

Joy to the
World



CHRISTMAS

SONG SERVICE

MESSIAH LUTHERAN
CHURCH AND SCHOOL
DECEMBER 25, 2020



Choir (second service): *A King in Swaddling Clothes*

Greeting:

P: Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving, let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.

C: We have seen His glory, the glory of the only begotten Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

(Sung)

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King;

Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room

And heav'n and nature sing,...



P: The Lord be with you!

C: And with your spirit!

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The angel (left side of church):

*"This is the Christ, our God and Lord,
Who in all need shall aid afford;
He will Himself your Savior be
From all your sins to set you free.*



Response of the believing heart (right side of church):

*Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Make Thee a bed, soft undefiled,
Within my heart, that it may be
A quiet chamber kept for Thee.*



ALL:

*Glory to God in highest heaven,
Who unto us His Son hath given!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.*



Choir (first service): A King in Swaddling Clothes



We thank the choir, musicians, and soloist for enhancing our praises to the newborn Savior-King: Stephanie Goodrie, Aric Reim, Philip Reim, and Michaela Winters.

P: As the Lord Jesus once came in love and great poverty to be born in a manger in Bethlehem,

C: So now He comes to us in the richness of His Word.

2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

*Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy...*



P: As Jesus once came from heaven to earth to live with people,

C: So now He comes in the Word, to give the light of the Spirit.

P: As He came to heal, to forgive, and to save,

C: So now He comes to give us the same blessings of His love.

P: Let us praise the great name of the Lord.

C: Let us sing with our hearts the great songs of His Word.

*3. No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found...*



P: Let us now celebrate His birth.

C: And tell of His coming to the ends of the earth.

P: Amen!

C: Let it be so. Amen!

*4. He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love...*



Prayer:

C: Grant, Almighty God, that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in human flesh may set us free, who through sin are held in bondage; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 3:8-15

*God announces in the Garden of Eden that the woman's Offspring
will crush the serpent's head.*



Closing Hymn 85: *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*

Angel (left side of church)

*"From heav'n above to earth I come
To bear good news to ev'ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
Whereof I now will say and sing:
"To you this night is born a child
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child, of lowly birth,
Shall be the joy of all the earth."*



Response of the believing heart (right side of church):

*Welcome to earth, Thou noble Guest,
Through whom the sinful world is blest!
Thou com'st to share my misery;
What thanks shall I return to Thee?
Ah, Lord, who hast created all,
How weak art Thou, how poor and small,
That Thou dost choose Thine infant bed
Where humble cattle lately fed!*



Hymn: *Where Shepherds Lately Kneled*

1 Where shep-herds late - ly kneled 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?

TENTH LESSON: John 1:1-14

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

Benediction:

Hymn: *O Sing of Christ*

1 O sing of Christ, whose birth made known The kind-ness of the Lord,
 2 What Ad-am lost, none could re - claim, And Par - a - dise was barred,
 3 He came to that which was His own, But He was not re - ceived;

E - ter - nal Word made flesh and bone So we could be re - stored.
 Un - til the sec - ond Ad - am came To mend what sin had marred.
 Yet still through Him God's glo - ry shone, And some His name be - lieved.

Up - on our frail hu - man - i - ty God's fin - ger chose to trace
 For when the time was full and right God sent His on - ly Son;
 To these He gave the right to be The heirs of heav'n a - bove,

The full-ness of His de - i - ty, The i - con of His grace.
 He came to us as life and light And our re - demp - tion won.
 Born not of hu - man an - ces - try But born of God in love.

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SECOND LESSON: Genesis 22:15-18

*God promises to faithful Abraham that through his offspring all
 the nations of the earth will be blessed.*

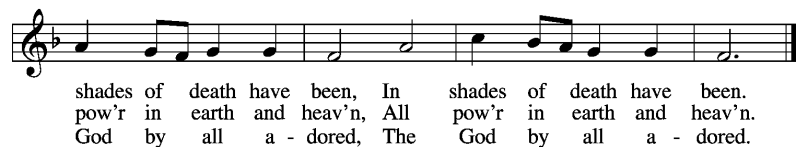
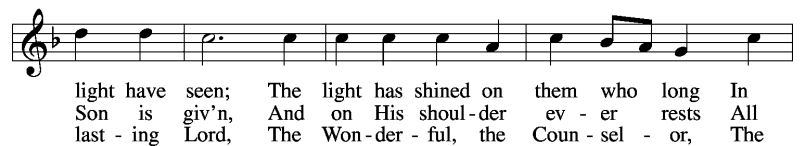
Hymn: *Come, Your Heart and Voices Raising*



THIRD LESSON: Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by the prophet Isaiah.

Hymn: *The People That in Darkness Sat*



With th' angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

P: So many don't know what You have done for us. They think their homes are here. Open our mouths to share the wonder of what You did on Christmas. Open our eyes to opportunities, and give us wisdom and courage to speak of Your grace.

C: Lord Jesus, accept our offering of praise.

Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and ev'rywhere;

Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night,

Behold, throughout the heavens There shone a holy light.

Refrain



P: O Jesus, take these offerings of praise and use them to Your glory. Help us look forward to our heavenly home, as we pray the words You taught us:

C: Our Father....

NINTH LESSON: Matthew 2:1-11

The Wise Men are led by the star to Jesus.

Christmas Prayer

P: Lord Jesus, You left Your home in heaven to join us here on this broken earth. You left the warmth of Your Father's embrace to join us in the cold world. You fill us with awe.

C: Lord Jesus, accept our offering of praise.

Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;

He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies;...

Not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies...

Thou my Savior art!....Thou my Savior art!



P: Lord Jesus, we are sinful from birth, but You were born pure and holy. Born of a virgin, You chose to rest in a bed of hay. We praise You for Your perfection, and we thank You for choosing to rescue us.

C: Lord Jesus, accept our offering of praise.

Infant holy, Infant lowly, For His bed a cattle stall;

Oxen lowing, Little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.

Swiftly winging, Angels singing, Bells are ringing, Tidings bringing:

Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!



P: You came to die for us, to take our guilt, so we can find a home in heaven. Infant King, we confess our sin and rejoice that You have taken it from us. O Jesus, it is good that You have made a home for us in heaven with You.

C: Lord Jesus, accept our offering of praise.

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;



FOURTH LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-4, 6-9

The spiritual peace which Christ will bring

is portrayed by the total absence of violence.

Hymn: Silent Night! Holy Night!

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 - dant

vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly In-fant, so ten-der and mild,
stream from heav-en a - far, Heav'n-ly hosts sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
beams from Thy ho-ly face With the dawn of re-deem - ing grace,

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.

FIFTH LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6, 19

The prophet in exile foresees the coming of the glory of the Lord.

Hymn: O Come, All You Unfaithful

(Words and music by Lisa Clow and Bob Kauflin)

3
(solo) O come, all you un-faith-ful. Come, weak and un-
come, bit-ter and bro-ken. Come, with fears un-
sta-ble. Come, know you are not a-lone. O come, bar-ren and
spo-ken. Come, taste of His per-fect love. O come, gull-ty and
wait-ing ones, wear-y of pray-ing. Come, see what your God has done.
hid-ing ones, there is no need to run. See what your God has done.
1.
Christ is born, Christ is born. Christ is born for you.
Christ is born, Christ is born. Christ is born for you.
2.
(congregation) O you. (solo) He's the Lamb who was giv-en,
slain for our par-don His pro-mise is peace for those who be-
lieve. (congregation) He's the Lamb who was giv-en slain for our par-don His
pro-mise is peace for those who be-lieve. So come, though you have no-thing.

EIGHTH LESSON: Luke 2:1-14

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

Pastor: And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city.

Men: Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child.

Women: So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she 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.

Pastor: 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.

Teens and younger: 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."

All: 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!"

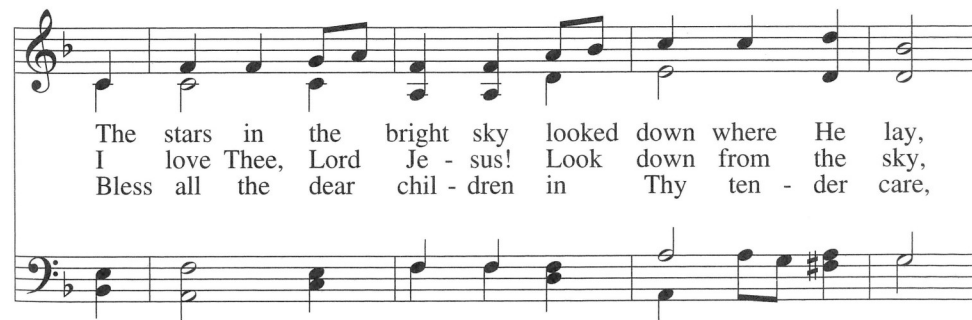
Hymn: *Away in a Manger*



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 Thee to stay



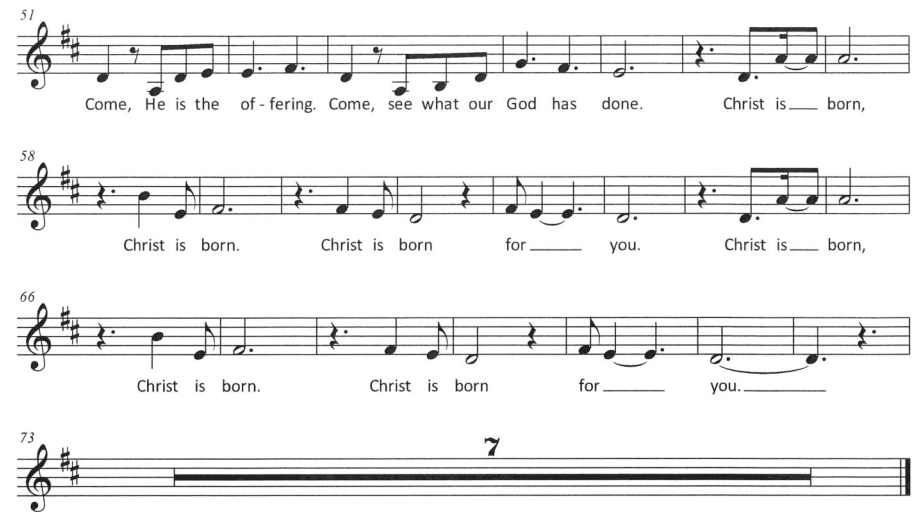
The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.
 But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.
 Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
 I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.



51 Come, He is the of - fering. Come, see what our God has done. Christ is ____ born,
 58 Christ is born. Christ is born for ____ you. Christ is ____ born,
 66 Christ is born. Christ is born for ____ you. ____
 73 7

SIXTH LESSON: Luke 1:26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel greets the blessed Virgin Mary.



Hymn: *Your Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We*

1 Your lit - tle ones, dear Lord, are we And come Your
2 With songs we has - ten You to greet And hum - bly
3 Oh, draw us whol - ly to You, Lord, To us Your
4 Un - til at last we, too, pro - claim, With all Your

low - ly bed to see; En - light - en ev - 'ry soul and mind
fall be - fore Your feet. Oh, bless - ed hour, oh, sweet - est night
con - stant grace ac - cord; True faith and love to us im - part
saints, Your glo - rious name; In par - a - dise our songs re - new

That we the way to You may find.
That gave You birth, our souls' de - light.
That we may hold You in our heart,
And praise You as the an - gels do.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 96 (selected verses)

P: Sing to the LORD a new song;

C: sing to the LORD, all the earth.

P: Sing to the LORD, praise his name;

C: proclaim his salvation day after day.

P: Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns."

C: The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity.

P: Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;

C: let the sea resound, and all that is in it; let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them.

Hymn: *Let Our Gladness Have No End*

1 Let our glad - ness have no end, al - le - lu - ia!
4 In - to flesh is made the Word, al - le - lu - ia!

For to earth did Christ de - scend, al - le - lu - ia!
He, our ref - uge and our Lord, al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain
On this day God gave us Christ, His Son, to save

us; Christ, His Son, to save us.

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SEVENTH LESSON: Matthew 1:18-23

The angel tells Joseph of the birth of Jesus.