

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

PRELUDE

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

P: Lord, today is a special day as we celebrate the gift of Your Son—Jesus—to us. We recognize that the gift of Jesus is for the entire world as he is the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace. We simply ask that You would calm our hearts in worship this morning with Your presence—Father, Son and Holy Spirit. You have done marvelous things and give us joy now for life! Bless our worship today. In Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

OPENING SONG "Green Book" 55 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

**Good Christian Friends, rejoice With Heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say; Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow, And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

**Good Christian Friends, rejoice With Heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, And we are blest forever more.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

**Good Christian Friends, rejoice With Heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all To gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

PREPARING OUR HEARTS

P: The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

C: Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

P: He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

C: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music;

P: with the trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn—shout for joy before the Lord, the King.

C: The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

P: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. Let us now take some time to be honest to God and one another about ourselves by confessing our sins.

C: Lord, as we gather this morning in celebration, we must admit that the songs that we sing have lacked joy. Too concerned with the challenges of life, our past failures and the darkness of the world around us, we have failed even to lift up our voice. We pray for your forgiveness. Rekindle in our hearts the joy in knowing that You are for us and that You stand by our side forever!

(Silence for reflection)

P: To us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. Jesus is the one who was promised many years ago. Because of His life and death, God forgives you all your sins. I declare this forgiveness in God's name—in the name and by the authority granted by God—the Father, Son and Holy Spirit—I forgive you all of your sins! Sing a new song!

C: Amen!

SONG OF PRAISE "Red Book" 115

Jesus, Name Above All Names

Jesus, Names above all names,
beautiful Savior, glorious Lord,
Emmanuel, God is with us,
blessed Redeemer, living Word.

Jesus, loving shepherd
Vine of the branches, Son of God
Prince of Peace, Wonderful counselor
Lord of the universe, Light of the world

Jesus, Way of salvation,
King of kings, Lord of Lords,
The way the truth, and the Life,
Mighty creator, my Savior and friend.

GREETING AND PRAYER

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: We pray. Grant, almighty God, that the birth of your only-begotten Son in human flesh may set us free, who through sin are held in bondage; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON [Isaiah 9:2-7](#) “Hope is promised in the gift of a child”

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

EPISTLE LESSON [Titus 2:11-14](#) “Encouragement to do good”

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

CHOIR ANTHEM

O Come, O Come on Christmas Day

By Patrick Liebergen

GOSPEL LESSON [Luke 2:1-14](#) “The birth of Jesus”

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

SERMON HYMN "Green Book" 39 Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive its King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing,

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods,
Rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, Repeat the sounding joy,

No more let sin and sorrow grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, Far as the curse is found,

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, And wonders of his love,

APOSTLE'S CREED

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
And born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

And is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

The holy catholic church,

The communion of saints,

The forgiveness of sins,

The resurrection of the body,

And the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING PRAYER

P: Lord, we thank you for giving us a new song. It is not that Your Son simply took his place in the manger-bed. Today we have learned that he resides in our hearts. We pray that your Son would never depart and take permanent residence inside of us—it is in Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG "Green Book" 70 **Go Tell It on the Mountain**

Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching O'vr silent folks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens There shone a holy light.
Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

The shepherds feared and trembled When, Lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior's birth.
Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

Down in a lonely manger The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn.
Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

Dismissal

Post-Service Music