

LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

December 26, 2021 — 9:00am & online



Burke Lutheran Church

Reconnect.

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www.burkelutheran.org

“Preach. Teach. Reach.”

PRELUDE

Everyone giggles and chats while waiting for service to begin.

WELCOME

Please rise.

GATHERING SONG

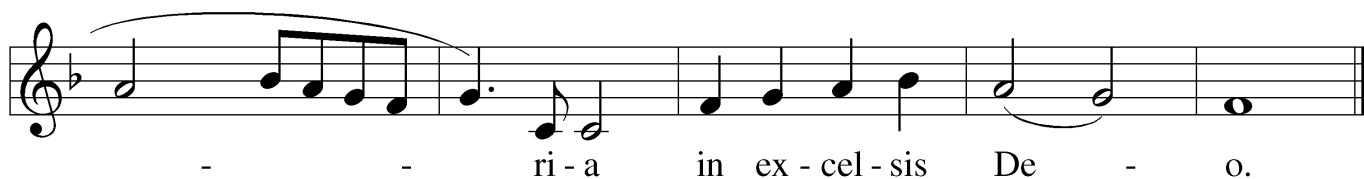
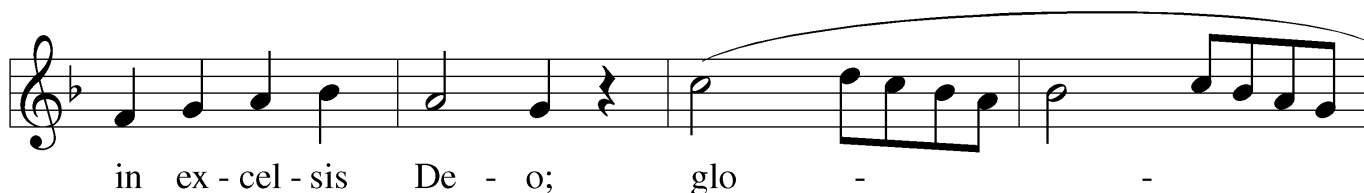
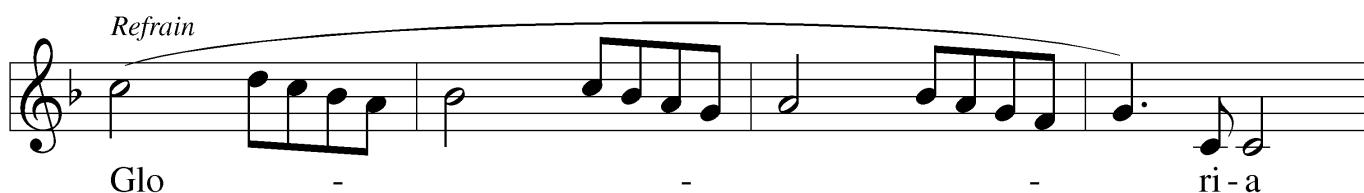
Angels We Have Heard on High



- 1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
- 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



DIALOGUE

P Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

C By day and night he shines for all to see.

P Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

C that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

P God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

C so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

P Jesus is the light of the world.

C Jesus is the light of our lives,

P Sing to God a new song!

C A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.

CHOIR

ANGEL BAND

OPENING PRAYER

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Gracious God of heaven and earth, you have thrown a lifeline to us in our darkness—a beam of light that shines through Jesus. Though born in a manger, he is the firstborn of all creation. Though crucified on a cross, he is the Lord of life. Fill us with the wonder and joy of his presence in the world and in our hearts.

C Amen.

Sit

LESSONS AND CAROLS

(GLORIA LUNDQUIST)

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1-5, 14-18 (p. 1)

R In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

R The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

I Wonder As I Wander

642

1 I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky, how
 2 When Mar - y birthed . . . Je - sus, all in a cow's stall, came
 3 If Je - sus had . . . want - ed for an - y wee thing, a
 4 I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky, how

Je - sus the Sav - ior did come for to die for poor ord'-n'ry peo - ple like
 wise men and farm - ers and shep - herds and all, and high from the heav - ens a
 star in the sky or a bird on the wing, or all of God's an - gels in
 Je - sus the Sav - ior did come for to die for poor ord'-n'ry peo - ple like

you and like I. I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky.
 star's light did fall; the prom - ise of the a - ges it then did re - call.
 heav'n for to sing, he sure - ly could have had it, 'cause he was the king.
 you and like I. I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky.

Text: Appalachian carol, collected by John Jacob Niles, 1892-1980
 Music: Appalachian folk tune, adapt. John Jacob Niles, 1892-1980
 © 1934 (renewed) by G. Schirmer, Inc. (A.S.C.A.P.)

I WONDER
 12 11 11 12

LESSONS AND CAROLS

(BOB BOETTCHER)

SECOND READING

Micah 5:2-5a (p.756)

R 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.

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

If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

R The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

THE CAROL

Once in Royal David's City



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895

Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

LESSONS AND CAROLS

(SHARON HUGHES)

THIRD READING

Luke 1:26-35, 38 (p.831)

R 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, favoured 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 favour 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 for ever, 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.

R The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Cold December Flies Away



- 1 Cold De - cem - ber flies a - way at the rose - red splen - dor.
- 2 In the hope - less time of sin shad - ows deep had fall - en.
- 3 Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world a - wak - ens.



A - pril's crown-ing glo - ry breaks while the whole world won - ders
All the world lay un - der death. Eyes were closed in sleep - ing.
In the lil - y's pur - est flow'r dwells a won - drous fra - grance.



at the ho - ly un - seen pow'r of the tree which bears the
But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose gold - en
And it spreads to all the earth from the mo - ment of its



flow'r. On the bless - ed tree blooms the red - dest flow'r. On the tree blooms the
light brings un - end - ing joy, brings the end - less joy of our hope, high - est
birth; and its beau - ty lives. In the flow'r it lives, in the flow'r, and it



rose here in love's own gar - den, full and strong in glo - ry.
hope, of our hope's bright dawn - ing, Son be - lov'd of heav - en.
spreads in its heav'n - ly bright - ness sweet per - fume de - light - ful.

(TIM WACHS)

FOURTH READING

Matthew 1:18-25 (p. 783)

R Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.'

All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

R The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

THE CAROL

Away in a Manger

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes, but lit - tle Lord
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -

Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the sky looked
Je - sus no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

down where he lay; the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

Text: North American, anonymous, 19th cent.

Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, North American, anonymous, 19th cent.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

(ELLORY NEUBERT)

FIFTH READING

Luke 2:8-20 (p.833)

R 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 Saviour, 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 favours!’

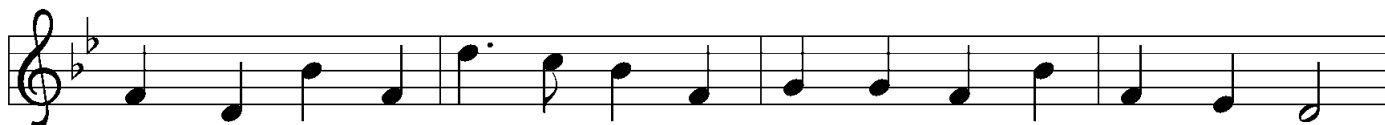
When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

R The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE CAROL

Angels, from the Realms of Glory



- 1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
- 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
- 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla-tions, bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;
- 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

LESSONS AND CAROLS

(PATRICE NEUBERT)

SIXTH READING

Matthew 2:1-11 (p.783)

R 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.

R The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE CAROL

What Child Is This



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

(PASTOR ROB)

SEVENTH READING

John 1:1-14 (p.862)

R 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, 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 flesh 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.

R The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE CAROL

Love Has Come



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950 Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin. *Recueil de Noël's composés en langue provençale*, 1856
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MESSAGE

Pastor Robert Neubert

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

P It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

C Your Word, Jesus, is truth.

P In his light, draw all to the manger

C to gather in wonder with the shepherds.

P In his light, draw all to the manger

C to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.

P In his light, draw all to the manger

C to sing for joy with the angels.

P In the brightness of his life

C cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.

P It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

C In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life.

Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

P You come to us in gatherings of your church across the globe. Unite us with those who celebrate your birth even when they are weighed down by grief, loss, poverty, hunger, or injustice. Merciful God,

C Receive our prayer.

P You come to us in the diverse splendor of the universe. Grant us the humility to trust our place in the network of creation, that we live in service to you and the natural world. Merciful God,

C Receive our prayer.

P You come to us through relationships of many kinds: families, friendships, communities, and nations. Guide us in these relationships, that we recognize the Christ child in one another and show your love to those most vulnerable. Merciful God,

C Receive our prayer.

P You come to us through those who have died yet live with you forever. We give thanks for Stephen, deacon and martyr, who gave his life to tell the story of your love. Merciful God,

C Receive our prayer.

P You come to us in acts of justice and forgiveness. Open our hearts to forgive one another, without permitting injustice. Supply us with the wisdom to be clothed with love, binding all things together in perfect harmony. Merciful God,

C Receive our prayer.

P You come to us through people whom the world forgets. Poor shepherds and an imprisoned Paul announced your good news. Send your Spirit to all who are imprisoned, struggling with addiction, unwell, or in any need this day especially today we lift up Helen Knuteson, Lisa Thompson, Lucy Wisner, Virginia Steward, Nancy Bartlett, Shelby Branzanti, Allison Foss, Val Sandmire, Beni Hupf, Karen Bork, Errol Ramsfield, Chris McFarlin, Mark Gehrke, Phyllis Svoboda, Paul White, the family & friends of Dilver Bible, the family & friends of Bev Lowe, and the family & friends of Margaret Bearden. Bring comfort to those for whom separation, grief, or loss makes the Christmas season especially difficult. Merciful God,

C Receive our prayer.

P Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.


Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin, Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup let us pray the prayer our Lord taught us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION AND CAROLS



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

We Three Kings of Orient Are



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; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

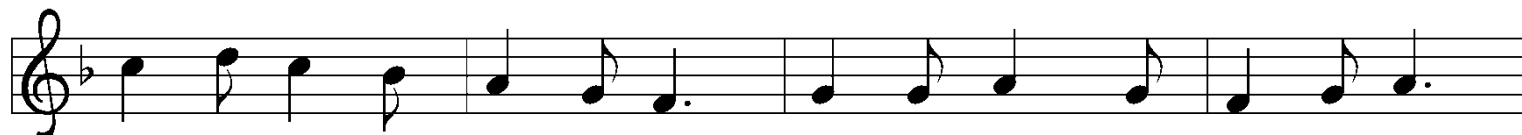
Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt.

Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

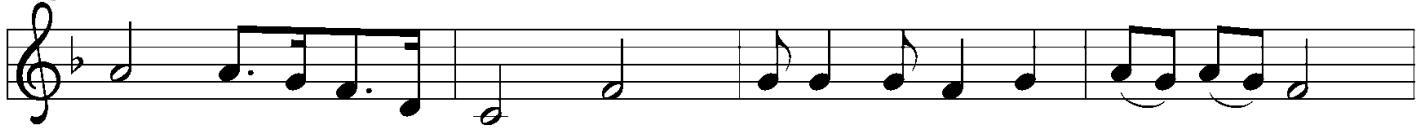


Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

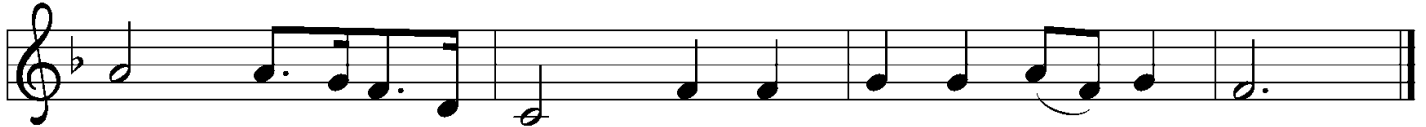
Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866
 Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.

Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

Please rise.

COMMUNION BENEDICTION

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

COMMUNION PRAYER

P Let us pray. Emmanuel, God with us, you grace us with life and breath and give us bread for the journey. Send us out in service to this world that you love, telling the amazing news of your coming to be Savior and Lord of all.

C **Amen.**

CHOIR

THE LORD BLESS AND KEEP YOU

BLESSING

P Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

C **Praise God, all creatures here below!**

P You are the shepherds telling the story.

C **We tell it in the streets and across the land.**

P You are the wise ones worshiping with thanksgiving.

C **We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.**

P You are the angels announcing peace.

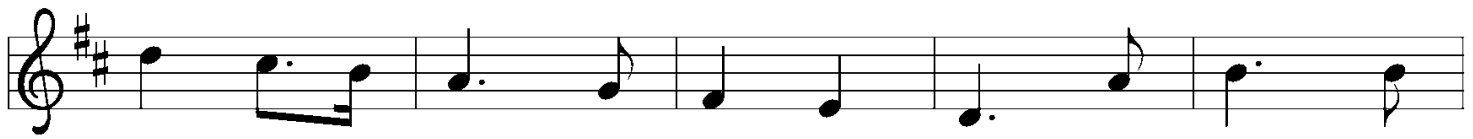
C **We live with joy and go now in peace.**

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



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

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

LITURGY FOR DEPARTURE OF A PASTOR FROM A CONGREGATION

Pastor (P), a Representative of the synod designated by the Bishop (B), and a Representative of the Congregation (R) come forward.

R Pastor Robert Neubert, on October 1st, 2014, we called you to be our pastor: to proclaim God's Word, to baptize new members into the Church of Jesus Christ, to announce God's forgiveness to us, and to preside at our celebration of the Lord's Supper. With the gospel you have comforted us in times of sickness and trouble, and at the death of our loved ones. Sharing our joys and sorrows, you (and your family) have been important to our life together in the Church of Jesus Christ and in our service to this community.

You have served our congregation faithfully 7 years. You are now leaving our midst to move back to your home state of Oregon. As your fellow members of this congregation, we wish to honor your ministry among us and bid you farewell and Godspeed in your new endeavor, bringing closure to your ministry at Burke.

P I thank the members of Burke Lutheran Church for the love, the kindness and support shown to me and my family during active ministry among you. I ask forgiveness for the ways I have sinned against you. I am grateful for the ways my ministry has been accepted. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

C **We receive your thankfulness. We offer you our forgiveness and accept that you now leave to resume your ministry in another congregation. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask forgiveness for the ways we have sinned against you. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.**

P I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

B Do you, members of Burke Lutheran Church, release him from the duties as pastor?

C We do, with God's help.

B Do you offer encouragement for his ministry as it unfolds in his new congregation?

C We do, with God's help.

B Do you, Pastor, release Burke Lutheran from turning to you and depending on you?

P I do, with God's help.

B Do you offer your encouragement for the continued ministry here?

P I do, with God's help.

B On behalf of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin I witness to the words spoken here: words of thankfulness, forgiveness, and release. We will hold you in our prayers as you begin your ministry where ever God is calling you. We pledge our support and love to you and wish you God's blessing.

R Let us pray: God, whose everlasting love for all is trustworthy, help each of us to trust the future which rests in your care. The time we were together in your name saw our laughter and tears, our hopes and disappointments. We give you thanks for the countless ways our lives have been woven together in the tapestry of your church. Guide us as we hold these cherished memories, but move us in new directions, until that time to come when we are completely one with you and with each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

R Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

R The Lord bless us, defend us from evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C **Amen.**



FAREWELL BRUNCH

It's never easy to say good-bye.
Come join us following the service
to wish Pastor Robert and his family farewell.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IF YOU ARE VISITING TODAY: Thank you for joining us at Burke for worship and fellowship! Please sign a card in the pew and/or the visitor book in the narthex.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

We teach that Jesus is truly present in the bread and the wine. All are invited to the table to share God's grace. Grape juice is available in the center of the tray for those who desire it, as well as gluten-free wafers. Please fill out a communion card and place it in the offering plate if you are communing today.

OUR STAFF

Pastor

Robert Neubert,
240-215-5176
gumby523@yahoo.com

Administrative Secretary

Peri Beal, 608-244-8486
burkelutheran@att.net

Maintenance Engineer

Dave Wisner

PRAYERS & CARES

A Nursery (Youth Room) for children under six is located down the hallway near the church offices. Activity bags are in the narthex for children at worship.

Our Prayer List: Contact the church office with prayer concerns. Unless otherwise advised, names remain on our list for two weeks.

Helen Knuteson

Lisa Thompson (daughter of Bob & Jeannette Gehrke)

Virginia Steward

Lucy Wisner

Nancy Bartlett

Shelby Branzanti (Barbara Lusk's sister)

Allison Foss

Val Sandmire

Beni Hupf

Karen Bork

Errol Ramsfield (Susie Kittel Moore's brother)

Chris McFarlin

Mark Gehrke

Phyllis Svoboda

Paul White

Family & friends of Dilver Bible

Family & friends of Bev Lowe

Family & friends of Margaret Bearden

Alternate Fill the Altar: Rather than our usual food donation, please make direct donations to The River or Sunshine Place food pantries.

Bulletin Announcements: Bulletin deadline is noon on Wednesdays. Send them to burkelutheran@att.net.

January Light of Life: Articles are due now. Send items via email to burkelutheran@att.net.

Hospitalized?: Please let the hospital staff know you are a member of Burke Lutheran Church so we are notified.

Budget News: Contributions through October 31 for the last three years:

2021	\$121,036
2020	\$106,312
2019	\$102,809

We appreciate what our members are doing to help Burke pay its \$160,000 annual budget.

Annual Reports: Due January 10, 2022. Please email your report to the church office by Monday, January 10, 2022.

Annual Meeting
Immediately following our regular Worship Service
on January 30, 2022

THIS WEEK AT BURKE

Wednesday, Dec 29	Quilting	Confirmation Class, 7pm
Friday, Dec 31	New Year's Eve	
Saturday, January 1	Happy New Year!	
Sunday, January 2	Worship, 9am Sunday School, 9am	Coffee Hour, 10am

WORSHIP LEADERS

	Dec 26—9am Service	Jan 2—9am Service
Organist/Pianist	Susie Kittel Moore	Gloria Lundquist
Music Leaders	Dave Wisner Chris Grefe	Hope McFarlin Linda Wendt
Communion Assistant	David Hanson	Mary TeWinkel
Communion Prep	Mary TeWinkel	Gloria Lundquist
Lay Reader	1) Gloria Lundquist 2) Bob Boettcher 3) Sharon Hughes 4) Tim Wachs 5) Ellory Neubert 6) Patrice Nuebert 7) Pastor Rob	Linda Wendt
Usher Team	David Hanson Karl Patzer	Bob Lenzendorf
Coffee Hour	Farewell Brunch	
Counters	Sharon Hughes Jan Peterson	Gloria Lundquist

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

December 19, 9:00am	71
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