

WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

December 25, 2022

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Prelude *Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming* Sue Ostien

Welcome and Announcements

Ben Phillips
Pastor of Ministries

The Song of Ascent *God's people sang together as they gathered and traveled together up to Jerusalem to worship God.*

Congregation *Christmas Medley*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

What child is this who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.

The first noel, the Angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Joy to the World, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing, And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

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, wonders, of His love.

ADORATION OF GOD

Call to Worship:

Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.
—Luke 2.11

Invocation

Declaration of Truth: (Unison) *Augustine of Hippo, 354-430 AD*

Maker of the sun, He is made under the sun.
In the Father He remains, from His mother He goes forth.
Creator of heaven and earth, He was born on earth under heaven.
Unspeakably wise, He is wisely speechless.
Filling the world, He lies in a manger.
Ruler of the stars, He nurses at His mother's bosom.
He is both great in the nature of God, and small in the form of a servant.

Choral Affirmation

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;
Evermore your voices raising To th'eternal Three in One
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Hymns of Praise *O Come, All Ye Faithful* #208

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain:

*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

God of God, Light of Light;
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Ve-ry God, begotten not created.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:
Glory to God, in the highest

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing;

Pastoral Prayer

Mission Moment

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Gift of Music *In the Bleak Mid-Winter* Claire & Penny James

Receiving God's Tithes and Our Offering

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**New Year's Day
Worship at 8:30 and 11
Sunday School at 10
No evening service.
We will resume Sunday evening worship on January 8.**

Hymn of Testimony *Angels We Have Heard on High* #214

(Children ages three through third grade may be escorted to Children's Church)

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain: *Gloria in excelsis Deo. (x2)*

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song?

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

Reading of God's Word Luke 2.1-7 p. 857, pew bible

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem (because he was of the house and lineage of David), to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

All: *The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the word of our God will stand forever.*

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon *Humble* Pastor John
Christmas Mini-Series: *Christmas Notes from Christmas Carols*

Gift of Music Tracy Roth & Laura Whitlock
Straw Against the Chill

OUR RESPONSE

Prayer of Application

Hymn of Response *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*
I heard the bells on Christmas Day Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat Of peace on earth, good will to men.

I thought how, as the day had come, The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along the unbroken song Of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head: "There is no peace on earth," I said,
"For hate is strong and mocks the song Of peace on earth, good will to men."

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: God is not dead, nor doth he sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, With peace on earth, good will to men."

Till, ringing singing, on its way, The world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime, Of peace on earth, good will to men!

The Benediction and Threefold Amen