

Lord's Day Service

For Christmas 2008 at Church of the King



Call to Worship: Where God Calls Us Into His Presence

"The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him, In those who hope in His mercy." Psalm 147:11

Hear today's call to worship from God's Word:

[congregation standing]

Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. *Luke 2:8-11*

God's People Respond with a Hymn of Praise

based on Luke 2:15

**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.**

**Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;**

Refrain

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God, glory in the highest;**

Refrain

Salutation and Response

[based on Matthew 28:19, Isaiah 9:6]

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit

Amen!

Unto us a child is born,

Unto us a Son is given!

May all kings fall down before Him

All nations serve Him!

Confession of Sins: Where God Cleanses Us in Christ

The call for confession from God's Word

"If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear. But certainly God has heard me; He has attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer, Nor His mercy from me!" *Psalm 66:18,19*

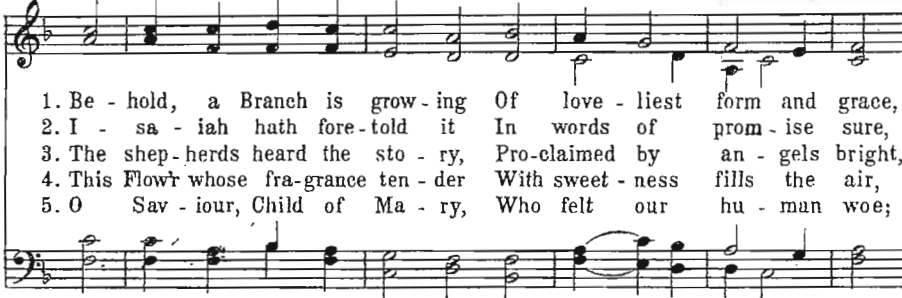
God's People Join in a Hymn of Confession:

[congregation standing]

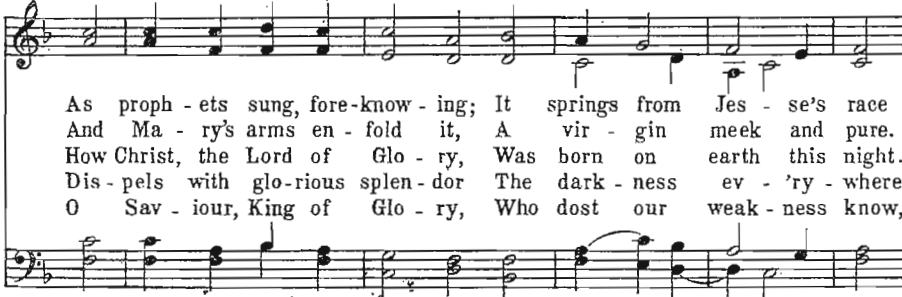
Behold a Branch is Growing

German author unknown, c. 1500
Tr., st. 1-4, Harriet R. Spaeth, 1875
Tr., st. 5, John C. Mattes, 1914


ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN 7. 6. 7. 6. 6. 7. 6.
Traditional German melody, har. by
Michael Praetorius, 1609, alt.



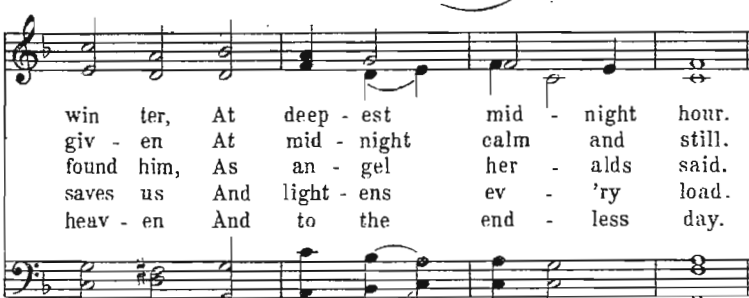
1. Be - hold, a Branch is grow - ing Of love - liest form and grace,
2. I - sa - iah hath fore - told it In words of prom - ise sure,
3. The shep - herds heard the sto - ry, Pro - claimed by an - gels bright,
4. This Flow'r whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the air,
5. O Sav - iour, Child of Ma - ry, Who felt our hu - man woe;



As proph - ets sung, fore-know - ing; It springs from Jes - se's race
And Ma - ry's arms en - fold it, A vir - gin meek and pure.
How Christ, the Lord of Glo - ry, Was born on earth this night.
Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry - where.
O Sav - iour, King of Glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness know,



And bears one lit - tle Flow'r In midst of cold - est
Thro' God's e - ter - nal will This Child to her is
To Beth - le - hem they sped And in the man - ger
True Man, yet ve - ry God; From sin and death he
Bring us at length, we pray, To the bright courts of



win - ter, At deep - est mid - night hour.
giv - en At mid - night calm and still.
found him, As an - gel her - alds said.
saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.
heav - en And to the end - less day.

Music used by permission of the Church Pension Fund, Protestant Episcopal Church.

Silent Confession

"This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief." 1 Timothy 1:15

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, our heavenly Father, you pardon all who repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with pure hearts, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not been just in dealing with others. We have not loved kindness or walked humbly with You as our great Covenant God. Have mercy on us, O God, because of your lovingkindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us we pray. Do not cast us from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Amen!

Assurance of Pardon and Forgiveness

Luke 2:6-14

"So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And Mary brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!""

Hear now the comforting assurance of the grace of God, as promised in the Gospel of Christ to all who believe. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. If you have indeed repented of your sins, and if you do seek your salvation in Jesus Christ, and do wish to live the Christian life, I say to you, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that God has forgiven all of your sins and accepted you as His beloved child, because of the sacrifice of His Son.

While by the Sheep, We Watched at Night

"And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds." Luke 2:16-18

1. While by the sheep we watched at night, glad tid - ings brought an
2. There shall be born, so he did say, in Beth - le - hem a
3. There shall the child lie in a stall, this child who shall re -
4. This gift of God we'll cher - ish well, that ev - er joy our

f REFRAIN *p* echo
an - gel bright.
child to - day. How great our joy! Great our joy!
deem us all. hearts shall fill.

f *p* echo *f*
Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in

p echo
heav'n on high! Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

Consecration: *Where God Equips & Prepares His People*

THE LORD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD:

The Coming of the Savior *John 1:1-14* [read responsively]

1 In the beginning was the Word,

and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 He was in the beginning with God.

3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

4 In Him was life,

and the life was the light of men.

5 And the light shines in the darkness,

and the darkness did not comprehend it.

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. 9 That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

God's People Respond with a Hymn of Faith:

Angels We Have Heard On High

"And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

"Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" Luke 2:9-14

GLORIA (7 7. 7 7. Ref.)

French carol

French carol

arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937

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?
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4. See Him in a man - ger laid, Whom the choirs of an - gels praise;

And the moun - tains in re - ply Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee, Christ the Lord, the new - born King.
Mar - y, Jo - seph, lend your aid, While our hearts in love we raise.

Glo - - - - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - - - - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

God Speaks to Us Through His Word: Scripture, Prayer for Illumination, and Sermon

"Blessed is the man whom You instruct, O Lord, And teach out of Your law." Psalm 94:12

"The Coming of Jesus"

From Pastor John E. Stoos, based Luke 19:28-44

God's People Sing a Hymn of Praise:

[congregation standing]

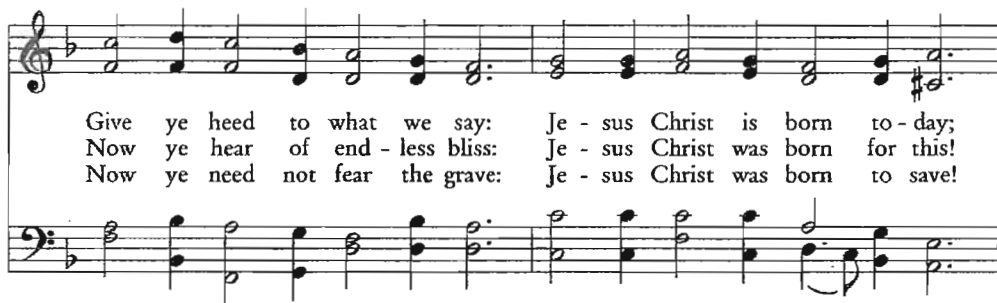
Good Christian Men Rejoice!

IN DULCI JUBILO (6 6. 7 7. 7 8. 5 5)
German melody, 14th century
harm. Michael Praetorius, 1607; alt.

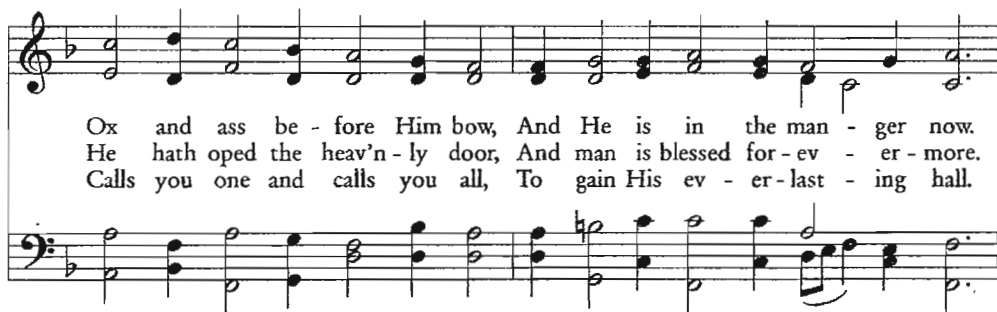
Latin carol, 14th century
tr. John Mason Neale, 1853



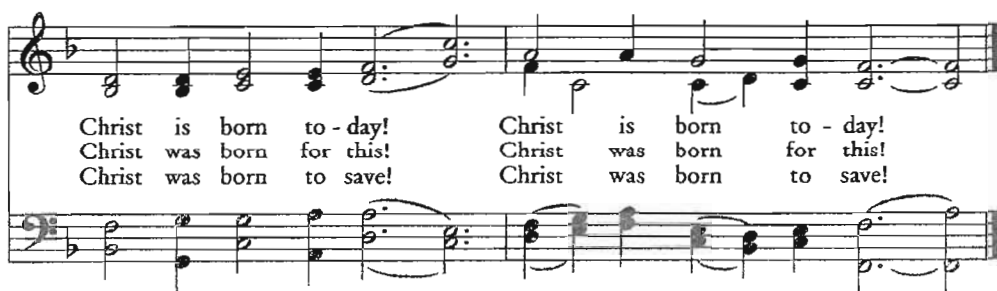
1. Good Chris-tian men, re-joice With heart and soul and voice;
2. Good Chris-tian men, re-joice With heart and soul and voice;
3. Good Chris-tian men, re-joice With heart and soul and voice;



Give ye heed to what we say: Je-sus Christ is born to-day;
Now ye hear of end-less bliss: Je-sus Christ was born for this!
Now ye need not fear the grave: Je-sus Christ was born to save!



Ox and ass be-fore Him bow, And He is in the man-ger now.
He hath oped the heav'n-ly door, And man is blessed for-ev-er-more.
Calls you one and calls you all, To gain His ev-er-last-ing hall.



Christ is born to-day! Christ is born to-day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

God receives our tithes and gifts as a Tribute Offering [read in unison]

"Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. 9 You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation. 10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the Lord of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it. *Malachi 3:8-10*"

The Collection of our tithes and offerings The singing of Psalm 134 & the Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH (L.M.)
Genevan Psalter, 1551
Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

Thomas Ken, 1674
and Jamie Soles

1. Come bless the LORD with one ac - cord, You
2. Lift up your hands in prayer, draw nigh Un -
3. The LORD now bless you from a - bove From
4. Praise God from Whom all bless - ings flow, Praise

faith - ful ser - vants of the LORD, Who in His house do
to His sanc - tu - a - ry high, O, bless the LORD, kneel
Zi - on in His bound - less love Our God, who heaven and
Him all crea - tures here be - low, Praise Him a - bove ye

stand by night And praise Him there with all your might.
at His feet And wor - ship Him with reve - rence meet.
earth did frame Blest be His great and ho - ly name.
heaven - ly host, Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - MEN.

The Great Prayer, concluding with the Lord's Prayer

"Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, and having a High Priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water." Heb. 10:19-22

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one,
For thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory forever: AMEN** [Matthew 6:9-13]

Communion: Where God Communes With His People

*“The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ?
The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?” 1 Corinthians 10:16*

Preparation for Communion:

Congregation of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared His table for all who love and trust Him for their salvation. All those who have repented of their sins, have been baptized into the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and are not under discipline from Christ’s Church are welcome at this table. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as our Lord our God will call.

Our Confession of Faith – The Apostle’s Creed [sung with echo, music by Jamie Soles]

I believe in God the Father Almighty;
Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord.
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the virgin, Mary;
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into Hell. [sung in unison]
The third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into Heaven,
And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
I believe a holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins;
The resurrection of the body, [sung in unison]
And the life everlasting.
Amen.

THE LORD COMMUNES WITH US AT HIS TABLE (Peace Offering, Gift of Life)

A word of encouragement -- Giving of Thanks -- Breaking of the bread

God's People Sing a hymn of thanks and celebration:

(Sung as a representative of each family comes forward to receive their bread and wine)

Silent Night

**Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.**

**Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born!**

**Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light;
radiant beams from thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing,
Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born!**

Feasting At The Lord's Table: A simple act of obedience on the 1st day of a new Week

Partaking of the bread together -- Giving Thanks -- Partaking of the wine

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes." 1 Corinthians 11:26

Commissioning *The LORD Blesses and Sends Forth His People*

“When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen”. [Matthew 28:17-20]

Our Final Responsive Reading: Psalm 98

1 Oh, sing to the Lord a new song!

For He has done marvelous things; His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory.

2 The Lord has made known His salvation;

His righteousness He has revealed in the sight of the nations.

3 He has remembered His mercy and His faithfulness to the house of Israel;

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

4 Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth;

Break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises.

5 Sing to the Lord with the harp,

With the harp and the sound of a psalm,

6 With trumpets and the sound of a horn;

Shout joyfully before the Lord, the King.

7 Let the sea roar, and all its fullness,

The world and those who dwell in it;

8 Let the rivers clap their hands;

Let the hills be joyful together before the Lord,

9 For He is coming to judge the earth.

With righteousness He shall judge the world, And the peoples with equity.

The Singing of Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her
 2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - ior reigns: let men their songs em -
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n 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 heav'n and na - ture sing,

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n 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.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

God Blesses His People – The Benediction:

[congregation standing]

Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them, and he came down from offering the sin offering and the burnt offering and the peace offerings. Leviticus 9:22

“Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.” *Romans 15:13& Revelation 22:21*

God’s People Depart to Serve the Risen & Reigning Savior by Singing:

Simeon’s Prayer & the Gloria Patri

²⁹Lord, now let-est Thou Thy ser- vant de- part in peace, ac- cord- ing to Thy Word:

³⁰For mine eyes have seen Thy sal-va- tion, ³¹Which Thou hast pre- pared be- fore the face of all peo- ple;

³²A light to ligh- ten the Gen- tiles, and the glo- ry of Thy peo- ple Is - - - ra- el.

-- With lifted hands --

Glo- ry be to the Fa- ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho- ly Ghost;

as it was in the be- gin-ning, is now and ev- er shall be, world with- out end. A- men.

- For our elders and deacons, that they would have strength, wisdom, and discernment as they carry out their duties.

John & Linda Stoos ~ December 28th