

**Welcome to Bethany's
CHRISTMAS EVE
PRAISE & WORSHIP
December 24, 2024 ❖ 7:30 p.m.**

**THE PROCLAMATION OF
THE NATIVITY OF JESUS CHRIST**

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him, Born the King of angels;

Refrain: O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God, in the highest: *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing. *Refrain*

WELCOME

GREETING & CHRISTMAS PRAYER

L: Glory to God in the highest,
C: **and peace to God's people on earth!**

L: The grace of our Lord...be with you all.
C: **And also with you.**

The pastor then prays

**THE CHRISTMAS GOSPEL
ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE
LUKE 2:1-7 Setting for the birth**

“What Child Is This”

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherd's watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be born for me, for you;

Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

LUKE 2:8-14 Angels Appear

“Hark, the Herald Angels Sing”

Hark! The herald angels sing 'Glory to the new-born King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies,
With the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'
Hark! the herald angels sing: 'Glory to the new-born King!'
Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing: 'Glory to the new-born King.'

Charles Wesley, *altd.* A Songs of Fellowship Worship Resource
CCL Licence number: 1768929

LUKE 2:15-20 Shepherds Worship

“The First Noel”

The first noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the king of Israel.

MESSAGE

“Love Song”

Verse 1

It came upon the midnight clear
That glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold
Peace on the earth good will to men
From heaven's all gracious King
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing

Verse 2

Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled
And still their heavenly music floats
Through all the weary world
And man at war with man hears not
The love song which they bring
O hush the noise and cease the strife
And hear the angels sing

Chorus

(Oh) Glory to God in the highest
Glory to God evermore
Good news great joy for all
Melody breaks through the silence
Christ the Savior is born
Jesus the love song of God
(Jesus the love song of God)

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Admin Capital CMG Publishing. CCLI # 1322815*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYERS

Petitions end

L: ...Lord, in Your mercy,
C: **hear our prayer.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS, TITHES & OFFERINGS

*We give joyfully because God has first given,
because we have a need to give,
because others have a need to receive.*

“What Child is This”

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary!

COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

C: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, forever and ever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

*After receiving communion, you will be handed
a candle that will be lighted at the close of worship*

“O Holy Night”

Verse 1

O holy night the stars are brightly shining
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn

Refrain 1

Fall on your knees
O hear the angel voices
O night divine
O night when Christ was born
O night divine, O night, O night divine

Verse 3

Truly He taught us to love one another
His law is love and His gospel is peace
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother
And in His name all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we
Let all within us praise His holy name

Refrain 3

Christ is the Lord
O praise His name forever
His power and glory, Evermore proclaim
His power and glory, Evermore proclaim

CANDLE LIGHTING

After the candles are lit, all join in singing:

“Silent Night”

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,
Heav'nly 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 Your birth, Jesus, Lord, at Your birth.

BLESSING

*Candles may be left in boxes at the doors.
All songs tonight are in the public domain.*

GO IN PEACE