

Order of Worship
December 24th 2022 ~ Christmas Eve
7pm & 9pm Service

Prelude

O Little Town of Bethlehem (Saint Louis)

Verse 1

O little town of Bethlehem
How still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and
dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets
shineth
The everlasting Light
The hopes and fears of all
the years
Are met in thee tonight

Instrumental interlude

Verse 2

For Christ is born of Mary
And gathered all above
While mortals sleep
The angels keep their watch
of wondering love
O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the
King
And peace to men on earth

Instrumental interlude

Verse 5

O holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in
Be born in us today
We hear the Christmas
angels
The great glad tidings tell
O come to us abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel

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Lewis Henry Redner | Phillips Brooks
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As With Gladness Men of Old

Verse 1

As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold
As with joy they hailed its light
Leading onward beaming
bright
So most gracious Lord may we
Evermore be led to Thee.

Verse 2

As with joyful steps they sped
To that lowly manger bed
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heaven and earth
adore
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek the mercy seat.

Instrumental interlude

Verse 3

As they offered gifts most rare
At that manger rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy
Pure and free from sin's alloy
All our costliest treasures bring
Christ to Thee our heavenly
king

CCLI Song # 1037710
William Chatterton Dix

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Instrumental interlude

We Three Kings (Kings Of Orient)

Verse 1

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain moor and
mountain
Following yonder star

Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever ceasing never
Over us all to reign

Sorrowing sighing bleeding dying
Sealed in the stone cold tomb

(No Chorus)

Instrumental interlude (No Chorus)

Chorus

O star of wonder star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

Verse 3

Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising all men raising
Worship Him God on high

Verse 5

Glorious now behold Him arise
King and God and sacrifice
Alleluia alleluia
Earth to heaven replies

Instrumental interlude

Verse 2

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain

Instrumental interlude (No Chorus)

Verse 4

Myrrh is mine its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom

Chorus

O star of wonder star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

CCLI Song # 38002
John Henry Hopkins Jr.

Hark The Herald Angels Sing
Mendelssohn

Verse 1

Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With th'angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Christ by highest heav'n
adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead
see
Hail th'incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with men to
dwell
Jesus our Emmanuel
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Verse 3

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of
Peace
Hail the Sun of Righteousness
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that men no more may
die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Verse 2

Instrumental interlude

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Charles Wesley | Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
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Joy To The World
Antioch

Verse 1

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and heav'n and nature
sing

Verse 2

Joy to the earth the Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat repeat the sounding joy
Instrumental interlude

Verse 4

He rules the world with truth and
grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders wonders of His love

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George Frideric Handel | Isaac Watts
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Welcome

The First Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-4a; 6-9

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.
1. Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse,
And a Branch from his roots will bear fruit.
2 The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him,
The spirit of wisdom and understanding,
The spirit of counsel and strength,
The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
3 And He will delight in the fear of the Lord,
And He will not judge by what His eyes see,
Nor make decisions by what His ears hear;

4 But with righteousness He will judge the poor,
And decide with fairness for the humble of the earth
6 And the wolf will dwell with the lamb,
And the leopard will lie down with the young goat,
And the calf and the young lion [a]and the fattened steer will be together;
And a little boy will lead them.
7 Also the cow and the bear will graze,
Their young will lie down together,
And the lion will eat straw like the ox.
8 The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra,
And the weaned child will put his hand on the viper's den.
9 They will not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain,
For the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
As the waters cover the sea.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Choral Opening

The Dream Isaiah Saw
Thomas H. Troeger & Glenn L. Rudolph

Opening Prayer

Let us go, in heart and mind, to see what has come to pass.
Let us go with the shepherds to find the Savior!
Let us go with the wise ones to find God's promise, born for us!
Let us go with the poor and humble to find our King, born in a lowly manger.
Let us go with all the world, with all the peoples of the nations.
Come, let us worship; come, let us adore him: Christ the Lord!

~ from "The Gift of Joy: Isaiah 12"

Opening Hymn

O Come All Ye Faithful (Adeste Fideles)

Verse 1

O come all ye faithful
Joyful and triumphant
O come ye O come ye to
Bethlehem
Come and behold Him
Born the King of angels

Chorus

O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

Verse 2

Sing choirs of angels
Sing in exultation
O sing all ye bright
Hosts of heav'n above
Glory to God all
Glory in the highest

Chorus

O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

Instrumental interlude

Verse 3

Yea Lord we greet Thee
Born this happy morning
Jesus to Thee be all glory
giv'n
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing

Chorus

O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

The Second Lesson

Luke 1: 26–35; 38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Choir

Ave Maria

Ashana Lobody & Thomas Barquee; Arranged by
Jack Manno & Paul Dankers

Soloist: Maureen Jackson

Translation

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

The Third Lesson

Luke 2: 1, 3–7

St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Choir

Angels' Carol

by John Rutter

The Fourth Lesson

Luke 2: 8-16

The shepherds go to the manger.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But 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 Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you

will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn

Angels We Have Heard On High (Gloria)

Verse 1

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o’er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains

Chorus

Gloria
In excelsis Deo
Gloria
In excelsis Deo

Verse 2

Shepherds why this jubilee
Why your joyous strains prolong
Say what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heav’nly son

Chorus

Gloria
In excelsis Deo
Gloria
In excelsis Deo

Verse 3

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn Kin

Chorus

Gloria
In excelsis Deo
Gloria

In excelsis Deo

Instrumental Interlude

Verse 4

See within a manger laid
Jesus Lord of heav’n and earth!
Mary Joseph lend your aid
With us sing our Savior’s birth.

Chorus

Gloria
In excelsis Deo
Gloria
In excelsis Deo

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The Fifth Lesson

Matthew 2: 1-12

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening

their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Choir

Star of Bethlehem

Leslie Bricusse & John Williams; Arranged by Tom Fettke

Christmas Eve Message

Senior Pastor, The Rev. Dr. Robert de Wetter

Pastoral Prayer

Beloved in Christ, let us prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see Jesus, the Son of God lying in a manger. Let us hear from Holy Scripture the loving purposes of God and let us make this place of prayer glad with our carols of praise and thanksgiving. Let us give thanks to God for the forgiveness we have received and the eternal life we have been promised through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Let us pray for the needs of this community and the whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for an end to hatred and divisions, for churches everywhere, and for church leaders. Let us pray in Christ's name for the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, the oppressed, the sick, the mentally ill, the addicted, those that mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, and all who do not know the love of Jesus Christ. Let us remember and pray for those who rejoice with us this night, but are upon another shore and in a greater light. Now we turn to the words that Jesus taught us as together we pray:

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Offertory

Choir

Jesus, What a Wonderful Child

Traditional Spiritual Arranged by Joel Raney

Lighting of the Candles

Please keep the lighted candle upright and tip the unlighted candle. The candles are extinguished after the hymn.

Closing Hymn

Silent Night (Stille Nacht)

Verse 1

Silent night holy night
 All is calm all is bright
 Round yon virgin mother and
 Child
 Holy Infant so tender and mild
 Sleep in heavenly peace
 Sleep in heavenly peace

Verse 2

Silent night holy night
 Shepherds quake at the sight

Glories stream from heaven
 afar
 Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia
 Christ the Savior is born
 Christ the Savior is born

Verse 3

Silent night holy night
 Wondrous star lend thy light
 With the angels let us sing
 Alleluia to our King
 Christ the Savior is born
 Christ the Savior is born

*Instrumental Interlude***Verse 4**

Silent night holy night
 Son of God love's pure light
 Radiant beams from Thy holy
 face
 With the dawn of redeeming
 grace
 Jesus Lord at Thy birth
 Jesus Lord at Thy birth

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Christmas Eve Blessing**Postlude**

Carol Postlude
 Arranged by Hal Hopson

Our love in action now begins**2022 Christmas Eve Participants****Soprano**

Hattie Branson
 Donna Dale
 Lisa DiMento
 Maureen Jackson
 Marie Kelly
 Eileen Leland
 Julie Paxton
 Mandy Ressler

Alto

Lisa Curran
 Ellen Dubé
 Katriona Hembury
 Amy Kaiser Pendarvis
 Bettina Slusar
 Sylvia Wendrow

Tenor

Isabel Day
 Lisa Kissel
 Katy Link
 Tom Paxton
 Michael Schoepe

Marlene Schroeder

Bass

Steve Child
 Nathan Cox
 Hewitt Gaynor
 Brit White
 Roy Wiedinmyer

Director: Paul Dankers

Violin I: Lori Andrews
 Violin II: Chloe Keeney
 Viola: Abigail Dreher
 Cello: Lorraine Curry
 Bass: Jeanette Adams
 Keyboard: Terry Lee
 Flute: Darla Dixon Strait
 Oboe: Lori Patrick

Bells & Percussion

Richard de Campo
 Robin Strecker
 Regina de Wetter

Thank you to all of this evening's volunteers!

Reader 5pm – Paige Strecker
 Volunteers 5pm – Lisa Aanonson,
 Eric Aanonson, Robin Strecker,
 Pete Strecker, Paige Strecker,
 Annie Strecker

Reader 7pm – Jacqui Horton
 Volunteers 7pm – Sally Sparhawk,
 Buffalo Child, Rhonda Coxon,
 Jessica Coxon, MJ Steneman, Bob
 Steneman

Reader 9pm – Dave Ressler
 Volunteers 9pm – Cecy Rios, Jane
 Floyd, Liz Gustafson, Tim
 Gustafson, Buffalo Child

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