

Sparkling and Shimmering God,

Thank you for calling us to walk in the light —

light that can brighten gloomy cities, light that can make planets glow, light that can warm cold hearts.

Gleaming and Glistening God,

Thank you for calling us to be light —

light so bright that even when we try to hide among the shrubs, burning bushes appear.

Twinkling God,

Thank you for calling us to share light —

light that stretches beyond all distances. Light that breaches depths.

Help us hold up our light on lamp stands, participating in your work of resisting all darkness in our world. Help us never to hold up our light for notoriety, fame, attention, or comparison.

Allow every wave of light that radiates from our being to illumine you, the source of all light.

We pray this prayer in the strong name of Jesus, the light of the world. **Amen.**

*Carol: *In the Bleak Midwinter* #36

Lessons and Carols

First Lesson: Genesis 3:8-15 – God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent’s head. Bob Barren

*Carol: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* #2

Second Lesson: Genesis 22:15-18 – God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed. Dorothy Nerison

Choir Anthem *Come Emmanuel*

Third Lesson: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7; Isaiah 11:1-9 – Christ’s birth and peaceful kingdom are foretold by Isaiah. Lisa Comstock

*Carol: *The Holly and the Ivy* See insert

Fourth Lesson: Micah 5:2-4 – The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem. Tony Tysseling

*Carol: *O Little Town of Bethlehem* #44

Fifth Lesson: Luke 1:26-38 – The angel Gabriel announces God’s plan to the Virgin Mary.
Lois Tysseling

*Carol: *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* #37

Sixth Lesson: Matthew 1:18-23 – Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus. Sonya Beardsley

*Carol: *God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen* See insert

Seventh Lesson: Luke 2:8-16 – The shepherds go to the manger. Steve Torrence

*Carol: *The First Nowell* verses 1,2,6 #56

Eighth Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12 – The wise men are led by the star to Jesus. Elizabeth Nelson

*Carol: *We Three Kings of Orient Are* #66

Ninth Lesson: John 1:1-14 – John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation. Peggy Ulvestad

*Carol: *What Child is This* #53

Sermon *Gift: Presence* Rev. Dr. Alan Dorway

Chancel Choir Quartet *Sussex Carol*

Prayer

Sharing the Light of the Christ Candle

Carol: *Silent Night* #60
 Verses 1 and 3 led by Elizabeth Nelson on the harp

The harp will play through *Silent Night* as we light our candles together.

Benediction Rev. Dr. Alan Dorway

The Recessional Hymn: *Joy to the World!* #40

Postlude *Joy to the World* – Bish Gary Norris, Organist

The Advent prayer comes from Daniel Heath, who is the associate chaplain and director of the Davidson Forum at Davidson College and the Presbyterian Outlook.

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Poinsettias in our Sanctuary

Given by...

In Memory and In Honor of...

Jay and Julie Kuhnhen	In Memory of our fathers, George and Allen In Honor of our mothers Marcia and Thelma
Thelma Kuhnhen	In Memory of my husband Allen Kuhnhen
Mike and Susan Davis	In Memory of our loving Parents
Judy and Steve Hammond	In Memory of Tom and Diane Parker and In Memory of our Parents
David Baer-Peckham	In Honor of my parents Rodney and Barbara Peckham
Barbara and David Dorway	In Honor of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Alan Dorway and Peyton Lust
Tom and Pat Erickson	In Memory of our Parents and Grandson In Honor of our Children
Margaret Lillie	In Memory and Honor of Bill and Gertie Klim
Annette and Wes King	In Memory of Annette's parents Del and Pat Gerry
Dorothy Nerison	In Honor of our devoted Choir
Steve and Nancy Torrence	In Memory of Christopher Torrence
Jeff and Doreen Solberg	In Memory of our loving Parents
Marsha Lueth	In Memory of Carol Beyer
Jan Weakley	In Memory of Dick Weakley
Clyde and Judy Pitcher	In Memory of our parents Park and Maurine McLean, Ted and Etta Pitcher In Honor of our amazing members involved in producing our Advent Devotional
Bob and Barbara Barren	In Honor of those who work for world peace
Amy and Doug Farnham	In Memory of Mary Katharine and Rollo Farnham and Beve and Jim Evans In Honor of our grandsons Logan and Doug Farnham
Shirley and George Lockeman	In Memory of our Parents
Bill and Mary Grosse	In Honor of our Families

Childcare is available during this evening's service in our childcare room on the second floor.

To all worshipping with us:

- Masks are optional in our facility
- The first six rows of the sanctuary are open seating
- The back rows are every other pew for more spacing

If there is any confusion, concerns, or questions, please contact Pastor Alan or a greeter. Our goal is to worship together and love our neighbor. We value everyone being able to worship in safety, inclusion, and openness. All are welcome.



Once in Royal David's City

49

IRBY 8.7.8.7.7

Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848; alt.

Henry John Gauntlett, 1849
Harm. Arthur Henry Mann, 1919

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a low - ly
2. He came down to earth from heav - en Who is God and
3. Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by day like
4. And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His own re -

cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her ba - by
Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a sta - ble,
us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak and help - less,
deem - ing love, For that Child so dear and gen - tle

In a man - ger for His bed. Ma - ry was that moth - er
And His cra - dle was a stall. With the poor, op - pressed, and
Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He feels for all our
Is our Lord in heaven a - bove; And He leads His chil - dren

mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
low - ly, Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
sad - ness, And He shares in all our glad - ness.
on To the place where He is gone.

In the Bleak Midwinter

36

CRANHAM Irregular

Christina Rossetti, c. 1872; alt.

Gustav Theodore Holst, 1906

1. In the bleak mid - win - ter, Frost - y wind made moan,
 2. Our God, heaven can - not hold Him, Nor earth sus - tain;
 3. An - gels and arch - an - gels May have gath - ered there,
 4. What can I give Him, Poor as I am?

Earth stood hard as i - ron, Wa - ter like a stone;
 Heaven and earth shall flee a - way When He comes to reign:
 Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim Thronged the air;
 If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

Snow had fall - en, snow on snow, Snow on snow,
 In the bleak mid - win - ter A sta - ble - place suf - ficed
 But His moth - er on - ly, In her maid - en bliss,
 If I were a wise man, I would do my part;

In the bleak mid - win - ter, Long a - go.
 The Lord God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.
 Wor - shiped the be - lov - ed With a kiss.
 Yet what I can I give Him: Give my heart.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7 D

Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831

Charles Wesley, 1744

1. Come, Thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy
2. Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child and

peo - ple free; From our fears and sins re - lease us;
yet a King, Born to reign in us for - ev - er,

Let us find our rest in Thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so -
Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By Thine own e - ter - nal

la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art; Dear de - sire of
Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone; By Thine all - suf -

ev - ery na - tion, Joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

Alternate tune: STUTTGART, 1

O Little Town of Bethlehem

44

ST. LOUIS 8.6.8.6.7.6.8.6

Phillips Brooks, 1868

Lewis Henry Redner, 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 given!
 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 - dering love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heaven.
 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 tid - ings 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 all 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!



Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY 4.4.7.4.4.7.4.4.4.4.7

Polish carol
Trans. and para. Edith M. G. Reed, 1925

Polish carol
Harm. A. E. Rusbridge (1917-1969)

1. In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, For His bed a cat - tle stall;
2. Flocks were sleep - ing; Shep - herds keep - ing Vig - il till the morn - ing new.

Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Saw the glo - ry, Heard the sto - ry, Tid - ings of a gos - pel true.

Swift are wing - ing An - gels sing - ing, No - els ring - ing,
Thus re - joic - ing, Free from sor - row, Prais - es voic - ing

Tid - ings bring - ing: Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Greet the mor - row: Christ the babe was born for you.

Music: Harmonization by A. E. Rusbridge (1917-1969). Used by permission of Rosalind Rusbridge.

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL Irregular with refrain

English carol
Sandys' *Christmas Carols*, 1833

English carol, 17th century

1. The first Now - ell the an - gel did say Was to cer - tain poor
2. They look - ed up and saw a star Shin - ing in the
3. And by the light of that same star, Three wise men
4. This star drew nigh to the north - west; O'er Beth - le -

shep - herds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay a - keep - ing their
east be - yond them far, And to the earth it gave great
came from coun - try far; To seek for a king was their in -
hem it took its rest; And there it did both stop and

*Refrain**
sheep, On a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
light, And so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
tent, And to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went. Now - ell, Now -
stay, Right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.

ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

*Refrain may be omitted except after final stanza.

5. Then entered in those wise men three,
 Fell reverently upon their knee,
 And offered there in His presence,
 Their gold, and myrrh, and
 frankincense.
 (Refrain)

6. Then let us all with one accord
 Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
 That hath made heaven and earth of
 nought,
 And with His blood our life hath bought.
 (Refrain)

Arr. Healey Willan, 1926

Alternate refrain

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,

Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The musical score is arranged in two systems. The first system is labeled 'Alternate refrain' and consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics 'Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,' are placed below the treble staff. The second system also consists of two staves in the same key and time signature. The melody continues in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics 'Born is the King of Is - ra - el.' are placed below the treble staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Music: Used by permission of Oxford University Press, Inc.

We Three Kings of Orient Are

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT 8.8.44.6 with refrain

John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1857; alt.
Intro. Robert Stigall, 1988

John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1857; alt.

All: 1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are,
Opt. solo: 2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain,
Opt. solo: 3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I:
Opt. solo: 4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume
All: 5. Glo - rious now be - hold Him a - rise,

Optional Introduction

Bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far, Field and foun - tain,
Gold I bring to crown Him a - gain, King for ev - er,
In - cense owns a De - i - ty nigh; Prayer and prais - ing
Breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom; Sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
King and God and Sac - ri - fice; Al - le - lu - ia,

moor and moun - tain, Fol - low - ing yon - der star.
ceas - ing nev - er O - ver us all to reign.
we are rais - ing, Wor - ship - ing God Most High.
bleed - ing, dy - ing, Sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
Al - le - lu - ia Sounds through the earth and skies.

EPIPHANY

Refrain

O star of won - der, star of night,

Star with roy - al beau - ty bright; West - ward lead - ing,

still pro - ceed - ing, Guide us to thy per - fect light!

What Child Is This

53

GREENSLEEVES 8.7.8.7 with refrain

English ballad, 16th century

William Chatterton Dix, c. 1871

Arr. *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871

Em D G D Em Am B

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, one and all, to own Him.

Em D G D Em Am B Em^{sus4} Em

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.

Bm G D Em Am B

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

Bm G D Em Am B Em^{sus4} Em

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Ma - ry!

This tune can be sung in the original mode by sharpening all C's in the soprano and alto parts.

Silent Night, Holy Night

60

STILLE NACHT Irregular

Joseph Mohr, 1818

Trans. John Freeman Young, 1863

Franz Xaver Gruber, 1818

B \flat F B \flat E \flat

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright, Round yon
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight, Glo - ries
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light Ra - diant
 4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won-drous star, lend thy light; With the

vir - gin moth-er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild,
 stream from heav-en a - far, Heaven-ly hosts sing: "Al - le - lu - ia;
 beams from Thy ho-ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,
 an - gels let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia to our King;

F B \flat F B \flat

Sleep in heav-en-ly peace, Sleep in heav-en-ly peace.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born."
 Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born.

Joy to the World!

ANTIOCH CM with repeat

Attr. George Frederick Handel, 1742
Arr. Lowell Mason, 1836

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re -
 2. Joy to the world! the Sav - ior reigns: Let us our
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, Nor thorns in -
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

ceive her King; Let ev - ery heart pre - pare Him room,
 songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 fest the ground; He comes to make His bless - ings flow
 na - tions prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous - ness,

And heaven and na - ture sing, And heaven and na - ture
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
 Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
 And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His
 And heaven and na - ture sing,

And

sing, And heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.
 heaven and na - ture sing,