

Order of Worship
December 24th 2023 ~ Christmas Eve
5pm 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

Verse 2

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

Instrumental interlude

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

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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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Welcome

Opening of Worship

Noel

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash & Matt Redman

Soloists: Micha Schoepe & Hattie Rensberry

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!

Opening Hymn

O Come All Ye Faithful (Adeste Fideles)

Attributed to John F. Wade, ca. 1711-86; Arr. Hal H. Hopson & Paul Dankers

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

Adeste Fideles laeti
triumphantes,
Veníte, veníte in Bethlehem.

Natum vidéte, Regem
Angelorum:

Veníte adoremus,
Veníte adoremus
Veníte adoremus Dóminum

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

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Scripture Reading

Paige Strecker, Reader

Luke 2:1-14

NLT

2 At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. 2 (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) 3 All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. 4 And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. 5 He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child.

6 And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. 7 She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

8 That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. 9 Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, 10 but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. 11 The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! 12 And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger."

13 Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Congregational Hymn

Angels We Have Heard On High (Gloria)
A French Carol; Arr. Hal H. Hopson & Paul Dankers

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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Christmas Eve Message

Senior Pastor, The Rev. Dr. Charla Belinski

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

All Is Well

Michael W. Smith & Wayne Kirkpatrick; Arr. Ronn Huff & Paul Dankers

Soloists: Michael Schoepe & Hattie Rensberry

Scripture Reading

Peyton Aanonsen, Reader

John 1:1-5, 14

The Word Became Flesh

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. 14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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)

by Franz Gruber & "Night of Silence" by Daniel Kantor; Arr. Hal Hopson & Paul Dankers

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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Closing Prayer

We rejoice in the steadfast presence of Jesus Christ, born of Mary, growing through childhood into adulthood, in all His life manifesting the peace, love, and justice of God; His voice undimmed by the centuries; His call and His promise as clear to us as it was to His disciples so long ago. Come to us, Lord Jesus, Be born in us this night, in our hearts, our minds, our lives. May the light of Your life be kindled in us, And lead us to the shining truth of God with us, God for us, God in us. **Amen.**

Christmas Eve Blessing

Postlude

Carol Postlude
Arranged by Hal Hopson

Our love in action now begins

Violin I: Suzanne
Nadeau-Porter
Violin II: Chloe Keeney Barkley
Viola: Charles Hebenstreit
Cello: Lorraine Curry
Bass: Jeanette Adams
Flute: Darla Dixon Strait
Oboe: Lori Patrick
Singing Bowls: Pam Rosenthal
Keyboard: Christina Wenning

Bells

Ben Belinski
Ali Naaseh Shary

Chad Patrick

Audio Visual Desk

Dylan Beckerman
Travis Buckner
Shane Serrano

***Thank you to all of this
evening's volunteers!***

5pm Readers - Paige Strecker
& Peyton Aanonsen

5pm Volunteers - Sally
Sparhawk, Robin Strecker, Pete
Strecker, Paige Strecker, Annie

Strecker, Jeanne Woods,
Randy Woods

7pm Reader - Jacqui Horton
7pm Volunteers - Wendy
Bowen, Nick Bowen, Sally
Sparhawk, Rhonda Coxon,
Jessica Coxon, Emily Garcia,
Cecilia Rios

9pm Reader - Dave Ressler
9pm Volunteers - Jeannette
Cohen, Cecilia Rios, Emily
Garcia, Anna Kate Belinski,
Robert Huber

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