

Advent & Christmas 2023

*The First Witnesses
of Christ*



Christmas Eve Family Service

December 24 | 4 pm

Christmas Eve Family Service with Holy Communion

All hymns & song lyrics are included in the bulletin.

Congregational responses are indicated in **bold**.

[Please stand.]

Opening Hymn

O Come All Ye Faithful pg. 2

Verses 1, 4, 5

[Please be seated.]

Welcome

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you,
and also with you.

Confession

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbor in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name.

Amen.

May almighty God who sent His son into the world to save sinners, bring you His pardon and peace now and forever.

Amen.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Verses 1, 4, 5

V

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant,
 2. See how the shep - herds, Sum - moned to His cra - dle,
 3. Lo, *star - led chief - tains, Wise men, Christ a - dor - ing,
 4. Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 5. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;

O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 Leav - ing their flocks draw nigh with low - ly fear.
 Of - fer Him gold and frank - in - cense and myrrh;
 Oh, sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove:
 O Je - sus, to Thee be all glo - ry given;

Come and be - hold Him Born the King of an - gels.
 We, too, will thith - er Bend our joy - ful foot - steps.
 We to the Christ - child Bring our hearts' de - vo - tion.
 "Glo - ry to God In the high - est!"
 Word of the Fa - ther, Now in flesh ap - pear - ing.

REFRAIN

O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,

O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord.

2

The Reading.....Luke 2: 1-21

Pew bible pg. 857

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Talk.....The Rev. Ben Hughes

[Please stand.]

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

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.

Preparation of the Table

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

You embraced us as your children

and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

He opened his arms of love upon the cross

and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven, saying together:

**Holy, holy, holy is the Lord, God Almighty
Who was and is, and is to come,
Lift up His name with the sound of singing,
Lift up His name in all the earth.
Lift up your voice and give Him glory,
For He is worthy to be praised.
Holy. Holy.**

[Please sit or kneel.]

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Savior has taught us:

**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,
for ever and ever.**

Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup,
**we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.**

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All baptized believers are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Parents of baptized children are welcome to decide whether you would like your children to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

*To receive a blessing instead of communion,
simply keep your hands by your side or folded.*

If you require a gluten-free or alcohol-free cup, please ask the minister.



Communion Carols

*Communion Carols are printed
on the following pages.
Please sing along!*

*Please take a candle on your way back from receiving
communion. Greeters will help the person nearest
the aisle to light their candle
during the third carol.*



*Please tip your unlit candle to the lit candle of your neighbor
until everyone's candles are lit.*

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Verses 1-4



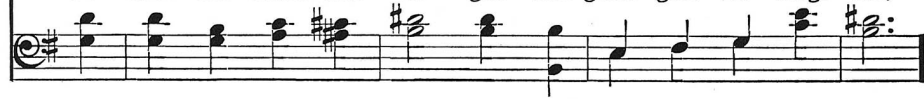
1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie;
2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry; And gath - ered all a - bove,
3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous Gift is given!
4. O Ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem! De - scend to us, we pray;



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 ti - dings tell;

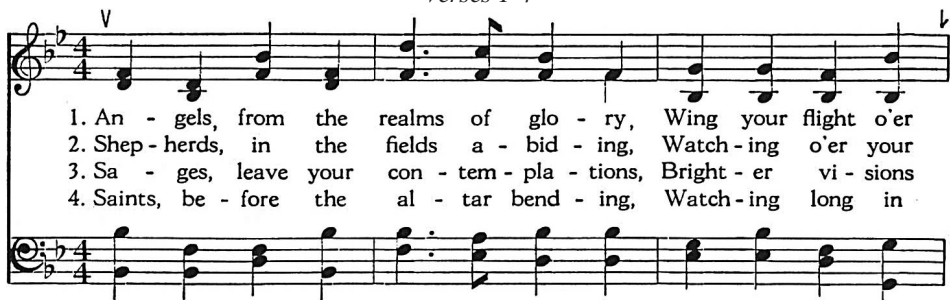


The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
And prais - es sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth.
Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.
Oh, come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Em - man - u - el. A-MEN.

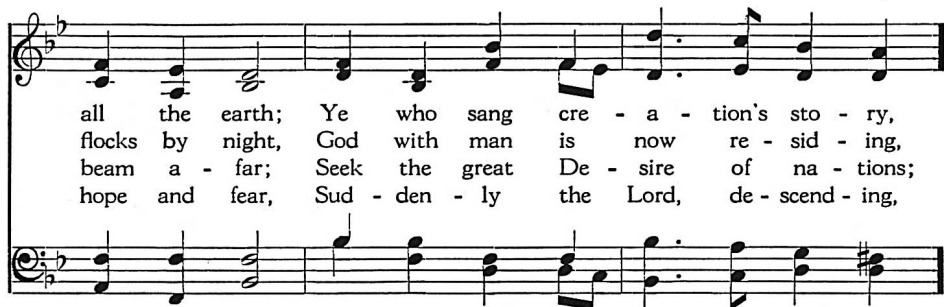


Angels From the Realms of Glory

Verses 1-4



1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2. Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
3. Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
4. Saints, be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with man is now re - sid - ing,
beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions;
hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth: Come and wor - ship,
Yon - der shines the in - fant Light: Come and wor - ship,
Ye have seen His na - tal star: Come and wor - ship,
In His tem - ple shall ap - pear: Come and wor - ship,



Come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King!
Come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King!
Come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King!
Come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King! A-men.

Angels We Have Heard on High

Verses 1-4

v

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 with - in a man - ger laid Je - sus, Lord of heaven and earth!

And the moun - tains in re - ply Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
Say what may the ti - dings be, Which in - spire your heaven - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, With us sing our Sav - iour's birth.

REFRAIN

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o. A - MEN.

Candlelight Carol: Silent Night

Verses 1-3

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 hosts sing, "Al - le - lu - ia, Christ, the
With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus,

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

The Blessing

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory, and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Please extinguish candles before exiting the Sanctuary.





Under Jesus Christ, Our Savior and Lord:
The Rt. Rev. Alex Cameron, Bishop of Pittsburgh

Staff

The Rev. Alex Shuttleworth, *Rector*
Robert Fire, *Music Minister*
Tami Fire, *Children's & Pastoral Care Minister*
Josh Gerdes, *Children's Minister*
The Rev. Ben Hughes, *Assistant Minister*
Jenna Hughes, *Asst. Youth Minister*
Lam Gray, *Interim Asst. Youth Minister*
The Rev. Elizabeth H. Rodewald, *Deacon*
Niki De Luca, *Finance Manager*
Bridget Michael, *Operations Manager*

Vestry

Catherine Parham, *Senior Warden*
Matt Beresik, *Junior Warden*
Richard Cagley
Alyssa Campbell
Jane Flaherty
Zack Gray, *Treasurer*
Joe Nawrocki
Anne Malone, *Secretary*



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