



Victoria Methodist Church, Bristol is excited to be hosting another Advent Mystery Knitalong in 2025!

Over the course of Advent participants are invited to knit a small neck scarf, (some of the testers found it also worked beautifully as a hair scarf!) which can be worn or given as a present on Christmas Day. The exact design of the scarf is a surprise,

as it's a Mystery Knitalong, and will be revealed as you knit, but it will feature a lace design!

The Knitalong will follow the format of previous Advent Knitalongs: the pattern will be laid out across 24 days (1st - 24th December) and each daily chunk of knitting will be accompanied by a Bible verse following the theme of the weekly reflections.

YARN/NEEDLE REQUIREMENTS

The scarf can be knitted in a variety of yarn weights (a solid colour is best): you'll need either 40 - 45 grams of yarn if using 4ply/fingering weight yarn or Sport weight (and use 3.75 mm needles), or 50 - 55 grams of yarn if using DK weight yarn (and use 4 mm needles). The gauge will vary depending on which yarn weight you use but as long as you use a more generous needle size than you would normally for your chosen yarn then the lace motifs should show up well and the fabric should drape beautifully once blocked.

The scarf reaches a maximum of 33 stitches across, so short needles will be fine!

Additionally, knitters will find 2 stitch markers useful for keeping their place in the pattern (these needn't be anything fancy; small loops of scrap yarn or tiny loom bands will do just as well as shop bought stitch markers) and also a removable marker/progress keeper to attach to the front of the knitting later on, as the front and back of the work will look very similar and this will help to keep track of which side you're on!

LIFELINES

As the scarf pattern contains a fair few lace stitches, less experienced knitters might want to think about using lifelines. These are short lengths of yarn or thread (or some people like to use dental floss!) which are woven through the stitches with a sewing/darning needle at regular intervals so that if stitches are irretrievably dropped or obvious mistakes are made which can't be fixed satisfactorily, the knitting can be undone back to the lifeline and restarted from that point. There are plenty of tutorials available on YouTube and they are quick and easy to insert/use and can save hours of potentially lost knitting!

STITCH KEY

K = knit
pm = place a stitch marker
sm = slip the marker from left needle to right needle
rm = remove marker
YFsl1 = yarn forward, slip one, i.e. bring the yarn to the front of the work and slip the final stitch purl-wise
YO = yarn over
K2tog = knit the next two stitches together
SSK = slip the next two stitches individually knit-wise, then knit them together through the back loop.

CDD = central double decrease, i.e. slip the next two stitches individually knit-wise, then knit the next stitch and pass the 2 previously slipped stitches over the end of the right needle.

RLI = right lifted increase*: with the right needle, lift the horizontal bump of the stitch immediately below the first stitch on the left needle and knit it through the back loop.

LLI = left lifted increase*: with the left needle, lift the horizontal bump of the stitch two rows below the first stitch on the right needle and knit it through the back loop.

* if preferred, knitters may choose to use an alternative increase method. Some of the test knitters preferred to pick up the bar between the stitches and knit into that to create the extra stitch each time. Or if you have used another method in the past (e.g. Kfb/Kbf) then feel free to use that (these are all demonstrated on YouTube). The garter stitch-style fabric of the scarf is quite forgiving, and the increases won't be easily seen, so choose whichever method you find most straightforward.

MODIFICATIONS

There are a few ways that the scarf can be modified. Knitters who are new to lace knitting can make the following substitutions if it makes life easier!

- at the end of each row the pattern requires a YFsl1 (see stitch key). This is just to provide a neater edge to the scarf but is not essential; knitters may prefer simply to knit the last stitch of each row instead.
- in the second half of the pattern there are a few CDD stitches (which decrease 3 stitches to 1 stitch). If preferred, knitters can choose to knit those 3 stitches together (K3tog).

To vary the length of the finished scarf, knitters might want to consider the following:

If knitted as per the pattern exactly, the scarf will measure approximately 75 - 90 cm in length once blocked (see blocking instructions below). If knitters are running short of time or yarn, they may choose to omit rows 121 - 136 and 201 - 216, which will reduce the scarf by about 8 - 10 cm.

Alternatively, if knitters would like a longer scarf, rows 121 - 136 and 201 - 216 can be repeated one or more times, but more yarn will be needed!

REFLECTIONS AND PATTERN

For many of us in the Northern part of the world, there is always the hope that it might snow at Christmas time and we will have a 'White Christmas'. And Christmas cards with snowy themes abound. Often this remains a dream and when it does happen it can be a mixed blessing – causing treacherous conditions outdoors and disrupting travel to loved ones. But the idealised dream remains. This year we will use the theme of snow to take us through our Advent Knitalong and it will remind us of some of the traditional Advent themes: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.



Snow comes in winter when lots of plants have lost their leaves and died down. Many animals are hibernating and many birds have flown to warmer places. The days are short and the nights are long. Through all of this dreariness, we look forward to the renewal we know will come in spring.

As Christians we hold onto the hope that God can also continually renew us. In times of sadness, stagnation or decay we are reassured that this is not the end, but that God can do something new in and for us. And so for this first week we are accompanied by Bible verses that help us reflect on the hope of God's renewal.

1ST DECEMBER

Isaiah 43:18-19

Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

PATTERN

Cast on 5 stitches, fairly loosely. (NB odd numbered rows will be the front/right side of the work; even numbered rows will be the back/wrong side.)

Set up row: K5.

1. K1, RLI, K3, LLI, YFsl1. (7 st.)
2. K6, YFsl1.
3. K6, YFsl1.
4. K6, YFsl1.
5. K2, K2tog, YO, K2, YFsl1.
6. K6, YFsl1.
7. K1, RLI, K5, LLI, YFsl1. (9 st.)

8. K8, YFsl1.
9. K1, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, YFsl1.
10. K8, YFsl1.

At this point you might like to add a removable marker to the front of your knitting, as back and front of the work look similar; this will help keep track of whether you're on the right or wrong side of the project! You can move the marker up the knitting as you go, keeping it on the right side of the work so it is clearly visible as you start each row.

11. K8, YFsl1.
12. K8, YFsl1.
13. K3, K2tog, YO, K3, YFsl1.
14. K8, YFsl1.

2ND DECEMBER

Ezekiel 11:19

I will give them a new heart, and put a new spirit within them; I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh.

PATTERN

15. K1, RLI, K1, K2tog, YO, K1, YO, SSK, K1, LLI, YFsl1. (11 st.)
16. K10, YFsl1.
17. K2, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, K1, YFsl1.
18. K10, YFsl1.
19. K1, K2tog, YO, K5, YO, SSK, YFsl1.
20. K10, YFsl1.
21. K4, K2tog, YO, K4, YFsl1.
22. K10, YFsl1.
23. K1, RLI, K9, LLI, YFsl1. (13 st.)
24. K12, YFsl1.
25. K3, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, K2, YFsl1.
26. K12, YFsl1.
27. K12, YFsl1.
28. K12, YFsl1.
29. K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, YFsl1.
30. K12, YFsl1.
31. K1, RLI, K3, K2tog, YO, K1, YO, SSK, K3, LLI, YFsl1. (15 st.)
32. K14, YFsl1.
33. K4, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, K3, YFsl1.
34. K14, YFsl1.

3RD DECEMBER

Mark 1:27

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, “What is this? A new teaching—and with authority!”

PATTERN

35. K3, K2tog, YO, K5, YO, SSK, K2, YFsl1.

36. K14, YFsl1.

37. K2, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, K1, YFsl1.

NB on the following row, two stitch markers are placed.

38. K4, pm, K7, pm, K3, YFsl1.

39. K1, RLI, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K7, sm, K1, YO, SSK, LLI, YFsl1. (17 st.)

40. K16 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

41. K1, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, YFsl1.

42. K16 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

43. K16 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

44. K16 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

45. K3, K2tog, YO, sm, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, YO, SSK, K2, YFsl1.

46. K16 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

47. K1, RLI, K4, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K1, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K4, LLI, YFsl1. (19 st.)

48. K18 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

49. K2, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K1, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

50. K18, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.

51. K5, K2tog, YO, K5, YO, SSK, K4, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

52. K6, pm, K7, pm, K5, YFsl1.

4TH DECEMBER

Matthew 9:16-17

No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak, for the patch pulls away from the cloak, and a worse tear is made. Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are destroyed; but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved.

PATTERN

53. K4, K2tog, YO, sm, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, YO, SSK, K3, YFsl1.

54. K18 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

55. K1, RLI, K2, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K7, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K2, LLI, YFsl1. (21 st.)

56. K20 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

57. K3, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K2, YFsl1.

58. K20 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
59. K2, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, K7, sm, K3, YO, SSK, K1, YFsl1.
60. K20 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
61. K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, YFsl1.
62. K20 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
63. K1, RLI, K6, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K1, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K6, LLI, YFsl1. (23 st.)
64. K22 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
65. K4, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K3, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

66. K22, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.
67. K7, K2tog, YO, K5, YO, SSK, K6, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

68. K8, pm, K7, pm, K7, YFsl1.
69. (K2, K2tog, YO) x 2, sm, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, K1, YFsl1.
70. K22 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

5TH DECEMBER

2 Corinthians 5:17

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

PATTERN

71. K1, RLI, K4, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K7, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K4, LLI, YFsl1. (25 st.)
72. K24 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
73. K1, (K2tog, YO, K2) x 2, sm, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, sm, (K2, YO, SSK) x 2, YFsl1.
74. K24 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
75. K4, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, K7, sm, K3, YO, SSK, K3, YFsl1.
76. K24 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

77. K3, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, rm, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, rm, (YO, SSK, K2) x 2, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

78. K5, pm, K15, pm, K4, YFsl1.
79. K1, RLI, K1, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K5, K2tog, YO, K1, YO, SSK, K5, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K1, LLI, YFsl1. (27 st.)
80. K26 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
81. K2, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K1, YFsl1.
82. K26 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
83. K1, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, K3, K2tog, YO, K5, YO, SSK, K3, sm, K3, YO, SSK, YFsl1.
84. K26 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

85. K4, K2tog, YO, sm, (K2, K2tog, YO) x 2, K3, YO, SSK, K2, sm, YO, SSK, K3, YFsl1.
86. K26 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

6TH DECEMBER

Revelation 21:5

See, I am making all things new.

PATTERN

87. K1, RLI, K5, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K9, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K5, LLI, YFsl1. (29 st.)
88. K28 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
89. K3, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K2, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

90. K28, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.
91. K6, K2tog, YO, K13, YO, SSK, K5, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

92. K7, pm, K15, pm, K6, YFsl1.
93. K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, (K2, K2tog, YO) x 2, K3, YO, SSK, K2, sm, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, YFsl1.
94. K28 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
95. K1, RLI, K3, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K5, K2tog, YO, K1, YO, SSK, K5, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K3, LLI, YFsl1. (31 st.)
96. K30 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
97. K4, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K3, YFsl1.
98. K30 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
99. K3, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, K3, K2tog, YO, K5, YO, SSK, K3, sm, K3, YO, SSK, K2, YFsl1.
100. K30 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

Week 2 - Peace



One of the properties of snow is that it absorbs sound. Everything sounds slightly muffled when the world is covered in snow. There can be a real peacefulness about the presence of snow. And at the same time your ears hear new delicate sounds, like the slight crunch as you walk on the snow and compact it.

Silence is an important part of Christian spirituality. As we take time to be completely silent and to listen out for God we discover not so much that we hear the voice of God,

but that God, too, is listening to us, paying us absolute attention. Being silent in the presence of God is a way to discover and be reminded of God's devotion to us and be filled with God's love and peace.

Knitting can be a quiet peaceful activity. Appreciate your knitting time as a gift from God, as a time to be quiet and away from the hustle and bustle of life. A time to rest and be filled with the peace of God. Our Bible verses this week all remind us about peace and stillness.

7TH DECEMBER

1 Kings 19:11-13

A mighty wind split the mountains and shattered the rocks before the LORD. But the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind came an earthquake. But the LORD was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake came fire. But the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire there was a light sound of silence. When Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

PATTERN

101. (K2, K2tog, YO) x 2, sm, (K2, K2tog, YO) x 2, K3, YO, SSK, K2, sm, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, K1, YFsl1.

102. K30 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

103. K1, RLI, K7, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K9, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K7, LLI, YFsl1. (33 st.)

NB the stitch count now remains at 33 stitches until row 219.

104. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

105. K5, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K4, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

106. K32, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.

107. K8, K2tog, YO, K13, YO, SSK, K7, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

108. K9, pm, K15, pm, K8, YFsl1.

109. K3, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, (K2, K2tog, YO) x 2, K3, YO, SSK, K2, sm, (YO, SSK, K2) x 2, YFsl1.

110. K32, (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

111. K6, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K5, K2tog, YO, K1, YO, SSK, K5, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K5, YFsl1.

112. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

8TH DECEMBER

Philippians 4:5-7

The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

PATTERN

113. K5, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K4, YFsl1.

114. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

115. K4, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, K3, K2tog, YO, K5, YO, SSK, K3, sm, K3, YO, SSK, K3, YFsl1.

116. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

117. K3, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, (K2, K2tog, YO) x 2, K3, YO, SSK, K2, sm, (YO, SSK, K2) x 2, YFsl1.

118. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

119. K9, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K9, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K8, YFsl1.

120. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

121. K5, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K4, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

122. K32, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.

123. K8, K2tog, YO, K13, YO, SSK, K7, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

124. K9, pm, K15, pm, K8, YFsl1.

9TH DECEMBER

Ezekiel 37:26

I will make a covenant of peace with them; it will be an everlasting covenant.

PATTERN

125. K3, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, (K2, K2tog, YO) x 2, K3, YO, SSK, K2, sm, (YO, SSK, K2) x 2, YFsl1.

126. K32, (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

127. K6, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K5, K2tog, YO, K1, YO, SSK, K5, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K5, YFsl1.

128. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

129. K5, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K4, YFsl1.

130. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
131. K4, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, K3, K2tog, YO, K5, YO, SSK, K3, sm, K3, YO, SSK, K3, YFsl1.
132. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
133. K3, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, (K2, K2tog, YO) x 2, K3, YO, SSK, K2, sm, (YO, SSK, K2) x 2, YFsl1.
134. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

10TH DECEMBER

Mark 1.35

Very early in the morning Jesus got up and went out. He went away to a remote spot and remained there in prayer.

PATTERN

135. K9, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K9, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K8, YFsl1.
136. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
137. K5, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K4, YFsl1.
- NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.*
138. K32, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.
139. K8, K2tog, YO, K13, YO, SSK, K7, YFsl1
- NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.*
140. K9, pm, K15, pm, K8, YFsl1.
141. K3, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, K2, K2tog, YO, K7, YO, SSK, K2, sm, (YO, SSK, K2) x 2, YFsl1.
142. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
143. K6, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K15, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K5, YFsl1
144. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

11TH DECEMBER

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

PATTERN

145. K5, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K15, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K4, YFsl1.
146. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
147. K4, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, K5, K2tog, YO, K1, YO, SSK, K5, sm, K3, YO, SSK, K3, YFsl1.
148. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
149. K3, K2tog, YO, K4, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K3, SSK, YO, K4, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K4, YO, SSK, K2, YFsl1.
150. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

151. K9, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K7, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K8, YFsl1.
 152. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
 153. K6, SSK, YO, K1, sm, K3, YO, SSK, K5, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, K1, YO, K2tog, K5, YFsl1.
 154. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

12TH DECEMBER

Proverbs 14:30

A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones.

PATTERN

155. K5, (SSK, YO) x 2, sm, K4, YO, SSK, K3, K2tog, YO, K4, sm, (YO, K2tog) x 2, K4, YFsl1.
 156. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
 157. K9, sm, K5, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K5, sm, K8, YFsl1.
 158. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
 159. K9, sm, K6, YO, CDD, YO, K6, sm, K8, YFsl1.
 160. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
 161. K5, (K2tog, YO) x 2, sm, (K2tog, YO) x 4, K1, (YO, SSK) x 3, sm, (YO, SSK) x 2, K4, YFsl1.
 162. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

13TH DECEMBER

Colossians 3:15

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

PATTERN

163. K9, sm, K5, K2tog, YO, K1, YO, SSK, K5, sm, K8, YFsl1.
 164. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
 165. K9, sm, K4, K2tog, YO, K3, YO, SSK, K4, sm, K8, YFsl1.
NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.
 166. K32, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.
 167. K6, (YO, K2tog) x 2, K2, K2tog, YO, K5, YO, SSK, K2, (SSK, YO) x 2, K5, YFsl1.
NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.
 168. K9, pm, K15, pm, K8, YFsl1.
 169. K7, YO, K2tog, sm, K2, K2tog, YO, K7, YO, SSK, K2, sm, SSK, YO, K6, YFsl1.
 170. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

Week 3 - Joy



Snow is often associated with children playing and having fun, be it building snowmen or igloos, sledging, making snow angels or having snowball fights. And when, with children's eyes, we take a close look at flakes of snow, we discover that no two snowflakes are the same. Each one is unique just as we are all unique.

Paul describes joy as one of the fruits of the Spirit who dwells within us. And so this is a good opportunity to consider what brings joy to our lives, how God may increase our joy,

how we can take enjoyment in our unique combination of skills and interests, and how we can give and receive joy from others who may be very different from us.

This week's Bible verses help us examine these questions by focussing on themes of joy and fullness of life.

14TH DECEMBER

Genesis 1:27a & 31a

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them.

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.

PATTERN

171. K9, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K9, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K8, YFsl1.

172. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

173. K4, YO, SSK, K3, sm, K2tog, YO, K4, SSK, YO, K5, YO, SSK, sm, K3, K2tog, YO, K3, YFsl1.

174. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

175. K5, YO, SSK, K2, sm, K5, K2tog, YO, K1, YO, SSK, K5, sm, K2, K2tog, YO, K4, YFsl1.

176. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

177. K6, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K15, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K5, YFsl1.

178. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

179. K7, YO, SSK, sm, K15, sm, K2tog, YO, K6, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

180. K32, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.

181. K4, (YO, SSK, K2) x 2, YO, SSK, K5, (K2tog, YO, K2) x 2, K2tog, YO, K3, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

182. K9, pm, K15, pm, K8, YFsl1.

15TH DECEMBER

Psalm 139:14

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

PATTERN

183. K9, sm, YO, SSK, K11, K2tog, YO, sm, K8, YFsl1.

184. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

185. K6, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K5, YFsl1.

186. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

187. K9, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K7, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K8, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

188. K32, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.

189. K4, (YO, SSK, K2) x 2, YO, SSK, K1, (K2tog, YO, K2) x 3, K2tog, YO, K3, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

190. K9, pm, K15, pm, K8, YFsl1.

191. K5, YO, SSK, K2, sm, K4, YO, SSK, K3, K2tog, YO, K4, sm, K2, K2tog, YO, K4, YFsl1.

192. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

16TH DECEMBER

Luke 2:10-11

The angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord.'

PATTERN

193. K6, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K5, YFsl1.

194. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

195. K7, YO, SSK, sm, K6, YO, CDD, YO, K6, sm, K2tog, YO, K6, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

196. K32, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.

197. K4, (YO, SSK, K2) x 2, YO, SSK, K1, (K2tog, YO, K2) x 3, K2tog, YO, K3, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

198. K9, pm, K15, pm, K8, YFsl1.

199. K9, sm, YO, SSK, K11, K2tog, YO, sm, K8, YFsl1.

200. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

201. K6, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K5, YFsl1.

202. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

17TH DECEMBER

John 10:10

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

PATTERN

203. K9, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K7, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K8, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

204. K32, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.

205. K4, (YO, SSK, K2) x 2, YO, SSK, K1, (K2tog, YO, K2) x 3, K2tog, YO, K3, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

206. K9, pm, K15, pm, K8, YFsl1.

207. K5, YO, SSK, K2, sm, K4, YO, SSK, K3, K2tog, YO, K4, sm, K2, K2tog, YO, K4, YFsl1.

208. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

209. K6, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K5, YFsl1.

210. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

211. K7, YO, SSK, sm, K6, YO, CDD, YO, K6, sm, K2tog, YO, K6, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

212. K32, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.

213. K4, (YO, SSK, K2) x 2, YO, SSK, K1, (K2tog, YO, K2) x 3, K2tog, YO, K3, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

214. K9, pm, K15, pm, K8, YFsl1.

18TH DECEMBER

Matthew 13:44

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

PATTERN

215. K9, sm, YO, SSK, K11, K2tog, YO, sm, K8, YFsl1.

216. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

217. K6, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K5, YFsl1.

218. K32 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

219. K1, SSK, K6, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K7, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K6, K2tog, YFsl1. (31 st.)

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

220. K30, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.

221. K3, (YO, SSK, K2) x 2, YO, SSK, K1, (K2tog, YO, K2) x 3, K2tog, YO, K2, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

222. K9, pm, K13, pm, K8, YFsl1.

223. K4, YO, SSK, K3, sm, K3, YO, SSK, K3, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, K3, K2tog, YO, K3, YFsl1.

224. K30 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

19TH DECEMBER

Luke 15:7

I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.

PATTERN

225. K5, YO, SSK, K2, sm, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, K2, K2tog, YO, K4, YFsl1.

226. K30 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

227. K1, SSK, K3, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K5, YO, CDD, YO, K5, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K3, K2tog, YFsl1.
(29 st.)

228. K28 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

229. (K2, YO, SSK) x 2, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K1, (K2tog, YO, K2) x 2, sm, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K1, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

230. K28, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.

231. K7, YO, SSK, K11, K2tog, YO, K6, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

232. K8, pm, K13, pm, K7, YFsl1.

233. K4, YO, SSK, K2, sm, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, K2, K2tog, YO, K3, YFsl1.

234. K28 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

235. K1, SSK, K5, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K7, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K5, K2tog, YFsl1. (27 st.)

236. K26 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

237. K5, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K1, (K2tog, YO, K2) x 2, sm, K2tog, YO, K4, YFsl1.

238. K26 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

20TH DECEMBER

Psalms 5:11

Let all who take refuge in you rejoice;

let them ever sing for joy.

Spread your protection over them,

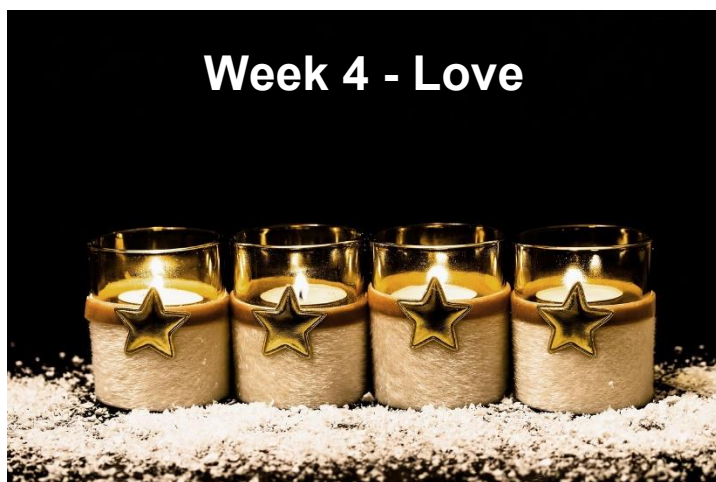
so that those who love your name may exult in you.

PATTERN

239. K7, sm, K3, YO, SSK, K3, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, K6, YFsl1.

240. K26 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

241. K3, YO, SSK, K2, sm, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, K2, K2tog, YO, K2, YFsl1.
242. K26 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
243. K1, SSK, K1, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K5, YO, CDD, YO, K5, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K1, K2tog, YFsl1. (25 st.)
244. K24 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
245. K4, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K1, (K2tog, YO, K2) x 2, sm, K2tog, YO, K3, YFsl1.
- NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.*
246. K24, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.
247. K5, YO, SSK, K11, K2tog, YO, K4, YFsl1.
- NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.*
248. K6, pm, K13, pm, K5, YFsl1.
249. K2, YO, SSK, K2, sm, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, K2, K2tog, YO, K1, YFsl1.
250. K24 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
251. K1, SSK, K3, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K7, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K3, K2tog, YFsl1. (23 st.)
252. K22 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
253. K3, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K1, (K2tog, YO, K2) x 2, sm, K2tog, YO, K2, YFsl1.
254. K22 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.



Snow reflects light. At night, when it is dark, a small amount of light goes much further when it is snowy than when it isn't.

Just as light is reflected by snow, we can see the love of God reflected in many things in the world: nature, art and music, the love of other people – and, of course, Jesus. Where have you seen reflections of God's love? How can we reflect the love of God, just as snow reflects light?

Our final set of Bible verses let us think about these things by picking up on the theme of love.

21ST DECEMBER

1 John 4:7

Love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

PATTERN

255. K5, sm, K3, YO, SSK, K3, K2tog, YO, K3, sm, K4, YFsl1.
256. K22 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.
257. K5, sm, YO, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, K4, YFsl1.

258. K22 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

259. K1, SSK, K2, rm, K5, YO, CDD, YO, K5, rm, K2, K2tog, YFsl1. (21 st.)

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

260. K6, pm, K9, pm, K5, YFsl1.

261. K2, YO, SSK, K2, sm, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, K2, K2tog, YO, K1, YFsl1.

262. K20 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

263. K3, YO, SSK, K1, sm, K9, sm, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, YFsl1.

264. K20 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

265. K4, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K3, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row.

266. K20, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.

267. K1, SSK, K2, YO, SSK, K7, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YFsl1. (19 st.)

NB stitch markers are placed on the following row.

268. K5, pm, K9, pm, K4, YFsl1.

269. K5, sm, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, K4, YFsl1.

270. K18 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

271. K5, sm, K1, YO, SSK, K3, K2tog, YO, K1, sm, K4, YFsl1.

272. K18 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

22ND DECEMBER

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

PATTERN

273. K3, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K2, YFsl1.

274. K18 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

275. K1, SSK, K2, sm, K3, YO, CDD, YO, K3, sm, K2, K2tog, YFsl1. (17 st.)

276. K16 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

277. K4, sm, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, sm, K3, YFsl1.

278. K16 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

279. K16 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

280. K16 (slipping markers as you go), YFsl1.

281. K2, YO, SSK, sm, K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, sm, K2tog, YO, K1, YFsl1.

NB stitch markers are removed on the following row (for the final time!)

282. K16, removing markers as you go, YFsl1.

283. K1, SSK, YO, SSK, K7, K2tog, YO, K2tog, YFsl1. (15 st.)

284. K14, YFsl1.
 285. K3, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K2, YFsl1.
 286. K14, YFsl1.
 287. K4, YO, SSK, K3, K2tog, YO, K3, YFsl1.
 288. K14, YFsl1.
 289. K5, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K4, YFsl1.
 290. K14, YFsl1.

23RD DECEMBER

Romans 8:38-29

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

PATTERN

291. K1, SSK, K3, YO, CDD, YO, K3, K2tog, YFsl1. (13 st.)
 292. K12, YFsl1.
 293. K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, K2tog, YO, K1, YFsl1.
 294. K12, YFsl1.
 295. K12, YFsl1.
 296. K12, YFsl1.
 297. K4, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K3, YFsl1.
 298. K12, YFsl1.
 299. K1, SSK, K7, K2tog, YFsl1. (11 st.)
 300. K10, YFsl1.
 301. K4, K2tog, YO, K4, YFsl1.
 302. K10, YFsl1.
 303. K2, YO, SSK, K3, K2tog, YO, K1, YFsl1.
 304. K10, YFsl1.
 305. K3, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K2, YFsl1.
 306. K10, YFsl1.
 307. K1, SSK, K1, YO, CDD, YO, K1, K2tog, YFsl1. (9 st.)
 308. K8, YFsl1.
 309. K3, K2tog, YO, K3, YFsl1.
 310. K8, YFsl1.

24TH DECEMBER

1 John 4:16

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

PATTERN

311. K8, YFsl1.
312. K8, YFsl1.
313. K2, YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO, K1, YFsl1.
314. K8, YFsl1.
315. K1, SSK, K3, K2tog, YFsl1. (7 st.)
316. K6, YFsl1.
317. K2, K2tog, YO, K2, YFsl1.
318. K6, YFsl1.
319. K6, YFsl1.
320. K6, YFsl1.
321. K1, SSK, K1, K2tog, YFsl1. (5 st.)
322. K5.
323. K5.

Cast off all stitches loosely and block as follows:

FINISHING/BLOCKING

Cast off all stitches loosely and wet block as follows: soak the scarf for half an hour or so in lukewarm water (a small amount of wool wash can be added if you like) and then gently squeeze out the excess water. Lay the scarf out to dry on a towel or blocking mat, stretching the fabric out to open up the lace stitches and use blocking pins to secure if you have any.

Leave to dry fully before unpinning; sew/weave in loose ends.

John 1:14, 16

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

We wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas, with love from Lyn, Helen, Vicky and all of us at Victoria Methodist Church xx