



Order of Worship
Christmas Eve Worship Service
December 24, 2020 - 9:00pm

Announcements

Welcome

Rev. Tracy McNeil Wines

Welcome to Clarendon United Methodist Church as we come together with joy and anticipation on this holy night. We gather online from many places tonight, but our hearts are united as one as we share in this special worship service.

In 1880 the Anglican Bishop of Truro, England, composed a Christmas Eve Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, based on ancient sources. Just over 100 years ago, in 1918, it was adapted for the chapel of King's College, Cambridge, by its Dean, Eric Milner-White. Now, after a century, the service is a great tradition at King's College, and versions of it are offered each year in churches all around the world. The nine scripture lessons that are traditional to the service span the Old and New Testaments, and they tell the story of our salvation in Jesus Christ, the Child of Bethlehem. The carols that are interspersed throughout the service raise that same story in song, as the narrative carries us ever closer to the manger. Let us join tonight in celebrating this story of the coming of the Light of the World, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Prelude

Carol of the Sussex Mummers*

arr. Timothy H Waugh

Chancel Ringers; Lauren Sileo, flute; Brian Hatton, cello

Greeting

Tanya Sabin

Fear not! For behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ our Lord. Let us now go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.

Opening Hymn**O Come, All Ye Faithful**

UMH 234

Verses 1, 3, 6

Denny Edelbrock and Rusty Smith, trumpet

The Bidding Prayer

Rev. Tracy McNeil Wines

Beloved in Christ: in this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy child Jesus; and let us make this time of worship glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all people; for the unity and mission of the Church Christ came to build, and especially for his Church in our nation and in our city and in our own community.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; as well as those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are forever one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself has taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Tracy McNeil Wines

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.
Amen.

First Lesson

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

Nilse Furtado-Gilliam

The first sin and its punishment

A reading from Genesis in which humans commit the first sin and are punished: They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
 cursed are you among all animals
 and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
 and dust you shall eat
 all the days of your life.

¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman,
 and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
 and you will strike his heel."

And to the man^[a] he said,

"Because you have listened to the voice of your wife,
 and have eaten of the tree
about which I commanded you,

 'You shall not eat of it,'
cursed is the ground because of you;

in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life;
¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.
¹⁹ By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread
until you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
you are dust,
and to dust you shall return."
Thanks be to God!

Carol

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH 196

Second Lesson

Genesis 22:15-18

Susan Prokop

All nations shall be blessed through Abraham's offspring

All nations shall be blessed through Abraham's offspring:
The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶ and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, ¹⁸ and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."
Thanks be to God!

Carol

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

UMH 211

Stanzas 1, 2, 4, 7

Third Lesson

Isaiah 9:2,6-7

Susan White

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah

A reading from Isaiah in which Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold:
The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—

on them light has shined.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.
Thanks be to God!

Trio

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

arr. Engelhardt

Audrey Smith, Lauren Smith, Lisa Gibbs-Smith

Fourth Lesson

Micah 5:2-5a

Pam Gibert

From Bethlehem shall come forth a King of Peace

The prophet Micah foretells the birthplace of the King of Peace:

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

3 Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

4 And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
5 and he shall be the one of peace.
Thanks be to God!

Carol

O Little Town of Bethlehem

UMH 230

Fifth Lesson

Luke 1:26-35,38

Jon Larimore

The angel Gabriel visits young Mary

A reading from Luke in which the angel Gabriel visits young 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. 33 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.

Thanks be to God!

Special Music

I Wonder As I Wander/What Child is This

arr. Webb/Frazier

Chancel Choir; Cello; Piano; Bass; Audrey Smith, Horn

Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Amber Vincent

Jesus is born into the world

Luke tells of Jesus' birth into the world:

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was

governor of Syria. 3 All went to their own towns to be registered. 4 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. 5 He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7 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. Thanks be to God!

Special Music

Coventry Carol

arr. Nelson

Mike Bannach, guitar; Fran Underwood, Handbells

Seventh Lesson

Luke 2:8-16

Kelsey White

Shepherds go to see the holy child

A reading from Luke in which the shepherds go to see the holy child:

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.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem

Hear the Joyful News this Day

Bach

Chancel Choir

Eighth Lesson

Matthew 2:1-11

Phil London

Wise Men follow a star to find the King of Jews

A reading from Matthew in which the Wise Men follow a star to find the King of the Jews:

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:

⁶ '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.'"

⁷ 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.

Thanks be to God!

Carol

We Three Kings

UMH 254

Evan, Andrew and James London

A reading from the Gospel of John, in which John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own,^{١٤} and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the or of the will of man, but of God.

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.

Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rusty Smith

Messiah. King. Savior. Emmanuel. Word made flesh. Light of the world. Lord. We know Jesus by all these names and many others. We light the Christ candle in celebration of his birth, and of the hope, joy, love, and peace he brings to us and to the whole world. No one has ever seen God, but in Jesus Christ God is made known.

Spreading the Light of Christ

Rev Tracy McNeil Wines

Arise, Shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you!

*You are invited to light your candles at home
as we symbolically pass the light of Christ to each other...*

Carol **Silent Night, Holy Night** UMH 239

Silent Prayer

Carol **Joy to the World** UMH 246
Denny Edelbrock and Rusty Smith, trumpet

Benediction Rev. Tracy McNeil Wines

Go now in wonder.
Go to bring light to those in darkness,
joy to those who can find no joy,
blessing to an anxious world.
Go with the songs of angels in your ears,
and the love of God in your hearts.
Go and spread the word—
the babe of Bethlehem is born for all.

Carol **Hark! the Herald Angels Sing** UMH 240
Denny Edelbrock and Rusty Smith, trumpet

As this extraordinarily difficult year draws to a close, we are aware that the needs around us are only increasing. In that light, we have decided to dedicate our annual Christmas special offering to one local helping agency: Arlington Thrive.

You are invited to make your special Christmas offering online by going to <https://clarendon.churchcenter.com/giving> or by mailing a check to the church with "Christmas Offering" in the memo line. Thank you!

* Tonight's prelude was arranged expressly for the Clarendon UMC Chancel Ringers. It was commissioned in honor of Handbell Conductors Fran Underwood and Lisa Gibbs-Smith and Handbell Directors around the world.

Carol of the Sussex Mummers

A glorious angel from Heaven came
Unto the Virgin Maid;
Strange news and tidings of great joy
The humble Mary had,
the humble Mary had.

O mortal man remembers well,
When Christ our Lord was born,
He was crucified betwixt two thieves
And crowned with the thorn,
and crowned with the thorn.

God bless your house, your children too,
Your cattle and your store;
The Lord increase you day by day,
And give you more and more,
and give you more and more.

Mummers were masked pantomime actors often associated with Christmas. They were popular in England in the 18th and early 19th centuries. There are many variations of the lyrics. Mr. Waugh based his arrangement on these three.

Bulletin Production: Tanya Sabin

Video Production: Sean Gilliam, Mark Frazier, Lisa Gibbs-Smith, Fran Underwood

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-phant, O
 3. Sing, choirs of an-gels, sing in ex-ul-ta-tion; O
 6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap-py mom-ing,

come ye, O come ye, to Beth-le-hem.
 sing, all ye cit-i-zens of heaven a-bove!
 Je-sus, to thee be all glo-ry given.

Come and be-hold him, born the King of an-gels;
 Glo-ry to God, all glo-ry in the high-est;
 Word of the Fa-ther, now in flesh ap-pear-ing:

Refrain

O come, let us a-dore him, O come, let us a-dore him,

O come, let us a-dore him, Christ the Lord.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 196

1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy
 2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and

peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us,
 yet a King, born to reign in us for - ev - er,

let us find our rest in thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so -
 now thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By thine own e - ter - nal

la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art; dear de - sire of
 spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone; by thine all suf -

ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

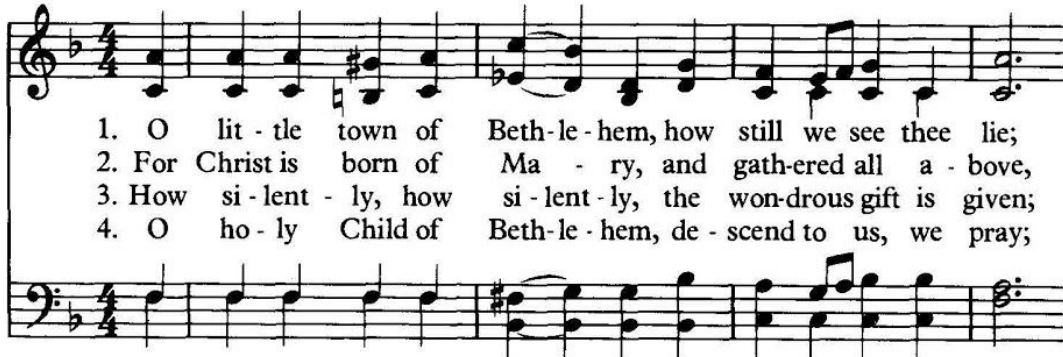
1. O come, O come Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra -
2. O come, thou wis dom from on high, and or - der all things far and
4. O come, thou Root of Jes - se's tree, an en - sign of thy peo - ple
7. O come, De - sire of na - tions bind all peo - ples in one heart and

6
el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of
nigh; to us the path of know - ledge show and cause us in her
be; be - fore thee ru - lers si - lent fall; all peo - ples on thy
mind. From dust thou brought us forth to life; de - liv - er us from

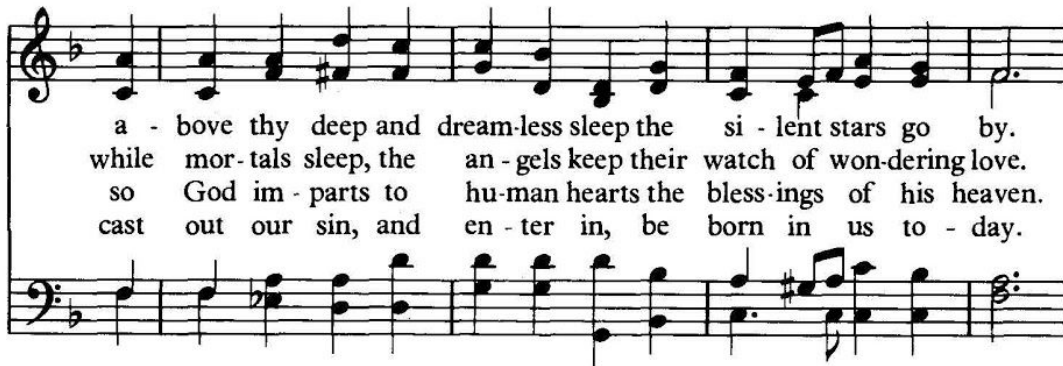
11
God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
ways to go.
mer - cy call.
earth - ly strife.

15
man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

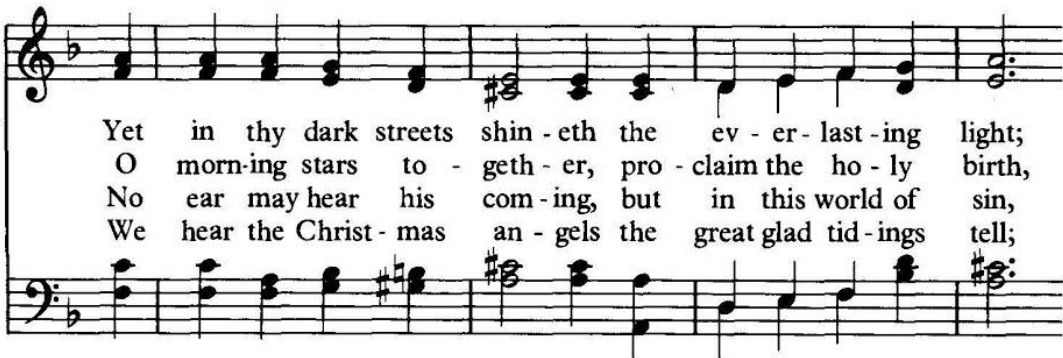
O Little Town of Bethlehem



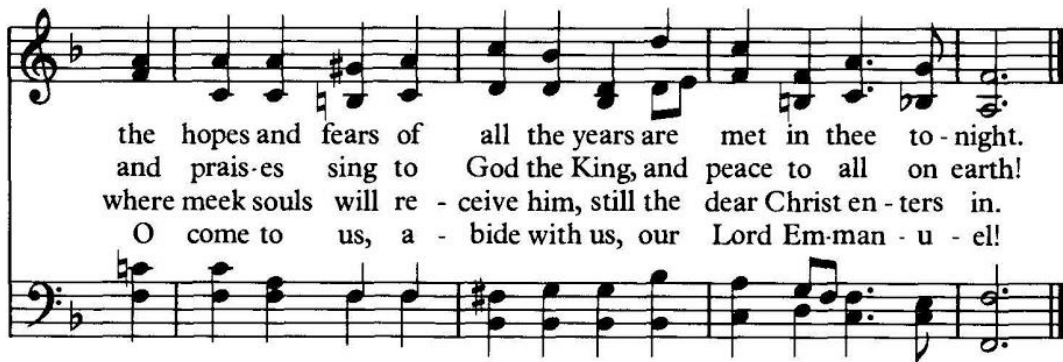
1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie;
 2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry, and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given;
 4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



a - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by.
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 so God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;
 O morn - ing stars to - geth - er, pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth!
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

We Three Kings

1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing
 2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
 3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense
 4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
 5. Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise; King and

gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
 bring to crown him a - gain, King for - ev - er,
 owns a De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
 God and sac - ri - fice: Al - le - lu - ia,

moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
 voic - es rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God on high.
 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 Al - le - lu - ia, sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain
 O star of won - der, star of light, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,
 west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light.

Silent Night, Holy Night

239



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright
 1. *Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft, ein - sam wacht*
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep-herds quake at the sight;
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light;
 4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, won-drous star, lend thy light;



round yon vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild,
nur das trau - te hoch - hei - li - ge Paar, Hold - er Kna - be mit lock - i - gem Haar,
 glo-ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing Al - le - lu - ia!
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
 with the an - gels let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia to our King;



sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
schlaf im himm - li - scher Ruh, schlaf im himm - li - scher Ruh.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born!
 Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born!



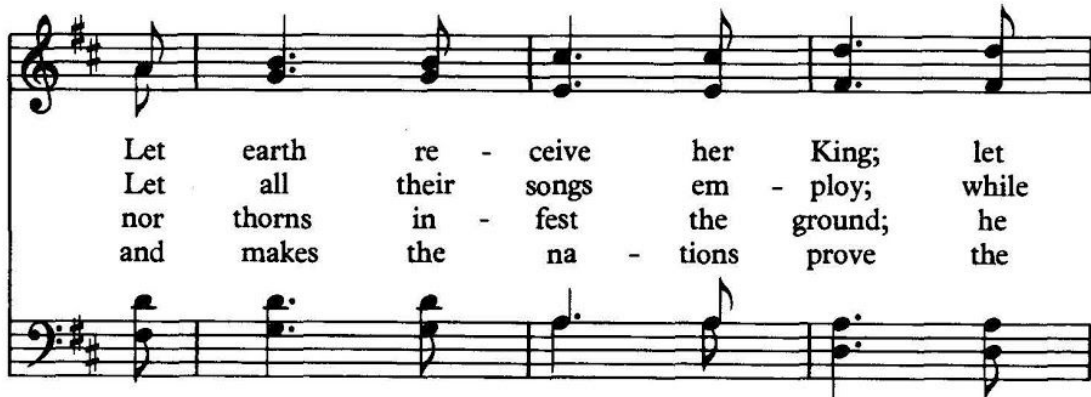
WORDS: Joseph Mohr, 1818, alt.; sts. 1, 2, 3 trans. by John F. Young;
 st. 4 trans. anon. (Lk. 2:6-20)
 MUSIC: Franz Gruber, 1818

STILLE NACHT
 Irr.

Joy to the World



1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
 2. Joy to the world, the Sav - ior reigns!
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow,
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace,



Let earth re - ceive her King; let
 Let all their songs em - ploy; while
 nor thorns in - fest the ground; he
 and makes the na - tions prove the



ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 comes to make his bless - ings flow
 glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness,

BIRTH AND BAPTISM

and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 far as the curse is found, far
 and won - ders of his love, and

and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his

heaven and na - ture sing, and
 peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 as the curse is found, far
 won - ders of his love, and

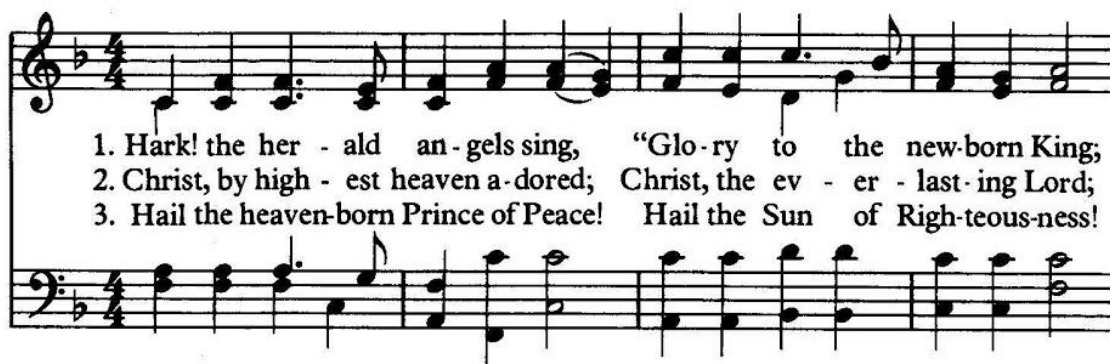
sing,
 joy,
 found,
 love,

and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his

heaven, and heaven, and na - ture sing.
 peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 as, far as the curse is found.
 won - ders, won - ders of his love.

sing,
 joy,
 found,
 love,

240 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing



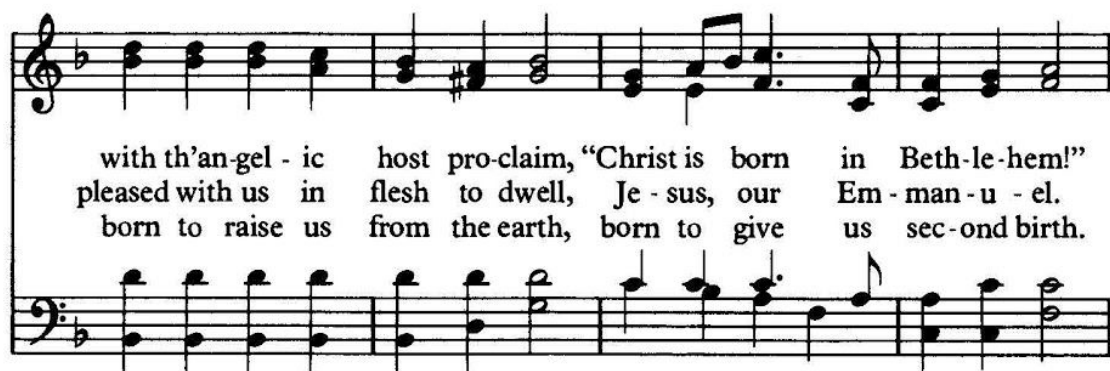
1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;
 2. Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on-ciled!"
 late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir-gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na-tions rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'in-car-nate De - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with th'an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!"
 pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

BIRTH AND BAPTISM

Refrain

Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!"

The image shows a musical score for a refrain. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing, 'Glo-ry to the new-born King!'". The music ends with a double bar line.