

CHRISTMAS EVE

THE GREAT GIFT OF GOD

WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

CHRISTMAS EVE 2019

Prelude Carol selections

WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

REYES FAMILY

Leader: Advent is a time to proclaim.

All: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Leader: We proclaim a hope that is stronger than any trial.

All: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Leader: We proclaim a victory that is stronger than any defeat.

All: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Leader: We proclaim a peace that is stronger than any conflict.

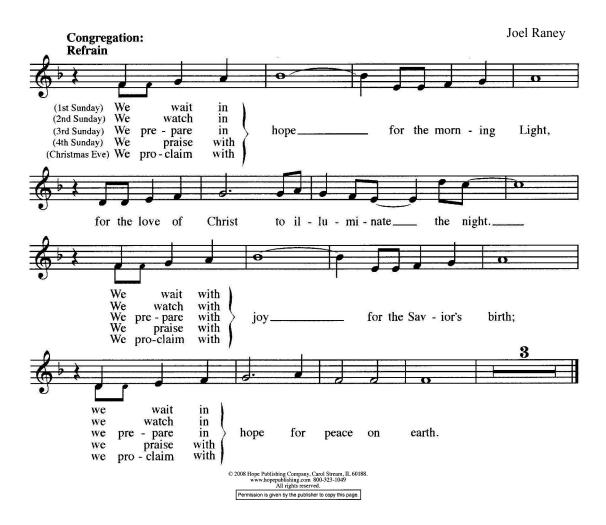
All: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Leader: We proclaim a freedom that is stronger than any bondage.

All: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Leader: Tonight we light all of the candles. The first candle reminds us that Advent is a time to wait upon the Lord with faithful endurance. The second candle reminds us that Advent is a time to watch for God's presence with hopeful expectation. The third candle reminds us that Advent is a time to prepare for the Lord in heart, soul, and mind. The fourth candle reminds us that the One we wait for, watch for, and prepare for is Jesus Christ, who is Emmanuel, meaning God is with us. Tonight we light the last candle, the Christ candle. This candle reminds us that we are to proclaim the message of Christmas by celebrating what Christ has done, and by sharing it with others. As the light from each candle fills this room, so may the Light of Christ fill our world!

* Wait in Hope (Congregation please stand.)



* Leader: God in heaven, we thank you for guiding us through our Advent journey. Through waiting, watching, preparing, and praising, we are now ready to proclaim. Help us to receive the glory of Christmas, as we celebrate and rejoice that you have come to us through the gift of Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. Amen.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Let us go, in heart and mind, to see what has come to pass.

Let us go with the shepherds;

People: Let us go to find the Savior!

Leader: Let us go with the wise ones;

People: Let us go to find God's promise, born for us!

Leader: Let us go with the poor and humble;

People: Let us go to find our King, born in a lowly manger.

Leader: Let us go with all the world, with all the peoples of the nations.

Come, let us worship; come, let us adore him;

People: Christ the Lord!

* CAROL: O Come, All Ye Faithful HYMN 208

READING: Luke 2:1-7 READER: BELLA ANDERSON

Leader: The Word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God!**

CAROL: What Child Is This? (verse 1) (Please remain seated.)

HYMN 213

What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, While shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing: Haste, haste to bring him laud,

CHILDREN'S STORY

The babe, the son of Mary.

CAROL: Away in a Manger (Please remain seated) HYMN 205

DUET: In the Bleak Mid-Winter/Silent Night

Ruth Elaine Schram

ELLIE AND SAMANTHA DURBIN, HEATHER REYES

HAIL, THE WORD MADE FLESH

READING: Luke 2:8-12 READER: BILL SHAFFER

Leader: The Word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God!**

ART AND MUSIC DAVID LAPLACA

HOWARD WHITAKER

CAROL: What Child Is This? (verse 2) (Please remain seated.)

HYMN 213

Why lies he in such mean estate, Where ox and ass are feeding? God Christian, fear; for sinners here The silent Word is pleading. Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; The cross be borne for me, for you: Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary.

ART AND MUSIC

DAVID LAPLACA
HOWARD WHITAKER

READING: Luke 2:13-20 READER: DEAN MILLER

Leader: The Word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God!**

* CAROL: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing HYMN 203

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Read together.)

People: O Lord, even as you entered this world with your Son for our salvation,

Now enter our hearts and minds with your Spirit That we may hear and understand your word of joy. In the name of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, Amen.

MEDITATION: *Receiving the Gift of Christmas*GEORGE GARRISON

RAISE THE SONG ON HIGH

CAROL: What Child Is This? (verse 3) (Please remain seated.)

HYMN 213

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.

RESPONSE

Leader: A boy has been born for us.

All: A Child has been given to us.

Leader: And his name shall be called

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, the Prince of Peace.

Once we were no people;

All: Now we are God's people.

* CAROL: On Christmas Night, All Christians Sing

HYMN 227

Leader: Once we walked in darkness;

All: Now we have seen a great light.

CANDLELIGHTING (Please be seated.)

SOLO: O Holy Night

CHRIS GILMORE BETSY TOMSZAK, Viola

(Please stand.)

* Leader: Once we walked in darkness;

* All: Now we have seen a great light.

HYMN 210

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.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight! Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing alleluia; 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.

Raise your candles and sing.

Refrain: O Come, Let Us Adore Him

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Musicians: Ellie Durbin, Samantha Durbin, Heather Reyes,

Chris and Rachel Gilmore, Mary Hopper, Beth Bauer, Kent Richter, Betsy Tomszak, Howard Whitaker

Candlelighters: Klassen and Blackstone Family

Thank you for your presence here tonight! We pray God's blessing on you this Christmas and in the New Year.