

Service for the Lord's Day

Pre-Service Music Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her, BWV 606 J.S. Bach
Vom Himmel kam der Engel Schar, BWV 607
In dulci jubilo, BWV 608 —from *Orgelbüchlein*
Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr, BWV 676
Thomas Heidenreich, Organist

Concerns of the Congregation

Call to Worship Psalm 148 Josephine Balz
One: Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths,
All: lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding,
One: you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, wild animals and all cattle,
small creatures and flying birds, kings of the earth and all nations, princes and all rulers on earth, young
men and women, old men and children.
All: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his
splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

Prelude Fanfare on *Antioch* Gerre Hancock
Carillon on *Antioch* Mary Beth Bennett
Thomas Heidenreich, Organist

Ringling of the Revere Tower Bell

Let the ringing of the bell call our attention away from ourselves and
onto the living Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

***Hymn #103** O Come All Ye Faithful

***Invocation**

***Prayer of Confession**

One: Lord of grace and truth, we confess our unworthiness to stand in your presence as your children.

We have sinned:

All: Forgive and heal us.

One: Young Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

All: We have been disobedient to your will.

One: We have sinned:

All: Forgive and heal us.

One: Your Son our Savior was born in poverty in a manger.

All: Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.

One: We have sinned:

All: Forgive and heal us.

One: The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem. Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision. We have sinned:

All: Forgive and heal us.

***Moments of Silent Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

2 Corinthians 5:17

One: Hear the good news! Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven. This is the Good News.

All: Thanks be to God.

***Gloria Patri #575**

Glory Be to the Father

Carol Sing

Carols are included beginning on page 9 of the bulletin

**Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming
The First Noel
Angels We Have Hear on High
What Child is This?
Away in a Manager**

During the singing of Away in a Manager we invite all children to come to the front for a Children's Time

Children's Time

Pastor Bob

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offertory

Thomas Heidenreich, Organist

Gesù Bambino

Pietro A. Yon

*Doxology #572

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Please note: Today children are encouraged to stay in the worship service.

However, an attended nursery is available for our youngest congregants!

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #121 vs. 1,4

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 9:6-7

Rev. Dr. Robert Anderson

Pew Bible pg. 489 Large Print Bible pg. 1073

One: This is God's Word for God's People.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

What Shall We Name the Baby?

Rev. Dr. Robert Anderson

*Hymn #115

Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Benediction

Postlude

Thomas Heidenreich, Organist

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella

Keith Chapman

*Those who are able, please stand

O Come, All Ye Faithful 103

Let us now go even unto Bethlehem... Luke 2:15

Latin hymn
Attr. to John F. Wade, 1751
Trans. by Frederick Oakeley, 1841, and others

ADESTE FIDELES Irreg. Ref.
John F. Wade's *Cantus Diversi*, 1751

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant,
2. God of God, and Light of Light be - got - ten,
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion!
4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,

O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem!
Lo, He ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
O sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove;
Je - sus, to Thee be all glo - ry giv'n;

Come and be - hold Him, born the King of an - gels;
Ver - y God, be - got - ten, not cre - a - ted;
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. A - men.

Verses 1 and 4

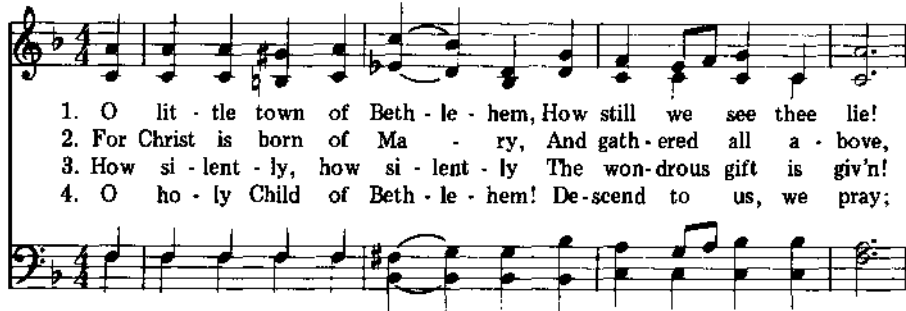
O Little Town of Bethlehem 121

Thou, Bethlehem . . . though thou be little . . . out of thee shall He come. Micah 5:2

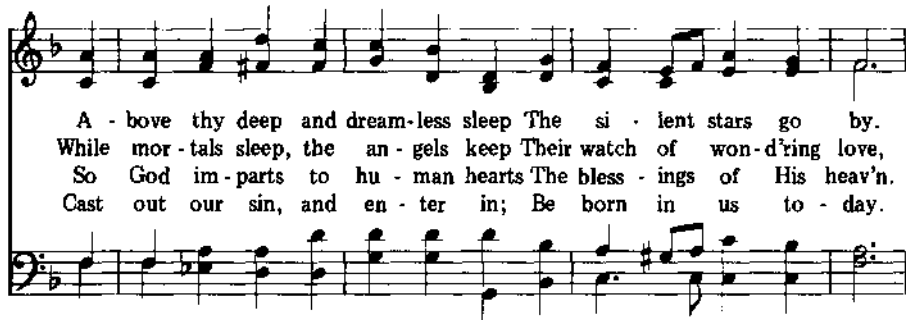
ST. LOUIS 8 6 8 6 7 6 8 6

Lewis H. Redner, 1868

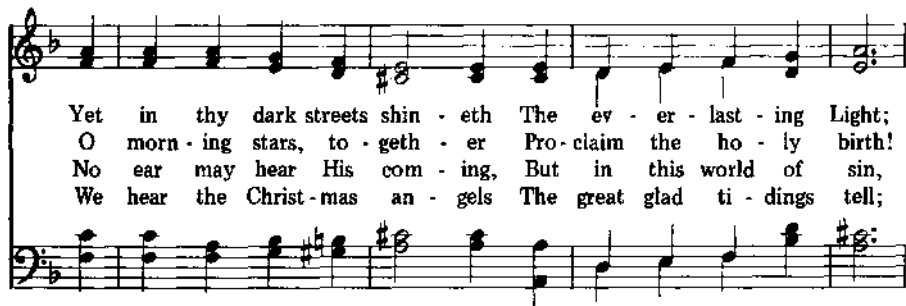
Phillips Brooks, 1868



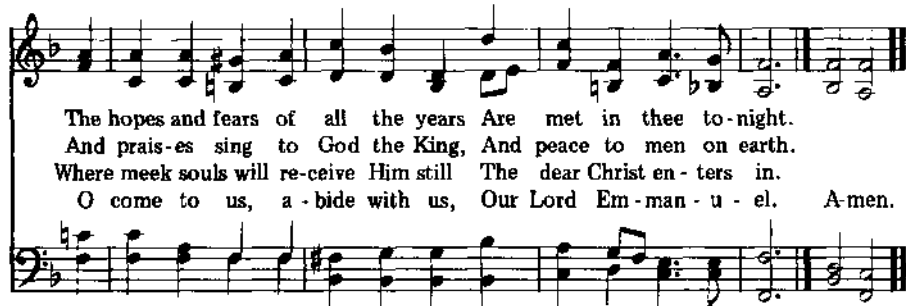
1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry, And gath - ered all a - bove,
3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!
4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem! De - scend to us, we pray;



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 ti - dings 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 men 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. A - men.

HIS BIRTH

115 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

... They made known abroad the saying ... concerning this child. Luke 2:17

John W. Work, II, 1907

GO TELL IT Irreg.
Traditional Spiritual

Unison

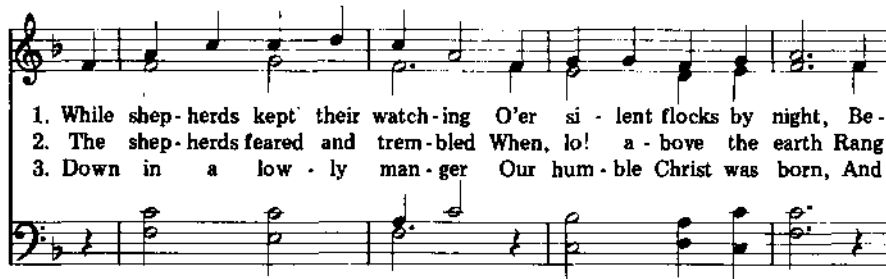


(Ref.) Go, tell it on the moun-tain, O-ver the hills and ev-ery-where;

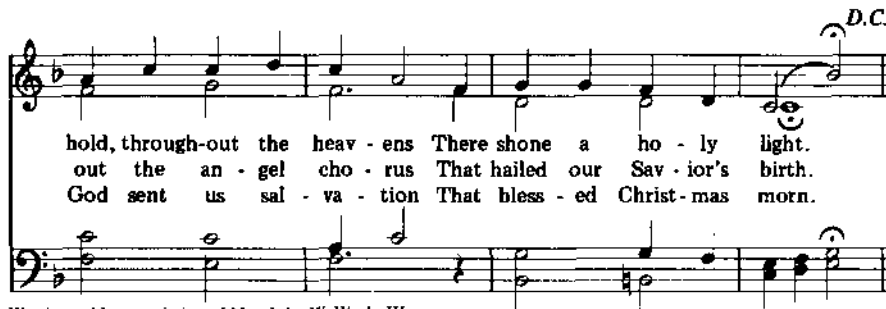
Fine



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, Be-
2. The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When, lo! a-bove the earth Rang
3. Down in a low-ly man-ger Our hum-ble Christ was born, And



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

D.C.

Words used by permission of Mrs. John W. Work, III.

JESUS CHRIST



Carol Sing



Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ES IST EIN' ROS' 7.6.7.6.6.7.6

German carol, 15th century
Trans. Theodore Baker (1851-1934)
Alt. *Rejoice in the Lord*, 1985

*Alte Catholische Geistliche
Kirchengesäng*, Cologne, 1599
Arr. Michael Praetorius, 1609

1. Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing From ten-der stem hath sprung,
2. I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in mind,

Of Jes-se's lin-eage com - ing, By faith - ful proph - ets sung.
With Ma - ry we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er kind.

It came a flower - et bright, A - mid the cold of
To show God's love a - right She bore for us a

win - ter, When half spent was the night.
Sav - ior, When half spent was the night.
was the

Verses 1 and 6

108 The First Noel, the Angel Did Say

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field . . . Luke 2:8

THE FIRST NOEL Irreg. Ref.
W. Sandys' Christmas Carols, 1833
Acc. by John Stainer, 1871

Traditional English carol

1. The first No - el, the an-gel did say, Was to cer-tain poor shepherds in
 2. They look - ed up and saw a star Shin-ing in the east, be-
 3. And by the light of that same star Three wise men came from
 4. This star drew nigh to the north-west, O'er Beth - le - hem it
 5. Then en - tered in those wise men three, Full rev - 'rent - ly up -
 6. Then let us all with one ac - cord Sing prais - es to our

fields as they lay; In fields where they lay keep-ing their sheep, On a
 yond them far, And to the earth it gave great light, And
 coun - try far; To seek for a king was their in - tent, And to
 took its rest, And there it did both stop and stay, Right
 on their knee, And of - fered there in His pres - ence Their
 heav'n - ly Lord, That hath made heav'n and earth of naught, And

Refrain

cold win-ter's night that was so deep.
 so it con-tin - ued both day and night.
 fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.
 with His blood man - kind hath bought.

el, No - el, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

113 Angels We Have Heard on High

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace . . . Luke 2:14

GLORIA 7777 Ref.

Traditional French carol

Traditional French melody

1. An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2. Shepherds, 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;
4. See with - in a man - ger laid Je - sus, Lord of heay'n and earth!

And the moun-tains in re - ply Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
Say what may the ti - dings be, Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, With us sing our Sav - ior's birth.

Refrain

Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,

Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

JESUS CHRIST

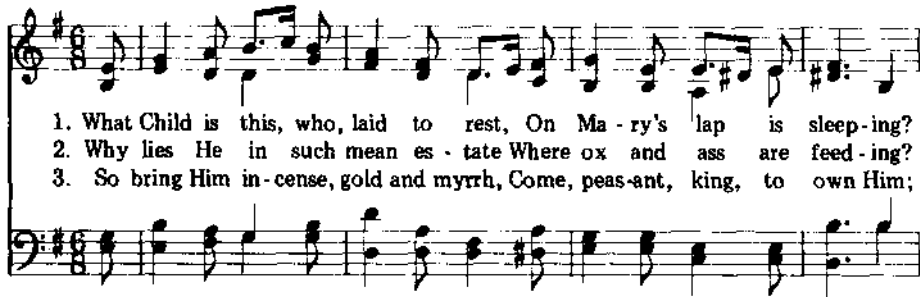
What Child Is This, Who, Laid to Rest 105

Where is He that is born King of the Jews? Matt. 2:2

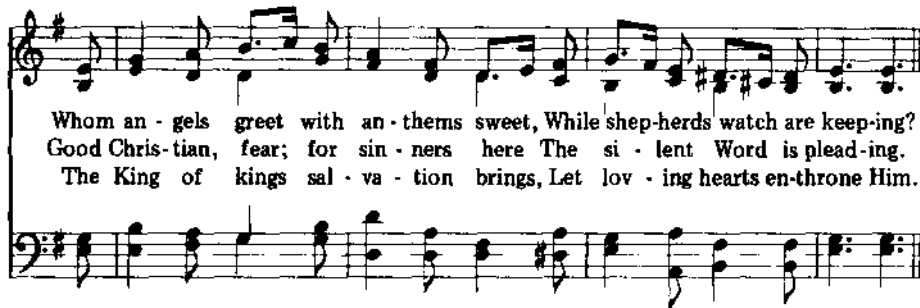
GREENSLEEVES 8 7 8 7 Ref.

William C. Dix, c. 1865

Traditional English melody, 16th century

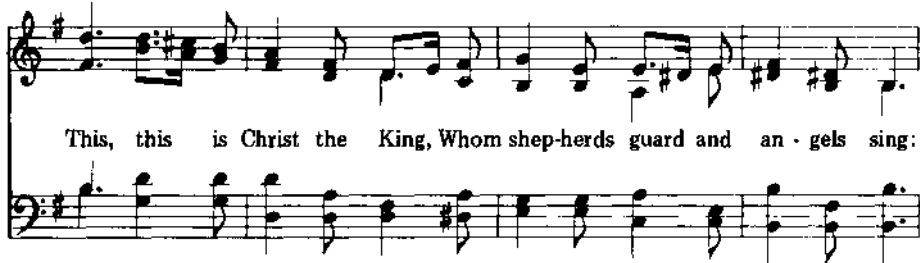


1. What Child is this, who, laid to rest, On Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing?
2. Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3. So bring Him in - cense, gold and myrrh, Come, peas - ant, king, to own Him;



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.

Refrain



This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing:



This, this is Christ the King, The babe, the Son of Ma - ry.

Away in a Manger

MUELLER 11.11.11.11

Stanzas 1-2, *Little Children's Book for Schools and Families*, c. 1885
Stanza 3, *Gabriel's Vineyard Songs*, 1892

Attr. James R. Murray, 1887
Harm. John Weaver, 1986

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 Thee 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 Thee, 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 side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
Thy ten - der care, And fit us for heav - en to live with Thee there.

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This Week at Covenant-First

Sunday, December 26

9:15 AM — Adult Bible Study

10:30 AM — Worship

11:30 AM — Fellowship Time

Wednesday, December 29

No Brown Bag Bible Study

Friday, December 30

Courier Deadline

Saturday, December 31

7:30 AM — Men's Bible Study in Chapel

Planning Ahead**Sunday, January 2**

10:30 AM — Worship — Lisa Allgood will be leading in worship

11:30 AM — Fellowship Time

The Adult and Teen Bible Studies will not meet on January 2, but will resume at its regular time on January 9.

Wednesday, January 5

No Brown Bag Bible Study

Saturday, January 8

7:30 AM — Men's Bible Study in Chapel

Looking Ahead — Sunday, January 2, 2022

On Sunday, January 2, 2022, Lisa Allgood will be preaching and we will have the Lord's Supper. What do we really know about the three wise men? And what does the star mean for us today? Come and start the new year with us! Oh, come let us adore him!