

# THE NYAPC CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Sunday Dec 21 - Bach's Magnificat | Christmas Eve Services 5:30 pm (Family) and 8:00 pm (Communion)

## “Who Built the Stable?” A Nativity Poem by Ashley Bryan

(a bit of Advent-Christmas imagination)

Who built the stable where the baby Jesus lay?

Was it built of bricks? Was it built of clay?

Was it built of wooden sticks? Was it built of sod?

Was it made by human hands? Was it built by God?

A child built the stable, a little shepherd boy,

Apprenticed as a carpenter in his father's employ.

He built the wooden stable for his donkey, ox, and sheep-

A shelter from the weather, a home at night for sleep.

He watered them at sunrise where they'd graze and freely roam.

He called to them as sunset - "Follow me!" and led them home.

Was Jesus born in Italy, Russia, Spain, Japan?

***Congratulations to Rev. Sam McFerran on his Ordination on Dec 14th!***

## Merry Christmas! (*almost there*)

Thank you, thank you, thank you for all of you who helped make this year's Christmas pageant on December 14th such a wonderful experience! Very special thanks to all of our children and youth, to Molly Wagner, Karen Dunlap, Stephen Dunlap and all of our wonderful musicians!



No! He was born in Bethlehem, a rich and verdant land.

How did Joseph and pregnant Mary find a play to stay?

When they went knock knock knocking and were always turned away?

The little shepherd shelter them, for one night he saw a star;

And - Lo! it great in brightness approaching from afar.

He looked about in wonder as there came into his sight,

A poor man and a woman wandering in the night.

A boy asked, "Can I help you?" Gently Mary spoke to him.

"My child will soon be born," she said. "There's no room at the inn."

"Oh, come with me!" the boy exclaimed. "My stable's a warm place.

My animals will welcome you, I'll sweep and clear a space."

He made a bin the cradle of straw and new-mown hay.

And when at dawn the child was born... He in the manger lay.

The boy looked in the infant's eyes and in his heart he knew:

The babe would be a carpenter. He'd be a shepherd too.

