



# The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

December 24, 2025

**PRELUDE**     *"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"—Samuel and Maddie Hood, Soloists  
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice— arr. P. Crisafulli— Hian Seo, Flute  
Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine— arr. B. Wayne Bisbee, Flute  
Meditation on "What Child is This" - arr. C. Callahan, Flute*

## THE BELL

### OPENING ACCLAMATION

**Priest:**     For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given; And the government shall  
be upon His shoulder, And His name shall be called:

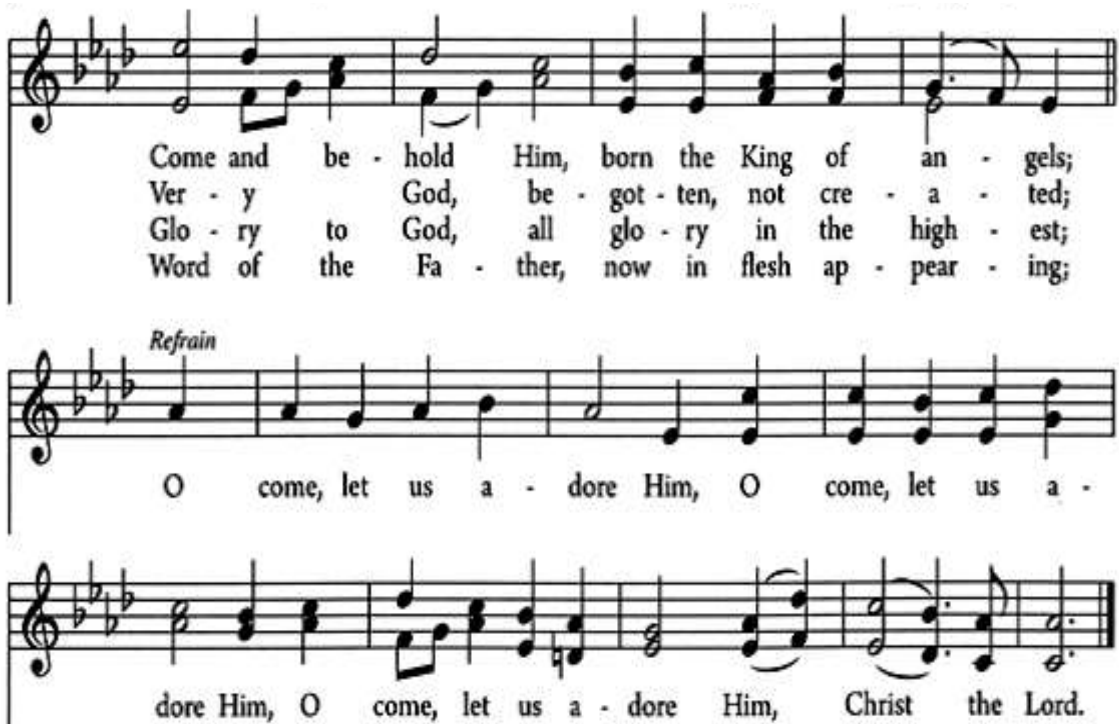
**People:**     *Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince  
of Peace!*

### HYMN: *O Come, All Ye Faithful*



The image shows the musical score for the hymn "O Come, All Ye Faithful". It consists of two staves of music in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first four lines of the hymn, and the second staff contains the remaining lines. The lyrics are as follows:

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
2. God of God, and Light of Light be - got - ten,  
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion! O  
4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,  
come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem!  
Lo, He ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove;  
le - sus, to Thee be all glo - ry given;



Come and be - hold Him, born the King of an - gels;  
 Ver - y God, be - got - ten, not cre - a - ted;  
 Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry 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.

## THE COLLECT OF CHRISTMAS

Priest: The Lord be with you.

**People:** *And with your spirit.*

Priest: Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

## THE LESSONS (*congregation seated*)

### 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 nations.<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> 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.<sup>4</sup> 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.<sup>5</sup> For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the

fire. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> 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.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

**People:** *Thanks be to God.*

**Psalm 96** *Cantate Domino (responsively by half verse)*

- <sup>1</sup> O sing unto the LORD a new song; \*  
sing unto the LORD, all the whole earth.
- <sup>2</sup> Sing unto the LORD, and praise his name; \*  
tell of his salvation from day to day.
- <sup>3</sup> Declare his honor to the nations, \*  
and his wonders to all people.
- <sup>4</sup> For the LORD is great, and highly to be praised;\*  
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- <sup>5</sup> As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;\*  
but it is the LORD that made the heavens.
- <sup>6</sup> Glory and majesty are before him; \*  
power and honor are in his sanctuary.
- <sup>7</sup> Ascribe unto the LORD, O you families of the people;\*  
ascribe unto the LORD worship and power.
- <sup>8</sup> Ascribe unto the LORD the honor due unto his name; \*  
bring presents, and come into his courts.
- <sup>9</sup> O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; \*  
let the whole earth stand in awe of him.
- <sup>10</sup> Tell it out among the nations, "The LORD is King;\*  
it is he who has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he shall judge the people righteously."
- <sup>11</sup> Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;\*  
let the sea make a noise, and all that is therein.
- <sup>12</sup> Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it;\*  
then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the LORD.
- <sup>13</sup> For he comes, for he comes to judge the earth; \*  
and with righteousness to judge the world, and the people with his truth.

**All:** *Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.*

## Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people,<sup>12</sup> training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,<sup>13</sup> waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,<sup>14</sup> who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

*People: Thanks be to God.*

## HYMN: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*(vs. 1 before the Gospel; vs. 2 after the Gospel)*



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;  
2. Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!  
3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!  
4. Come, De - sire of Na - tions, come, fix in us Thy hum - ble home;



Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
Late in time be - hold Him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.  
Rise, the wom - an's con - quering seed, bruise in us the ser - pent's head.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty;  
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,  
A - dam's like - ness now ef - face, stamp Thine im - age in its place:

With th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.  
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec - ond birth.  
Se - cond A - dam from a - bove re - in - state us in Thy love.

*Refrain*  
Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

### **Luke 2:1-20**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And 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.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day

in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and 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 heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

When 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.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

*People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## THE SERMON

**HYMN: O Holy Night**

*Samuel and Maddie Hood, Soloists*

**THE NICENE CREED** *(congregation stand)*

*We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, visible and invisible.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,*

*begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.*

*For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.*

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;*

*he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the Church and for the world with the people responding, “*hear our prayer.*”

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** *Hear our prayer.*

For Steve, our Archbishop, Mark, our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people of our Diocese and Congregation.

Father, we ask that you continue to bless our search process for a new rector. Raise up for us, we pray, a priest and pastor who will boldly proclaim your Gospel, faithfully administer your sacraments, and serve your people with love and compassion, that we may be a home for spiritual orphans and seekers.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** *Hear our prayer.*

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** *Hear our prayer.*

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** *Hear our prayer.*



For our nation, for those in authority and for all in public service, especially Joe, our President, Andy, our Governor and Linda, our Mayor.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** *Hear our prayer.*

For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy.

**People:** *Hear our prayer.*

For all those who departed this life in the certain hope of the resurrection, in thanksgiving.

Reader: Lord in your mercy.

**People:** *Hear our prayer.*

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN**

Deacon: Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

*Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word and deed,  
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE** (*congregation stand*)

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** *And with your spirit.*

Celebrant: Let us greet one another and share the Peace of Christ.

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People:** *And with your spirit.*

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

**People:** *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary his mother, was made truly man, yet without the stain of sin, that we might be cleansed from sin and given the right to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

### **THE SANCTUS**

*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might,*

*Heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest.*

### **THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the forgiveness of sins: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy sacrament, and be made one body with him, so that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. ***Amen.***

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Celebrant: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

***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 FRACTION

This is Jesus  
*This is Jesus, Emmanuel  
God is with us in this sacrament  
Come receive him, adore him  
This is Jesus Christ our Lord*

## THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

*We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord,  
trusting in our own righteousness,  
but in your abundant and great mercies.  
Apart from your grace, we are not worthy so much as to gather up  
the crumbs under your table;  
but you are the same Lord  
whose character is always to have mercy.  
Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,  
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,  
and to drink his blood,  
that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body,  
and our souls washed through his most precious blood,  
and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.*

## THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**COMMUNION MUSIC-** *"I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve"* - arr. W. Held, Gwen Frazier and Hian Seo

## HYMN: Silent Night



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright  
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake at the sight;  
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light;  
4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, won - drous star, lend thy light;

round yon vir - gin moth-er and child, ho - ly in - fant, so ten-der and mild,  
glo - ries stream from heav-en a - far, heav'n-ly hosts sing Al - le - lu - ia!  
ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,  
with the an - gels let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia to our King;

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.  
Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born.

## THE PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people gathered around every altar of your Church, and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you.  
*Amen.*

## PRAYER OF CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*Heavenly Father,*

*We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious body and blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal Kingdom.*

*And now Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.*

*To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.*

## THE BLESSING

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.


*Amen.*

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. *Amen.*

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## HYMN: Joy To the World



1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -  
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our  
\*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and  
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -  
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far  
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing,                      and heaven, and heaven 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.

## THE DISMISSAL

Priest: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**People:**            *Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

**POSTLUDE** *Fanfare on "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" - A. Fedak; Piano/Organ*

