
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Joint Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
with University Hills Lutheran Church
December 24, 2019
7:00 PM

PRESERVICE MUSIC / DUET

Angels We Have Heard on High
Bring A Torch, Jeanette Isabella
What Child Is This
The Herald Angels

PRESERVICE MUSIC / HANDBELLS

[♩ Means please stand; ♪ Means please be seated]

♩ **OPENING HYMN**

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

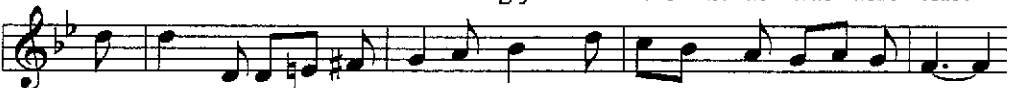
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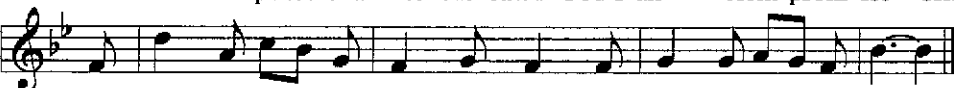
1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo-rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo-ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un-furled,
3 All you, be-neath your heav-y load, By care and guilt bent low,
4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,



From an-gels bend-ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
And still their heav'n-ly mu-sic floats O'er all the wea-ry world.
Who toil a-long a drea-ry way With pain-ful steps and slow:
When down in-to the cir-cling years Came Christ as was fore-told.



"Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav'n's all-gra-cious king."
A-bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov-'ring wing,
Look up, for gold-en is the hour, Come swift-ly on the wing,
His word of peace shall to the earth God's an-cient prom-ise bring,



The world in sol-emn still-ness lay To hear the an-gels sing.
And ev-er o'er its ba-bel sounds The bless-ed an-gels sing.
The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an-gels sing.
And all who take this gift will hear The song the an-gels sing.

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INVOCATION

☞ *In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

☞ **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT RESPONSIVE READING

Isaiah 9

- P** *The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;*
C **On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.**
P *You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy;*
C **They rejoice before You as people rejoice at the harvest.**
P *For to us a Child is born,*
C **To us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders.**
P *And He will be called:*
C **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**
P *Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end.*
C **He will reign on David's throne and over His kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness forever.**

FIRST CHRISTMAS READING

Luke 2:1-5

HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem

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.
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 all the earth!
How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So, God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming; but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ enters in.
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 Immanuel!

SECOND CHRISTMAS READING

Luke 2:6-7

HYMN

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

THIRD CHRISTMAS READING

Luke 2:8-14

HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo;

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?

Why your joyous strains prolong?

What the gladsome tidings be

Which inspire your heavenly song?

Gloria in excelsis Deo;

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see

Him whose birth the angels sing;

Come, adore on bended knee

Christ the Lord, the Newborn King.

Gloria in excelsis Deo;

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

FOURTH CHRISTMAS READING

Luke 2:15-20

HYMN

What Child Is This

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthem sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christian, fear; for sinners here, the silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;

Hail, hail the Word made Flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

So, bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own Him.

The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;

Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

SERMON

"THROUGH THE SHEPHERD'S EYES"

Luke 2:1-20

☪ OFFERING / CHORAL ANTHEM

Comfort and Joy

☪ OFFERING HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the Newborn King;

Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."

Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;

With 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 a virgin's womb.
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, incarnate deity!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the Newborn King!"
 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 we no more may die,
 Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.
 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the Newborn King!"

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[After each petition:]

P *Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

[Prayers conclude with:]

P *Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P *O Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:*

C **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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

A LITANY PRAYER

P *Long ago in Bethlehem, Pure Light from heaven came down.*

C **That Light was Christ; His Light was brighter than the stars.**

P *Jesus, Lord, at Your birth, love's pure light beams from Your holy face.*

C **The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

P *Long ago in Bethlehem, Glorious Light from heaven came down.*

C **That Light was Christ; His Light was greeted by choirs of angels.**

P *By Your birth in Bethlehem, You brought to light the Father's love.*

C **Guide our lives with the Light of Your Truth.**

P *Long ago in Bethlehem, Pure Light from heaven came down.*

C **That Light was Christ; His Light was Immanuel, God with us.**

P *Jesus, Lord, at Your birth, love's pure light beams from Your holy face.*

C **The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

P *Long ago in Bethlehem, Glorious Light from heaven came down.*

C **That Light was Christ; His Light took away the darkness of sin and death.**

P *By Your birth in Bethlehem, You brought to light the Father's love.*

C **Let us rejoice in the birth of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World!**

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

[Please tip only an UNLIT candle for lighting.]

CLOSING HYMN

Silent Night

*Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.*

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.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!

Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

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.

BENEDICTION

☐ *This same Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace bless you and keep you, make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you, look upon you with favor and grant you His peace.*

☑ **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

"Christmas Fantasy"

