



ASCENSION

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP • DECEMBER 22, 2019
THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT



THE WORD



CALL TO WORSHIP • Isaiah 12:4-6

Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Text: Charles Wesley & Mark Hunt • Music: Rowland Hugh Pritchard • Public Domain

Voice

The image shows a musical score for a voice part. It consists of six staves of music in a 3/4 time signature, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes.

Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to
set thy peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re -
lease us; let us find our rest in thee. Is - rael's
strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the
earth thou art, dear De - sire of ev - 'ry
na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, appear;
come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!

O'er the hills the angels singing, news, glad tidings of a birth;
"Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories knew no end;
by his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.

Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
this the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • Colossians 2:6-7

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Father, Son, and Spirit—our Triune God—you are the only true and living God. We know that you alone are good, yet we still turn to false gods for strength, for pleasure, for comfort, for life. But this is death. We confess that we have sinned, both in the evil we have done, and in the good we have done in order to avoid you. We do not know all the ways our hearts are far from you; we have deceived ourselves. We cannot even confess every sin, or know all our false gods, to turn away from them to you. We are utterly at your mercy. O Lord Jesus, be gracious to us. O Father, assure us of your love that makes all things new. O Holy Spirit, dwell in us and have your way with us. We pray in Christ our Savior. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • Colossians 2:13-14

You, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Malachi 3:10

“Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.”

CHORAL OFFERTORY • “What Child Is This?”

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.

NEW TESTAMENT READING • Ephesians 2:11-18

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

Father Eternal, God Almighty, you have brought forth from the root of Jesse a shoot, Jesus our Savior.

He is your anointed one, the promised Messiah, in him you are well pleased. We come to you in his service, to offer our prayers of intercession for the coming of his kingdom.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus to be both Lord and Christ.

We pray for the Church of Christ that she might be faithful to her Lord, bearing witness to his reign in every land among every people.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus to be our Lord and Shepherd.

We pray for those whom you have appointed to be ministers of your gospel. We especially ask for your protection and help for our pastor.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus to be Lord of all the earth.

We pray that you draw all people to kneel before the Prince of Peace. Please establish justice and peace between nations in your world.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus King of kings and Lord of lords.

We pray for the rulers of our nation that they might be wise, fearing the Lord to whom they must bow in the world to come.

Father Eternal, you have anointed Jesus a counselor and comforter of your people.

We pray for those among us who suffer, for those who are lonely, for those without home or family, for those who are depressed and discouraged, for those who are seeking work, for those who are sick, for those who are grieving.

Praise, honor and glory belong to you, Eternal Father, and to your Son, who taught us to pray saying:

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.

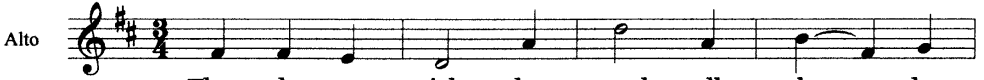
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

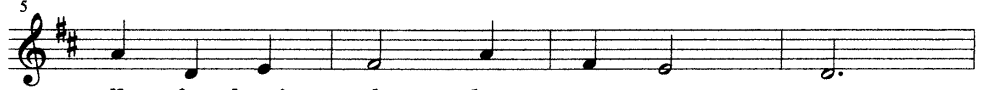
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor

Text: Frank Houghton • Music: French Carol Melody • Public Domain



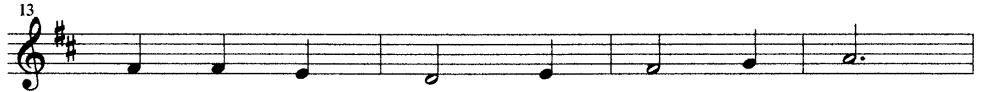
Thou who wast rich be - yond all splen - dor
Thou who art God be - yond all prais - ing
Thou who art love be - yond all tell - ing



all for love's sake be - cam - est poor;
all for love's sake be - cam - est man;
Sav - ior and King we wor - ship thee.



thrones for a man - ger didst sur - ren - der,
stoop - ing so low, but sin - ners rais - ing,
Em - man - u - el, with - in us dwell - ing,



sap - phire - paved courts for sta - ble floor.
heav'n - ward by thine et - ter - nal plan.
make us what thou wouldst have us be.



Thou who wast rich be - yond all splen - dor
Thou who art God be - yond all prais - ing
Thou who art love be - yond all tell - ing



all for love's sake be - cam - est poor.
all for love's sake be - cam - est man.
Sav - ior and King, we wor - ship thee.

O Little Town Of Bethlehem

Text: Phillip Brooks • Music: Lewis H. Redner • Public Domain

Tenor

The image shows a musical score for a Tenor voice part. It consists of seven staves of music. The first staff starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The lyrics are: "O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee". The second staff continues the melody with a quarter note D5, followed by quarter notes E5, F5, and G5. The lyrics are: "lie; a - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the". The third staff continues with a quarter note A5, followed by quarter notes B5, C6, and D6. The lyrics are: "si - lent stars go by: yet in thy dark streets". The fourth staff continues with a quarter note E6, followed by quarter notes F6, G6, and A6. The lyrics are: "shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light; the". The fifth staff continues with a quarter note B6, followed by quarter notes C7, D7, and E7. The lyrics are: "hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to -". The sixth staff continues with a quarter note F7, followed by quarter notes G7, A7, and B7. The lyrics are: "night.". The seventh staff is a whole rest, indicating the end of the phrase.

O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee
lie; a - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the
si - lent stars go by: yet in thy dark streets
shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light; the
hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to -
night.

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 men on 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 his coming, but in the world of sin,
where meek souls 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 to us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Isaiah 9:1–7

But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles.

- 2 The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.
- 3 You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
- 4 For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
- 5 For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.
- 6 For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- 7 Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON • “Prince of Peace” (Rev. Eric Costa)



THE UPPER ROOM



VOWS FOR MEMBERSHIP AND BAPTISM

1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving his displeasure, and without hope save in his sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon him alone for salvation as he is offered in the Gospel?
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

PASSING OF THE PEACE • Colossians 3:15

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

(Greet one another with the words, “*The peace of Christ be with you.*”)

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE AND PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION • 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

THE MYSTERIUM FIDEI • 1 Corinthians 11:26; 5:7-8

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(All who confess faith in Jesus Christ may partake of this Sacrament: baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the Gospel, who are at peace with God and with their brothers and sisters in Christ, and who seek God’s grace to live more faithfully for him in this world. Please come forward after the musicians. The glasses on your right contain grape juice for those who do not want wine. There are gluten-free crackers on the table. An Elder is available for prayer upon request [James 5:13-16].)

See, Amid The Winter Snow

Text: Edward Caswall • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Public Domain

Tenor

8 See, a - mid the win - ter's snow, born for us on
Lo, with - in a man - ger lies he who built the
5 Say, ye ho - ly shep - herds say, what's your joy - ful
earth be - low, see the ten - der Lamb ap - pears,
star - ry skies; He, who throned in heights sub - lime,
9 news to - day? Where - fore have ye left your sheep
prom - ised from e - ter - nal years. Hail, thou ev - er -
sits a - mid the cher - u - bim.
13 on the lone - ly moun - tain steep?
bless - ed morn! Hail, re - demp - tion's hap - py dawn!
17 Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem, Christ is born in
21 Beth - le - hem.

“As we watched at dead of night, lo, we saw a wondrous light;
angels singing ‘Peace on earth’, told us of the Savior’s birth.”

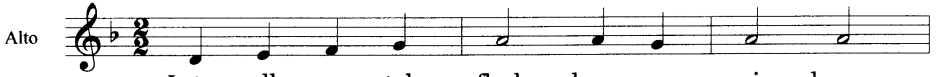
(Chorus)

Sacred infant, all divine, what a tender love was thine,
thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this!

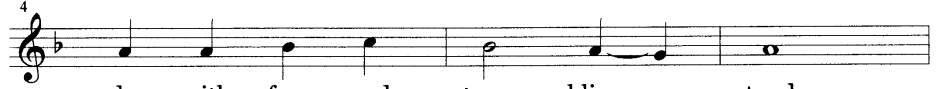
(Chorus x2)

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

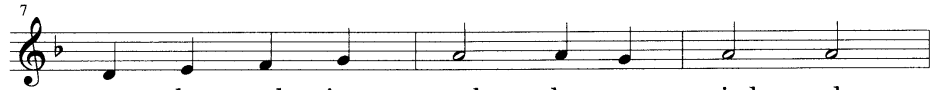
Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5th Century • Music: French Melody • Public Domain



Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence,
King of kings, yet born of Mar - y,
Rank on rank the host of heav - en
At His feet the six - winged ser - aph;



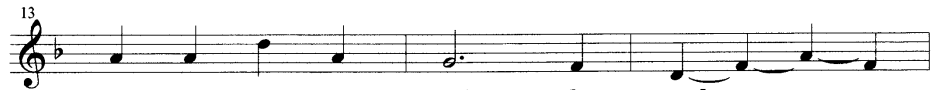
and with fear and trem - bling stand;
as of old on earth He stood,
spreads its van - guard on the way,
cher - u - bim, with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly mind - ed,
Lord of lords, in hu - man ves - ture,
as the Light of light de - - scend - eth
veil their fac - es to the pre - ence,



for with bless - ing in his hand,
in the bod - y and the blood,
from the realms of end - less day,
as with cease - less voice they cry,



Christ our God to earth de - scend - - - -
He will give to all the faith - - - -
that the pow'rs of hell may van - - - -
"Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - - - -"



eth, our full hom - age to de - mand.
ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.
ish as the dark - ness clears a - way.
ia. al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Joy To The World

Text: Isaac Watts • Music: George Frederick Handel • Public Domain

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part. It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The lyrics are: "Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and heav'n and na - ture sing." The score includes measure numbers 6, 11, 14, and 18. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests.

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re-
ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him
room, and heav'n and na - ture sing, And
heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and heav'n and
na - ture sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let men 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 sins and sorrows 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.

BENEDICTION • 2 Thessalonians 3:16

Now may the Lord of peace himself
give you peace at all times in every way.
The Lord be with you all.

~

*Every gathering is an opportunity to invite friends,
to introduce others to the Christ-centered community and life of the church!*

After Worship • Please stay a while for coffee and conversation! Around 11:45am we will begin Sunday School classes for the children in the sanctuary, and Sermon Discussion for the adults in the fellowship hall. (Infants and toddlers are welcome to join the adults in Sermon Discussion.)

Christmas Eve Service • 7pm Tuesday, December 24, in the Fellowship Hall.

Refreshments Volunteers • Bringing refreshments to share at church is a great way to practice hospitality. Contact: Nicole Hamilton (neh.hamilton@gmail.com)

Today: C. Boden

Next week: K. Boden

Nursery Volunteers • Can you play with young children and help their parents once every 6-8 weeks? Contact: Rainy Aznoe (rainyrr@aol.com).

Today: Aznoe

Next week: Bonifield

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PRAY FOR THE MINISTRIES & MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT

Love INC, Hillsboro (loveincgreaterhillsboro.org)

Northwest Church Planting Network (nwcpcnetwork.com)

Reformed University Fellowship (ruf.org)

Brian & Faith Janssen, Missionaries in Taiwan with OMF (omf.org/asia/taiwan)



Public Worship • 10am Sundays • SE 12th & Walnut, Hillsboro • ascensionpc.org

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(Please fill out this contact card, tear it off, and drop it in the offering.)

Name(s)

I am a visitor.

I want to know more about being a Christian.

I would like to get coffee with the Pastor.

Please send me the email newsletter.

Email / Phone

Please use this info for the photo directory.