



PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ “When Christ entered our world, he didn’t come to brighten our Decembers but to transform our lives.” - *Rich Miller*

CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: Silent night, holy night,

C: Behold the wonder, born in light.

L: Born a child, yet a king,

C: A promise fulfilled, the angels sing.

L: Sing of love, sing of life,

C: The Prince of Peace shall end all strife.

OPENING CAROL MEDLEY:

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!

Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;

Come and behold him Born the king of angels:

Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,

Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy Light of light eternal,

Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;

Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing!

Oh, Come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,

Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.”

Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”

Hail the heav'n born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

CHRISTMAS PRAYER:

L: Our holy God, we celebrate the gift of One who brings light to the dim places of our lives. May this miraculous Gift grow and shine within us, causing us to glow with his light. We anticipate your blessings this holy night; receive our joyful thanks for our Savior, in whose name we pray.

C: Amen.

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION:

L: O God, whose wondrous love took the form of a little boy;

C: We confess, honestly and sadly, how we have failed to understand the value of this gift.

L: We fail to think about the fact that in this child you give us your son, your only son,

C: We forget that we do not deserve such a precious gift.

L: Help us this year to begin to understand the gift you are giving.

C: Offered to us again and again, freely and gladly, in the form of a little boy.

L: Let us cherish this gift always.

**C: And help us to share the gift freely with the world through our love.
Amen.**

THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRISTMAS:

P: Rejoice with great joy, for, behold, God is with us. Jesus has come to set us free and to make us a holy people, sent to bring the message of hope and life to a troubled world. We are loved, forgiven, and freed! So again we say...rejoice!

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

SONG: "Messiah" (music at end of bulletin)

THE COMING KING: Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. ³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴ For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵ For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for

the fire. ⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom, He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore, The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY: Luke 2:1-7

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

READING RESPONSE: “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond’ring love.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv’n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav’n.

No ear may hear this coming; but, in the world of sin,
where meek soul will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

THE CHRISTMAS STORY: Luke 2:8-20

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for

you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.”¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child;¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE:

Pastor David Schoob

MESSAGE RESPONSE: “Somewhere in Your Silent Night”

CHRISTMAS PRAYER:

P: Holy God, in a manger we see your love, and we will never be the same, never alone, never forgotten. We have your peace tonight, your joy forever, and your constant love. We have received your gift and now we offer ours- ourselves.

C: Amen!

THE LORD’S PRAYER:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING

THE CEREMONY OF CANDLE LIGHTING

The central candle, a symbol of Christ, has been burning within the Advent wreath since earlier in the service. As the ceremony begins, the pastors light their candles from the Christ Candle.

THE CHRISTMAS COLLECT:

P: I am the Light of the World

C: Let your light shine before all people.

P: Glory to God in the highest heaven.

C: And peace on earth to those with whom He is pleased.

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, you made this night shine with the beauty of the true light. Grant that on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence, and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Let us sing together:

“Silent Night”

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht
nur das traute hoch heilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh, schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

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.

THE BLESSING: *(All raise candles for the blessing.)*

THE PRAYER: *(All lower candles for the prayer.)*

P: Strong and tender God, one candle can pierce the deepest darkness, one flickering light can kindle a new vision, one voice on fire can set our heart ablaze. Passionate and gentle God, you are the source of light, and we are your many candles, each uniquely burning for you. Touch us. Light us. Warm us. Purify us. May a flame rise in us and burn bright in us this holy and fiery night. Let it be. In the name of Jesus the newborn king.

C: Amen!

THE BENEDICTION:

P: We celebrate Jesus' birth. Because of this birth all life is touched by Holy love. Let us go into the world cherishing the gift of God's love, made new with wonder in our hearts, with praise on our lips and with hope and joy in our souls.

C: Alleluia! Amen!

THE SENDING SONG:

“Joy to the World”

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

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world, with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

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OUR *Welcome* IS WIDE OPEN

Skeptic. Cynic. Certain. Believer. Confident. Fearful. Doubter. Seeker. Questioner.
Latino. Black. Asian. White. Indigenous. Immigrant. Any combination of ethnic or
racial identities. Female. Male. Straight. Gay. Bisexual. Transgender. Questioning.
Rich. Poor. Middle-class. Barely making it. Able bodied. Specially abled. Disabled.
Young. Old. In-between. Married. Single. Divorced. Awaiting trial. Served time.
On probation. Tired. Worn. Hopeful. Employed. Unemployed. Workaholic. Slacker.
Anxious. Depressed. Confused. Centered. Inked. Pierced. Both. Life long follower
of Jesus. Regular attender. Occasional attender. Curious onlooker. Don't quite fit the box.
Need a prayer right now. **Trinity is a faith community where we believe
in God's love, grace and mercy—illustrated most clearly through Jesus
Christ. We believe we are all children of God, created in God's image
and equal in God's sight. We believe God loves us just as we are and
way too much to let us stay this way. We are called to live in God's light
and be transformed, not through judgment but through unconditional love.
We believe God's love is all-inclusive and is stronger than the pressure
to be perfect regardless of whatever labels we carry. Saint. Sinner. Democrat.
Republican. Independent. Libertarian. Green. Socialist. Apolitical. Addicted. Recovering.
We don't care what religion or denomination you are. We are all Human. We are all Flawed.
We are all Beloved. —You are welcome here.**

COME *as you are.*

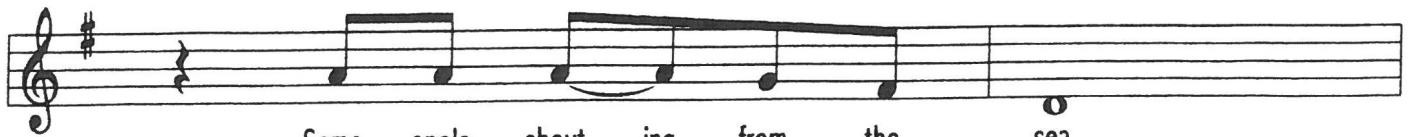
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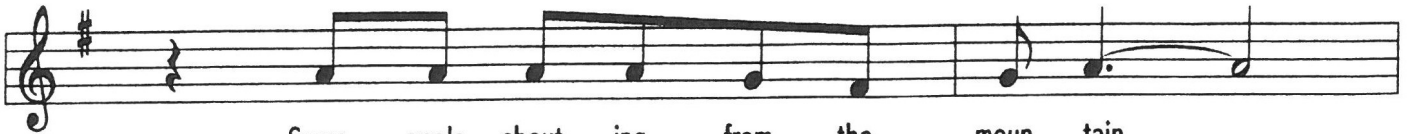
Messiah



Some - one's shout - ing from the des - ert_.
Some - one's shout - ing from the ci - ty
Some - one's shout - ing I am brok - en



Some - one's shout - ing from the sea
I am young__ I am cold
Some - one's shout - ing make me whole



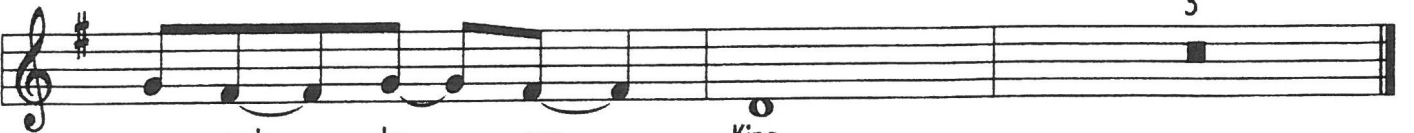
Some - one's shout - ing from the moun - tain
Some - one's shout - ing from the coun - try
Some - one's shout - ing come and change me



Some - one's shout - ing from the val - ley Mes - si__ - ah,
I am lone - ly I am old__
Some - one's shout - ing save my soul.



come and be our King. Mes - si__ - ah,



come and be our King.