

Christmas Eve Service December 24, 2020 11:00 p.m.



PRELUDE

Sing We Now of Christmas On This Day Earth Shall Ring Away in a Manger Medley ELC Handbell Choir Organ Prelude ELC Handbell Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP & CANDLELIGHTING

This year...

May this Christ candle be a reminder that there will be a day when every dream will be fulfilled. And until then, we will be those who dream. Come, let us adore Him. Let us worship Holy God.

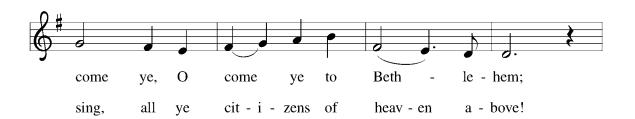
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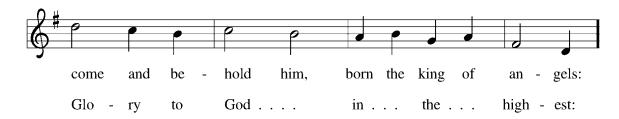
GATHERING SONGS

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ELW 283









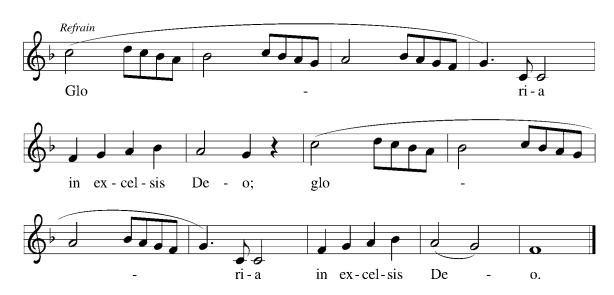


Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2 Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains, 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?





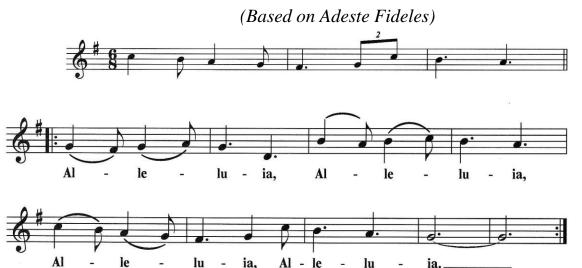
Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864 Music: GLORIA, French carol

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of our hopes and dreams, your deepest desire is for us to know your justice and righteousness. Open our eyes to see how you break into this world as a transforming force of love, joy hope, and peace. Still the fears of our hearts that we might see your glory and participate in your dream. Show us the signs, that we can share your story, your love, your mercy and your peace. In the name of our sweet beloved baby in the manger, Jesus. **Amen.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Christmas Alleluia

W. Horn



GOSPEL - Luke 2:1-20

The world's deep night is shattered by the light of God's new day. The glory of God is revealed to poor shepherds, who share the good news with others.

The gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

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. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

REFLECTION

Rev. Christina Garrett Klein

On such a holy night as this, Jesus illuminated the world. This year, we light candles in our homes to remind us that Christ is the light of the world, and a light that goes with us — wherever we are. Be it a flicker or a blaze or darkness, Christ dwells among us, his divine glow within us. It is what we carry into the world. We light our candles and sing Silent Night.





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

*Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news of Jesus' birth!

Thanks be to God! Merry Christmas!

Thank you so much for joining us for worship today!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

God bless you and your families this season!!

Stay safe! Be well! and Merry Christmas!!!!

See you for worship Saturday, December 26th for worship (pre-recorded) at 5pm and for a service of lessons and carols from our Metropolitan Chicago Synod 10:00am on Sunday, December 27th!



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Our Mission:

Transforming lives by sharing a saving faith in Jesus Christ and living the Gospel through service

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, connect with our ministries, meet with one of our pastors, or learn more about ELC and how to join, feel free to call or email us. You are always welcome here.

+ Pastor Christina Klein

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