forever, thank you for the eternal hope that You give us.

In the midst of our despair and hopelessness, you bring peace.

If you're not dead, then hope is not dead.

The "Christmas Bells" will remind us again this year that we can trust in You!

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

I heard the bells on Christmas Day, their old familiar carols play. And wild and sweet the words repeat Of peace on earth, good will to all. I thought how as the day had come, the belfries of all Christendom, Had rolled along the unbroken song, Of peace on earth, good will to all. And in despair bowed my head, there is no peace on earth I said; For hate is strong and mocks the song Of peace on earth, good will to all. Then pealed the bells more loud and deep; God is not dead, nor foes He sleep; The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, With peace on earth, good will to all. Then ringing singing on its way the world revolved from night to day A voice, a chime, a chant sublime of peace on earth good will to all