



*A Service of Lessons and Carols  
for Christmas*

**Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod**  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



## *A Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas*

Produced by the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod,  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**A video for use by congregations, members, and friends of the Synod.**

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*Liturgy:*

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**Prelude:**

O Little Town of Bethlehem *Christ's Lutheran Church, Oreland. Danny Melnick, Debbie Melnick and Jenn Melnick, vocalists; Ken Selinger, accompanist*

Fantasia on O Come, All Ye Faithful *Organist: Rev. Bruce Todd, Trinity, Lansdale*

**Gathering Song:** Come Now All. *David and Terri Alburger, St. Michael's, Sellersville*

*Chorus:*

Come now, all who are able  
The angel has told us, so let's go and see.  
Let's go down to the Bethlehem stable  
And see the new babe, born for you and for me.

Come now, the weak and disabled,  
The outcasts and sinners, He calls you to see  
He heals you, removes your afflictions  
The sick and oppressed are forever set free.  
*chorus*

Come now, leave the dishes on the table  
They'll still be there later, now let's go and see  
A child lies in a poor village stable  
By prophets foretold it has now come to be  
*chorus*

The Prince of Peace, Eternal Redeemer  
He comes to offer salvation today  
The Lamb of God, The Lion of Judah  
He'll refresh your spirit, your sins wash away

Come now, in rags or in sable  
Forget your position, let's go and see  
He calls all, gives no man a label  
The rich and the poor he sees all equally  
*chorus*

Come now all you heavy laden  
With sin and regret but who long to be free  
His burden is light, His yoke it is easy  
He calls you by name saying "Come unto Me"  
*chorus*

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**Dialogue:**

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

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

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

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

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

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

Jesus is the light of the world.

**Jesus is the light of our lives.**

Sing to God a new song!

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

**Opening Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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.

**Amen.**



**Away in a Manger:** *The Little Choristers, Trinity Lutheran Church, Lansdale*

Away in a manger no crib for a bed  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where  
He lay  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing the Baby awakes  
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes  
I love Thee Lord Jesus look down from the sky  
And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh

Be near me Lord Jesus I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me I pray  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care  
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there

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**Third Reading:** Luke 1:26-35, 38

**God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen/We Three Kings:** *Praise Band, Advent Lutheran Church, West Chester*

God rest ye merry gentlemen  
Let nothing you dismay  
Remember Christ our Saviour  
Was born on Christmas Day  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r  
When we were gone astray.

*Refrain 1:*  
O tidings of comfort and joy  
Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy

From God our heavenly Father  
A blessed angel came  
And unto certain shepherds  
Brought tidings of the same  
How that in Bethlehem was born  
The Son of God by name. *Refrain 1*

*Refrain 2:*  
Oh, star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright;  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light!

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again;  
king forever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign. *Refrain 2*

Glorious now behold him arise,  
King and God and Sacrifice;  
heav'n sings alleluia:  
alleluia the earth replies. *Refrain 2*

God rest ye merry gentlemen  
Let nothing you dismay

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**Fourth Reading:** Matthew 1:18-25

**Jesus, what a wonderful child:** *Choir, Reformation Lutheran Church, Philadelphia*

## Jesus, What a Wonderful Child



Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful child.



Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly, meek, and



mild; new life, new hope the child will bring.



Lis - ten to the an - gels sing: "Glo - ry, glo - ry,



glo - ry," let the heav - ens ring!

Text: African American traditional, alt.  
Music: WONDERFUL CHILD, African American traditional

**Fifth Reading:** Luke 2:8-20

## 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

**Sixth Reading:** Matthew 2:1-11

**O Holy Night:** *Dale Travis, solo. Shirley Keiter, organ. Little Zion Lutheran Church, Telford*

O holy night the stars are brightly shining  
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining  
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth  
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn

Fall on your knees  
O hear the angel voices  
O night divine  
O night when Christ was born  
O night O holy night  
O night divine

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming  
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand  
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming  
Here came the wise men from Orient land  
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger  
In all our trials born to be our Friend

He knows our need  
To our weakness is no stranger  
Behold your King  
Before Him lowly bend  
Behold your King  
Before Him lowly bend

Truly He taught us to love one another  
His law is love and His gospel is peace  
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother  
And in His name all oppression shall cease  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we  
Let all within us praise His holy name

Christ is the Lord  
O praise His name forever  
His power and glory  
Evermore proclaim  
His power and glory  
Evermore proclaim

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**Seventh Reading:** John 1:1-14

**Silent Night/Stille Nacht:** *Advent Lutheran Church, Harleysville*  
*Hannah Woodbury, Madeleine Hassett, Allison Hutchinson, voice; Eddie Fisher, guitar*

**Silent Night, Holy Night!**  
*Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht!*



*Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,*  
 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,  
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake  
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



*ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.*  
 all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.  
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,  
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



*Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher*  
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly  
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



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

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885  
 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

### **Responsive Prayer**

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

**Your Word, Jesus, is truth.**

In his light, draw all to the manger

**to gather in wonder with the shepherds.**

In his light, draw all to the manger

**to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.**

In his light, draw all to the manger

**to sing for joy with the angels.**

In the brightness of his life

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

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

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

**Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those**

**who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

### **Blessing**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

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

You are the shepherds telling the story.

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

You are the wise ones worshiping with thanksgiving.

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

You are the angels announcing peace.

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

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Sending Song:**

**Go Tell It on the Mountain/This is Amazing Grace:** *Praise Band, Calvary Lutheran Church, West Chester*

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness  
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger  
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Who rules the nations with truth and justice  
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance  
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder  
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder  
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Go tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and ev'rywhere  
Go tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born

Go tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and ev'rywhere  
Go tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born

Go tell it. Go, go tell it!

Who brings our chaos back into order  
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter  
The King of Glory the King of Glory

Go tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and ev'rywhere  
Go tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born

This Is Amazing Grace: CCLI Song # 6333821  
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Go Tell It On The Mountain  
John W. Work Jr.  
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## **Postlude:**

*Angels We Have Heard on High. Bill Folk, trumpet; St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Pennsburg.  
What Child Is This. Immanuel Lutheran Church, Norwood.*



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