

## Norval News

### Special time of the year

By KAY WILSON  
Herald Special

The 9:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service was well attended at Norval United Church.

A beautiful service was conducted by the Rev. Ann Rowsell. Her Christmas Sermon was Meditating on The Distance To Bethlehem. The road was hazardous for Joseph and Mary. They were glad to take shelter in a lowly stable with a manger, where they laid the baby Jesus.

It was hazardous for the tired shepherds too, who left a couple behind to tend the sheep, as they trekked their way to Bethlehem, following the Star of the East.

But then wicked King Herod was plotting to kill all boy babies, and sent out a decree to this effect as he was jealous of a new young Savior and King.

Joseph had a dream that he must take Mary and the young child and move out of the country to Egypt.

Rev. Ann's message was listened to attentively.

Assisting with the service was Clark Lyons as Joseph and Mary Ann Moffatt as Mary.

Representing wise men were George Smith, Ford Rowsell and Fred Paul.

Reading the Christmas Scriptures were Charlie Forsyth, Ken McCormack, Glen Lyons and John Dunlop. Responsive reading was taken by Carol Ann Roberts and the Christmas Prayer was taken by Beth Laidlaw.

Adding to the musical part of the service, were the four Lyons grandchildren, Neil and Greg Lyons and Lesley Anne and David Robinson, who sang "Lift Up Your Heart". Communion was served by the elders.

Offering was taken by Ernie Reed and Fred Paul with prayer by Lois Reid. In a candlelight ceremony during the last carol, a candle was lit by Rev. Ann who passed the flame to the elders and they to the church members while "Silent Night" was being sung. It was most impressive.

Beautiful carols interspersed with the scriptures made for a meaningful Christmas Eve Service, with organist Dennis Van Ravens, who played the new organ beautifully.

Get well wishes to Chester Early of Norval, who is a patient in the Chelsey Park Nursing Home, Mississauga, following his release from Brampton Hospital.

### Church Service

Just a reminder to the congregation of Norval Presbyterian Church of the change in time of services.

Starting Jan. 5/92, service will be 11:15 a.m. with celebration of Holy Communion. All are welcome.

### Advent Services

Norval United Church had lovely services, during the Advent Season. Rev. Ann Rowsell's sermon on the fourth Sunday of Advent was "Christmas Blessings." Beautiful carols added to the service. The Junior Choir sang "In Shining Robe".

The Christmas Story was given by Norma Tripp and David Robinson read the Christmas Scriptures.

Following the Benediction, the coral closing was "Let There Be Peace on Earth."

### Carol Singers

Norval Community Association had its second annual Children's Christmas Caroling around the village on Dec. 23. Following the caroling, they went to the Community Centre for hot chocolate and refreshments.

Convening were Kathy Gastie and Brenda Bryce.

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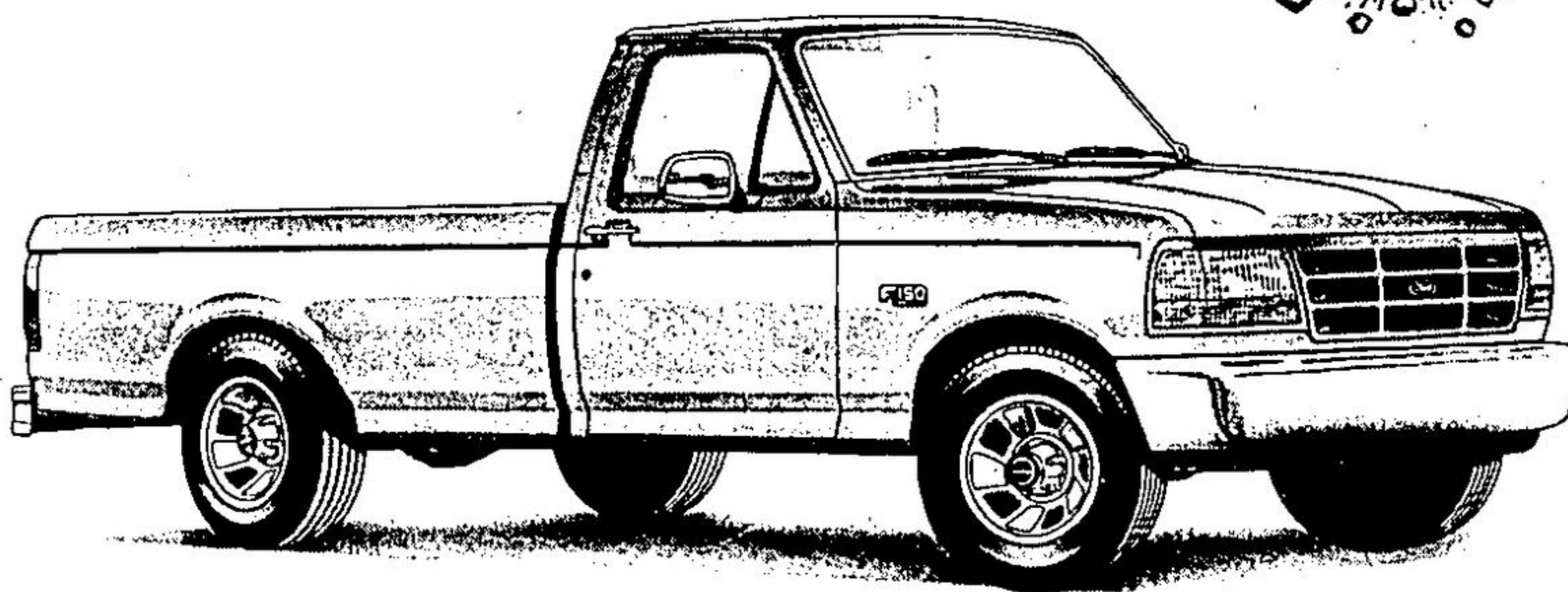
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