



*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.

Video editing and bulletin design: Rev. Robert Fisher

Worship Leaders:

Rev. Bishop Patricia A. Davenport

Rev. Robert Fisher

Rev. Dr. William E. Flippin, Jr.

Rev. Karen M. Sease

Ms. Yvonne Curtis

Ms. Cynta Outterbridge

Ms. Mercedes Lee

Mr. Martin Schwab

Music provided by:

Musicians, choirs, soloists, and bands from Synod Congregations

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.

Anthem: Breath of Heaven. *Joyce Berner, Soloist, Grace, Royersford*

First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5, 14-18

Hark, The Herald Angels Sing: *Choir of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hatfield*

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



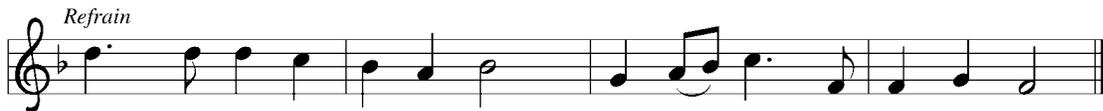
peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

Second Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

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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Jeff Reeves | John Thomas McFarland | Martin Luther |
William James Kirkpatrick
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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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