

December 24, 2023: Christmas Eve

GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY: A Savior Has Been Born to You

8:00 and 10:30 am Preservice:

Handbells

“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice,” “Advent Celebration,” “All Glory in the Highest”

Hymn: 350 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 - ly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Right - eous - 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 ye na - tions rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see, hail th’ in - car - nate De - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,



with th’ an - gel - ic host pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec - ond birth.

Refrain



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King!”

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Christmas Dialogue

Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? If you,
O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
**For we have sinned in our thoughts, words, and actions. We deserve your
punishment both now and in eternity.**

Yet, because of your grace, we ask you to forgive us, O God our Savior, and put away your
displeasure toward us.
Show us your unfailing love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his
people.
My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to
redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.
**The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory,
the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of
David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord.
Glory to God in the highest!

Hymn: 347 Angels from the Realms of Glory

sts. 1,5



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, wing your
5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the



flight o'er all the earth; once you sang cre -
Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your



a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
voic - es rais - ing to th'e - ter - nal Three in One.



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship,



wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text (st. 1): James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

Text and tune: Public domain

The Word

Salutation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his glory in the life to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Be seated

8:00 am: Affirmation of Holy Baptism

8:00 and 10:30 am: Celtic Nativity Song

Adult Choir

4:00 pm: Far Away in a Manger

Male Chorus

6:00 pm: Holy One

Joyful Noise

First Reading

Isaiah 9:2, 6–7

²The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.

⁶For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.

The zeal of the LORD Almighty
will accomplish this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: 352 Joy Has Dawned

sts. 1-2, 4



1 Joy has dawned up - on the world, prom - ised from cre - a - tion—
2 Sounds of won - der fill the sky with the songs of an - gels
4 Son of Ad - am, Son of heav'n, giv - en as a ran - som;



God's sal - va - tion now un - furled, hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.
as the might - y Prince of life shel - ters in a sta - ble.
rec - on - cil - ing God and man, Christ, our might - y cham - pion!



Not with fan - fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry,
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in dark - ness,
What a Sav - ior! What a friend! What a glo - rious mys - t'ry!



but a hum - ble gift of love— Je - sus born of Mar - y.
cling now to a moth - er's breast, — vul - n'ra - ble and help - less.
Once a babe in Beth - le - hem, — now the Lord of his - t'ry.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Text and tune: © 2005 Thankyou Music, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703838

Christmas Gospel Reading Part 1

Luke 2:1-7

¹In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ²(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

⁶While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: 341 Away in a Manger



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love you, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care,



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
and take us to heav - en to live with you there.

Text (sts. 1–2): The Myrtle, Boston, 1884; (st. 3): Vineyard Songs, Louisville, 1892, alt.
Tune: William J. Kirkpatrick, 1838–1921
Text and tune: Public domain

Christmas Gospel Reading Part 2

Luke 2:8–14

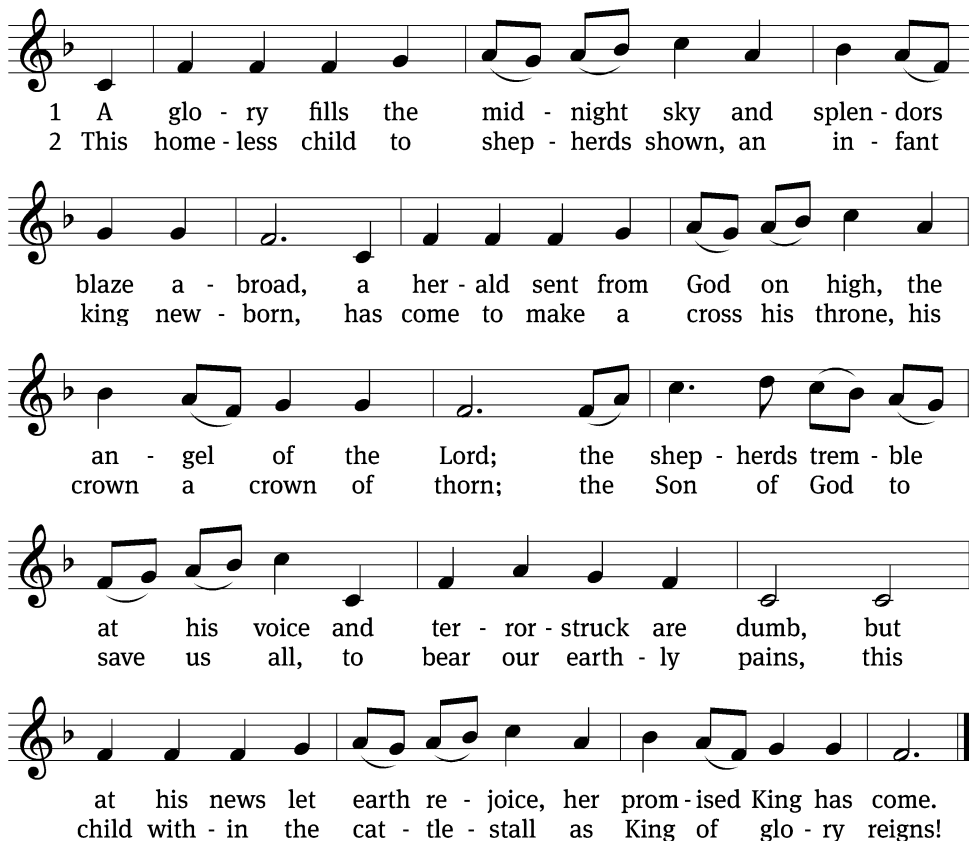
⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn: 357 A Glory Fills the Midnight Sky



1 A glo - ry fills the mid - night sky and splen - dors
2 This home - less child to shep - herds shown, an in - fant

blaze a - broad, a her - ald sent from God on high, the
king new - born, has come to make a cross his throne, his

an - gel of the Lord; the shep - herds trem - ble
crown a crown of thorn; the Son of God to

at his voice and ter - ror - struck are dumb, but
save us all, to bear our earth - ly pains, this

at his news let earth re - jice, her prom - ised King has come.
child with - in the cat - tle - stall as King of glo - ry reigns!

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926
Tune: English; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text: © 2012 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703838
Tune: Public domain

Stand

Christmas Gospel Reading Part 3

Luke 2:15–20

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

¹⁶So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated. The children are invited forward during verse 2 for a Children's Lesson

Hymn of the Day: 345 Where Shepherds Lately Knelt



1 Where shep-herds late - ly knelt and kept the an - gel's word,
2 In that un - like - ly place I find him as they said:
3 How should I not have known I - sa - iah would be there,
4 Can I, will I for - get how Love was born, and burned



I come in half - be - lief, a pil - grim strange - ly stirred;
sweet new - born babe, how frail! And in a man - ger bed:
his proph - e - cies ful - filled? With pound - ing heart I stare:
its way in - to my heart— un - asked, un - forced, un - earned,



but there is room and wel - come there for me,
a still, small voice to cry one day for me,
a child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me,
to die, to live, and not a - lone for me,



but there is room and wel - come there for me.
a still, small voice to cry one day for me.
a child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me.
to die, to live, and not a - lone for me?

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929–2021

Text: © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703838

Tune: © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703838

Stand

Sermon Response: 343 Once in Royal David's City



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 And our eyes at last shall see him through his own re -



cat - tle shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
 Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
 deem - ing love, for that child, so dear and gen - tle, is our



man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that moth - er
 cra - dle was a stall; with the poor and mean and
 Lord in heav'n 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.
 on to the place where he is gone.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, abr., alt.
 Tune: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876
 Text and tune: Public domain

Be seated

Offering

If you are visiting Mount Olive today, please don't feel obligated to give an offering. We are happy to have you as our guest today. Please do sign the friendship register and leave your contact information. If you would like to make a one-time or recurring donation, scan the QR code to visit Mount Olive's online giving page. Thank you!



Stand

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done**

on earth as it is in heaven.

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,**

as we forgive those

**who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn: 337 Silent Night, Holy Night



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,



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 thy ho - ly face



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 thy



peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Text: tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885; Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848

Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787–1863

Text and tune: Public domain



Presiding Minister:	8:00 and 10:30 am <i>Pastor Robert Raasch</i> 4:00 and 6:00 pm <i>Pastor Timothy Priewe</i>
Organist:	<i>Klint Kaddatz</i>
Handbells:	<i>Amy Nogar</i>
Adult Choir:	<i>Klint Kaddatz</i>
Male Chorus:	<i>Jerry Gronholz</i>
Instrumentalists:	<i>Sharon Meyer, John Kehl, Caitlin Kirchner</i>
Joyful Noise:	<i>Michele Pfeifer, Kathy Kolander, Julie Neujahr,</i> <i>Amy Stern, John Kehl, Ben Fulcer</i>

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™
Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.
Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.
Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.