

LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

December 26, 2021

9:30 am

SILENT PRAYER

PRELUDE: *Variations on “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!”*

arr. Jones

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

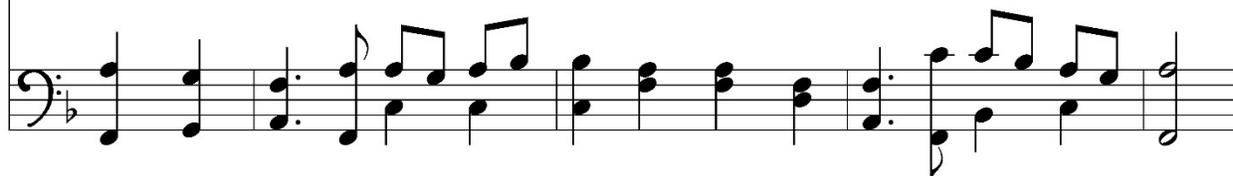
ENTRANCE HYMN: *Once in Royal David’s City*

269

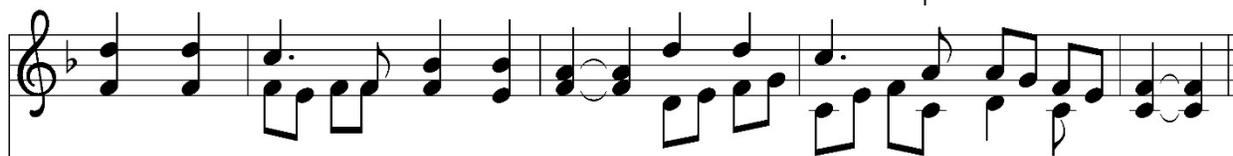
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1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta -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



DIALOG

- P** The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
- C** **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**
- P** Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.
- C** **We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**
- P** To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.
- C** **In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray. Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen**

Sit

LESSONS AND CAROLS

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

God promises a king

- A** A reading from Isaiah.
- ²“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.
- ³You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
- ⁴For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
- ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
- ⁶For 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.
- ⁷His 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.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

272

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man

sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who

seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to

mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

SECOND READING

Micah 5:2-5a

The king will come from Bethlehem

A A reading from Micah.

²“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.

³Therefore 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.

⁴And 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;

⁵and he shall be the one of peace.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL: *O Little Town Of Bethlehem*

279

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 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 - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
 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 the earth!
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

THIRD READING

Luke 1:26-35, 38

The annunciation to Mary

A A reading from Luke.

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² 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." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ 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.

³⁸ 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.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL: *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*

265



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

FOURTH READING

Luke 2:1-7

The birth of Jesus

A A reading from Luke.

¹ 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.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL: *Away In a Manger*

277

1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low-ing; the ba - by a - 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 bright 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 nigh.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav-en, to live with you there.

FIFTH READING

Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds go to see the Savior

A A reading from Luke.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵When 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.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL: *From Heaven Above*

268 (Stanzas 1-3, 12-14)



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come to bear good
2 "To you this night is born a child of Mar - y,
3 "This is the Christ, God's Son most high, who hears your

Insert additional stanzas as desired.

12 Ah, dear - est Je - sus, ho - ly child, pre - pare a
13 My heart for ve - ry joy now leaps; my voice no
14 "Glo - ry to God in high - est heav'n, who un - to



news to ev - 'ry home! Glad tid - ings of great joy I
cho - sen vir - gin mild; this new - born child of low - ly
sad and bit - ter cry, who will him - self your Sav - ior

bed, soft, un - de - filed, a qui - et cham - ber in my
long - er si - lence keeps; I too must sing with joy - ful
us the Son has giv'n." With an - gels sing in pi - ous



bring to all the world, and glad - ly sing:
birth shall be the joy of all the earth.
be and from all sin will set you free."

heart, that you and I may nev - er part.
tongue the sweet - est an - cient cra - dle - song:
mirth a glad new year to all the earth!

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SIXTH READING

Luke 2:21-40

Jesus receives his name

A A reading from Luke.

²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty- four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CAROL: *In His Temple Now Behold Him*

417

1 In his tem - ple now be - hold him, see the long - ex -
 2 In the arms of her who bore him, vir - gin pure, be -
 3 Je - sus, by your pre - sen - ta - tion, when they blessed you,
 4 Prince and au - thor of sal - va - tion, be your bound - less

pect - ed Lord; an - cient proph - ets had fore - told him,
 hold him lie, while his a - ged saints a - dore him,
 weak and poor, make us see your great sal - va - tion,
 love our theme! Je - sus, praise to you be giv - en

God has sent the prom - ised Word. Now to praise him,
 ere in per - fect faith they die. Al - le - lu - ia!
 seal us with your prom - ise sure; and pre - sent us,
 by the world you did re - deem, with the Fa - ther

his re - deem - ed shall break forth with one ac - cord.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Lo, the in - car - nate God Most High!
 in your glo - ry, to your Fa - ther, cleansed and pure.
 and the Spir - it God of maj - es - ty su - preme!

SEVENTH READING
The magi follow the star

Matthew 2:1-11

A A reading from Matthew.

¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² 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.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

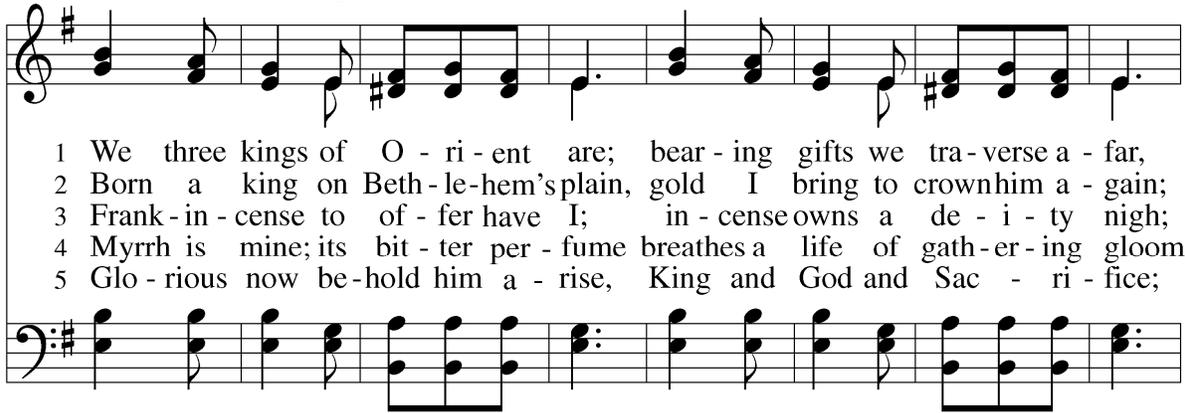
⁶ ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ 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.” ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ 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.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL: *We Three Kings*



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a - gain;
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty nigh;
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri - fice;

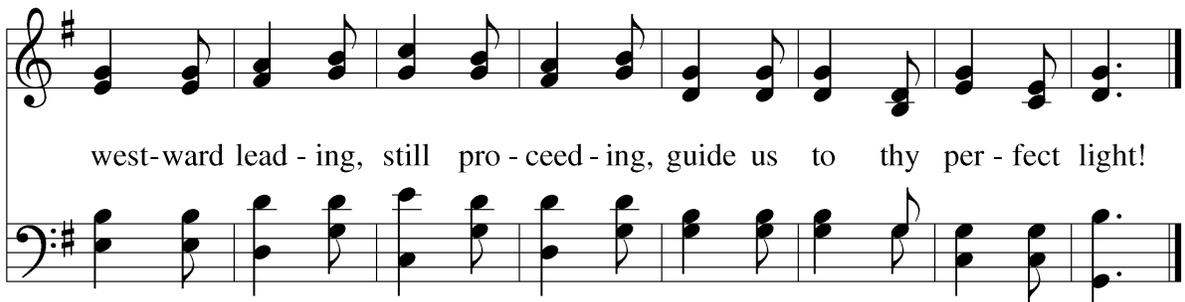


field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 king for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
 prayer and prais - ing, glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 heav'n sings al - le - lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain



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!

EIGHTH READING

Matthew 2:13-18

The slaughter of the holy innocents

A A reading from Matthew.

¹³ Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL: *All My Heart Again Rejoices*

273

1 All my heart a - gain re - joic - es as I hear, far and
 2 Je - sus' voice from low - ly man - ger soft - ly thus calls to
 3 Come, then, let us has - ten yon - der; here let all, great and
 4 You, dear Lord, I'll ev - er cher - ish; though my breath fail in

near, sweet-est an - gel voic - es; "Christ is born," their choirs are
 us: "You are safe from dan - ger; come and see; from all that
 small, kneel in awe and won - der; love him who with love is
 death, I will nev - er per - ish: by your side in light e -

sing - ing, till the air ev - 'ry - where now with joy is ring - ing.
 grieves you you are freed; all you need I will sure - ly give you."
 yearn - ing; hail the star that from far bright with hope is burn - ing.
 ter - nal I shall be end - less - ly filled with joy su - per - nal.

NINTH READING

John 1:1-14

The mystery of the incarnation

A A reading from John.

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.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ 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.

A The word of the Lord.

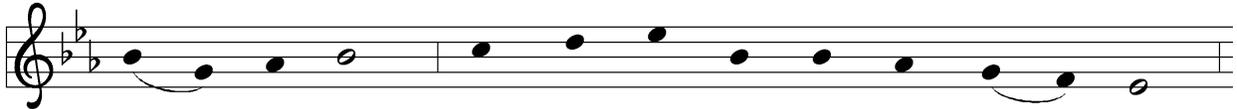
C **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL: *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

295



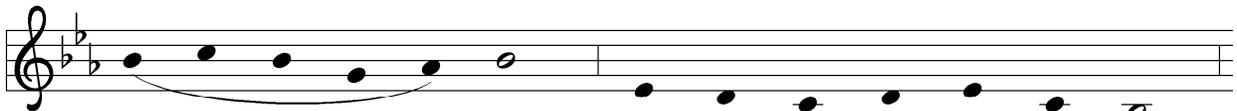
1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
 3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



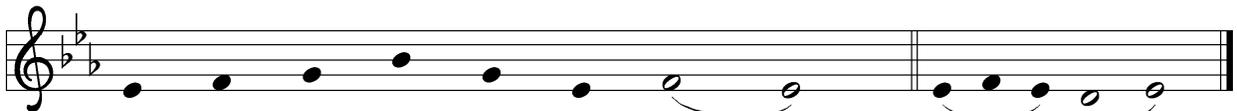
gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
 bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
 pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

Stand

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*Sung to God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen*)

In peace, together let us pray unto the Lord most high,
That he might give us heav'nly peace, and save us ere we die.
For peace throughout the world; the church's health; and unity:
O Lord, God, have mercy on us, mercy on us;
O Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

For this, the holy house of God, we offer up our prayer,
For all who praise and worship him, both here and ev'rywhere,
That through his Word and Sacraments, his Presence we might share:
O Lord, God, have mercy on us, mercy on us;
O Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

For bishops, pastors, people, all the servants of God's Word,
For those who toil and those who sing, their hearts of one accord;
For those who offer gifts and praise, we pray unto the Lord:
O Lord, God, have mercy on us, mercy on us;
O Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

For public servants, government, that they be just and wise;
For all protectors of our nation and communities;
For peace and justice, health and safety, Father, hear our pleas:
O Lord, God, have mercy on us, mercy on us;
O Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

For kindly weather, fruitful harvest, peaceful times, we pray;
Deliverance from evil, wrath, and danger ev'ry day;
For this, and for your sure defense and comfort, Lord, we pray:
O Lord, God, have mercy on us, mercy on us;
O Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

In gratitude for saints of God who from their labors rest;
In fellowship with them, let us commend our lives to Christ,
Forever worship him, his Father, and the Spirit Blest:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, O God most high!

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, 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.**

BLESSING (BENEDICTION)

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P May you be filled with the wonder of Mary,
the obedience of Joseph,
the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the determination of the magi,
and the peace of the Christ child;
and may almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

HYMN: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

290

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;



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.



OFFERING

The offering will be collected as you leave the Church.

POSTLUDE: *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!*

arr. Lau



The Christmas Cycle celebrates the events surrounding Christ's coming — the prophecies, his birth, his manifestation (epiphany) to the Gentiles, and his baptism — through the Advent season, the Christmas season, and the Epiphany season.

Christmas is a great twelve (12) day celebration, beginning on 25 December and ending on the Feast of the Epiphany, 6 January. Outward signs of the celebration of Christmas should remain visible for all twelve (12) days: trees, wreaths and other decorations, music, gift-giving, joy.

The liturgical color white, symbolic of purity, joy, and the light of Christ, is used on the festivals of Christ.



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Ushers: Scott Halteman, David Halteman, Gary Halteman, and Dick Allebach.

Augustus Church Family: The multiple Christmas programs, advertisements, promotional, and campus-wide decorations have been provided to enhance your worship experience and were supplied by many internal organizations and committees, individual church members, and multiple community businesses who have united to make this event a success. The Outreach Committee would like to extend much gratitude and appreciation to all the patrons and volunteers that made the event possible and ask that you continue to support your local community businesses, especially:

Print Copy Design

Risher Van Horn

Best Version Media

Thrivent Financial

Peter Wentz Farmstead

Collegetown Development Economic Corporation

Four Rivers Community Broadcasting Corp.



Chrismon Ornaments on the Christmas Tree: The word “Chrismon” is a combination of the words “Christ” and “monogram”. The word Chrismon has been adopted to refer to special Christmas tree ornaments that have been developed to display symbols of Christ. The designs of the Chrismons has over the years been extended to represent symbols of Christianity. All the ornaments are done in white and gold. In 1957 Chrismon ornaments were made and displayed on a Christmas tree at the Lutheran Church of the Ascension in Danville, Virginia. Through this church patterns were made available, and the idea of having a Chrismon tree has spread. Over the years more ornaments have been developed so that now a Chrismon may be a monogram, a sign, a symbol, a type, or a combination of such figures. The only requirement is that it refer primarily to Christ and God. The symbolism of the ornaments on the Christmas tree in the Nave are as follows:

The Irish or Celtic Cross is a normal cross with a circle in the middle to symbolize eternity.

The Triumphant Cross represents the earth with the cross on top. It symbolizes Jesus is triumphant over anything we can face in the world.

The Jerusalem Cross It can symbolize the Four Gospels in the Bible, the spread of the Gospel to the four corners of the earth or the five wounds of Jesus when he died on the cross.

The Furca or Upsilon Cross comes from the Greek letter Y. It is also called The Thieves' Cross from the two robbers who were crucified on each side of Jesus. It also symbolizes the choice between good and evil.

The Anchor Cross reminds Christian's that Jesus is the anchor of their faith.

The Fish is one of the oldest Christian symbols. The letters, from the Greek word for fish (ichthus), stand for Jesus (I), Christ (X), God (Q), Son (Y), Savior (S). Some of Jesus' disciples were fishermen

Alpha and Omega are the first and the last letters of the Greek alphabet. Used together, they are the symbolize that Christians believe Jesus is the beginning and end of all things.

The Chi-Rho looks like a 'P' with an 'X' on top of it. These two letters are the first two letters of the Greek word 'Christos' which means Christ.

The Star of David, sometimes called the Star of Creation, is a symbol that Jesus was a Jew and a descendant of King David.

A Five Pointed Star represents the five wounds of Jesus on the cross.

The Nativity Star is the symbol of the Star of Bethlehem or Epiphany, when the Wisemen visited Jesus.

An Eight Pointed Star represents baptism and regeneration.

The Crown is the symbol that Jesus is King. It shows that Christians believe Jesus is ruler over heaven and the earth.

The Shepherd's Crook or Staff remembers that Jesus sometimes called himself a shepherd. It can also represent the shepherds who were the first people told about the birth of Jesus.

Both of these symbols represent the Christian 'Trinity' of God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. The Triquetra is made of three loops making a triangle representing the three parts of the trinity. The Trefoil (at the bottom) is three equal circles intertwined to form a whole.

Hands in Prayer help Christians remember that they should pray to God.

The Scroll represents the Bible.

The Dove is the symbol of peace and the Holy Spirit. It is shown pointing down to represent the Holy Spirit that appeared as a Dove when Jesus was baptized.

The Lamp and The Candle both represent that Christians believe Jesus is the Light of the World.

The Shell is a symbol for baptism. It reminds Christians of the water that they are baptized in.

The Keys are a symbol for the Church in all the world. Jesus told his friend Peter that "I will give you keys to heaven", so this means that Christians have to tell other people about Jesus.

The Ship is also a symbol of the Church, sailing towards heaven.

The Cup or Chalice is a symbol of Communion. It also represents God's forgiveness

The Angel reminds Christians of the angels who told the shepherds about the birth of Jesus. It can also represent the second coming of Jesus, which the Bible says will start with an Angel blowing a trumpet.

Babe / Manger represents Jesus as a baby at Christmas

The Lamb is a symbol for Jesus who is sometimes called 'The Lamb of God'.

The Butterfly is a symbol for transformation and the immortal soul.

The Lion is a symbol for Jesus who is sometimes called 'The Lion of Judah'. Jesus is also represented as Aslan the Lion in the Chronicle of Narnia books by C S Lewis.

The White Rose is a symbol for purity and can represent Mary.

The Cross symbolizes that Christians believe Jesus Christ died for everyone on a cross.

The Latin Cross, also sometimes called the Roman Cross. The base of the cross has three steps that symbolize faith, hope, and love.

The Eastern Cross is used by many Eastern or Orthodox churches.

IHS are the first three letters of 'Jesus' in Greek. They've been added to a Cross as it looks more interesting!

The Heart is a symbol of love and reminds Christians that God is love.



*Christmas Poinsettias
2021*

Richard and Dolores Allebach in memory of Loved Ones.

Augustus Women of the ELCA to the Glory of God in loving memory and in honor of all its members.

In loving memory of our parents: Mr. and Mrs. G. Laurence Brown and Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Berg from Nancy and Jamie Berg.

To the Glory of God for our many blessings from the Bubeck Family.

Nancee Clelland in loving memory of parents, Gunnar and Sara Rambo; brother, Gunnar Rambo Jr.; husband, William Clelland.

Anita Halteman in loving memory of Galen Halteman.

Anita Halteman in honor of family members.

Don, Sherry and Alanna Jessee in loving memory of family and friends.

Elaine Johnston in loving memory of my husband, Jay, and all the deceased members of my family.

LaVonne Johnson in loving memory of husband, Dennis L. Johnson

Karen Lachenmayer in loving memory of my parents, Tom and Anne Lachenmayer.

Karen Lachenmayer in loving memory of Dorothy Keffer and Miriam Bennett.

Jim and Sally Lorah in memory of Loved Ones.

Nancy Loughery

Karen and Bryan McClain in honor of our parents.

Jack and Gayle Neborak in loving honor of Bryony Grace and in loving memory of her twin, Molly Jean, our granddaughters.

Dale, Patrick and Brian O'Hara to the Glory of God in loving memory of family and friends.

Richard and Gemma Patten in loving memory of Harmon and Lois Patten, Mary

Jane Patten, Bruce and Brian Patten.

Richard and Gemma Patten in loving memory of William and Betty McHenry,
Charles and Beulah Wagner, John and Emma Honafius.

Richard and Gemma Patten in loving honor of Christopher Patten, and Allison and
James Patten Cavanaugh.

In loving memory of grandparents from the Redeyoff Family.

Bob Reichner – We are bonded together through God’s gift of the Baby Jesus.
Peace and joy to all.

Mary Saylor and Laura Peljae in loving memory of Kenneth Saylor.

Mary Saylor in loving memory of John Madill, Cynthia (Madill) Klacik and
Pamela Madill.

Helen Schad in loving memory of George.

Helen Schad in memory of Loved Ones.

John and Susan Schatz in loving memory of family we hold dear in our hearts.

Deborah Scholl in memory of loved ones.

Susan Snow and Barry Amole in memory of our parents, Charles and Kathryn
Westman and Clifton and Lidalee Amole.

Sonya Sowards in honor of Augustus’ Sunday School teachers.

In loving memory of Dennis L. Johnson by John and Denise Staub.

Michael and Janet Stokes in loving memory of our parents, Edward and Catherine
Stokes and James and Kathryn Shelly.

Michael Van Blaricum

Given to the Glory of God by Pastor Weleck in loving memory of departed family
members.

John, Charlotte, Jennifer and Michael Wentworth given to the Glory of God in
memory of Leon and Leona Linsenbigler and John and Mary Wentworth.

