

# Epiphany of Our Lord

January 2, 2022 | 10:30 AM



**Everyone is welcome.** As people of God, St. John's welcomes all regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28) This is Christ's church, and Christ has bid you come.

**Guests are welcome.** We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. So that we may be in contact with you, we invite you to sign the guest book in the narthex. Our programs are open to all and you are invited to participate. We hope you will worship with us again soon.

**Children are welcome.** We encourage them to attend worship with their parents—even their noise and restlessness are surely a delight to God. Children's bulletins are available from the ushers and a professionally staffed nursery is available from 7:45 AM to 11:45 AM. Follow the signs or ask any member for directions.

**To assist you during worship:** Large print worship bulletins are available from the ushers. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please inform an usher and the pastors will be happy to commune you at your pew.

**Offerings:** St. John's is a tithing church. We dedicate a percentage of our offerings to the mission of the wider church through the NJ Synod of the ELCA and to many other mission partners. We are able to support these ministries because of your offerings and tithes.

**Assisted Listening:** To access assisted listening, Connect to the StJohnsALS WiFi network. Download the free WaveCast app to your phone. Tap ST\_JOHNS\_ALS to connect. Please use your own headphones to listen. Individual wired devices coming soon!



## Ministers: The People of St. John's

### Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor

Donna Garzinsky, Director of Music

Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator

Jessica Damrow Sherman, Communications Coordinator

Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation

Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton

Anne Ryan Dello Russo, Nursery

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We're delighted you're worshiping with us. As part of our ongoing outreach, your voice and your image may be videographed and photographed and used by St. John's for ministry purposes. For any questions or concerns, contact the church office.

## **Prayer Before Worship**

God, you placed a star in the sky to draw wise folk to the place of Christ's nativity. There you revealed the mystery of your eternal purpose for all humanity: God made flesh, born of Mary, opening to all the world the promise you made to Abraham and Sarah. Empower your church to be as the light of the star, that we may draw the world to the glory of Christ, our Lord, through whom we pray. Amen.

*From Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year C, Vol. 1*

## **Gathering**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**PRELUDE** “Five Carols for the Piano”

By Chuck Marohnic

**WELCOME**

*Please stand.*

**GATHERING RITE**

Arise, shine; for your light has come!

**The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

Nations will come to his light,

**And kings shall come the brightness of his rising.**

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

**The light no darkness can overcome.**

Let us kneel down before him to give him honor and glory.

**Let us offer him all the treasures of our hearts and lives.**

Let us pray. God of endless light, you sent a star—rising from darkness, guiding seekers and sages, overwhelming us with joy. Let the splendor of your dawning light grow in us and in all the world until the whole creation shines with your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

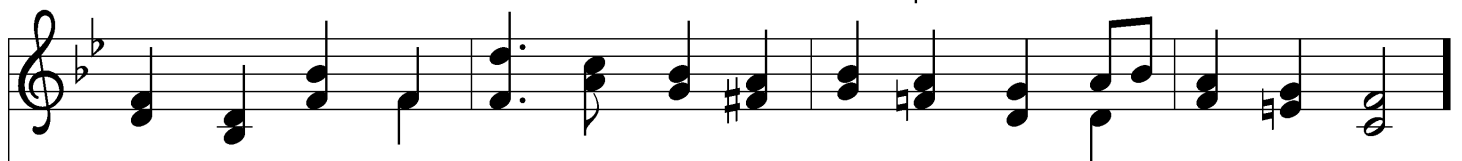
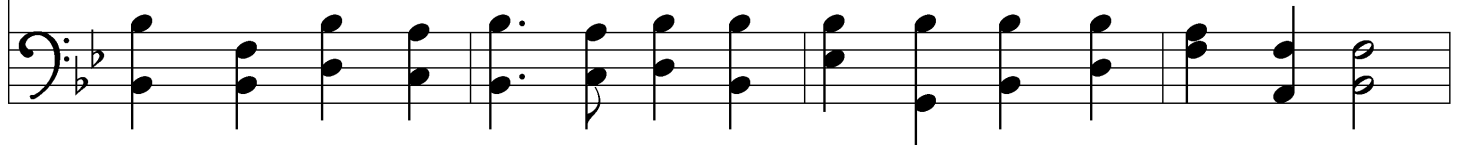
O come, let us adore him.

**Jesus, the light of the world.**

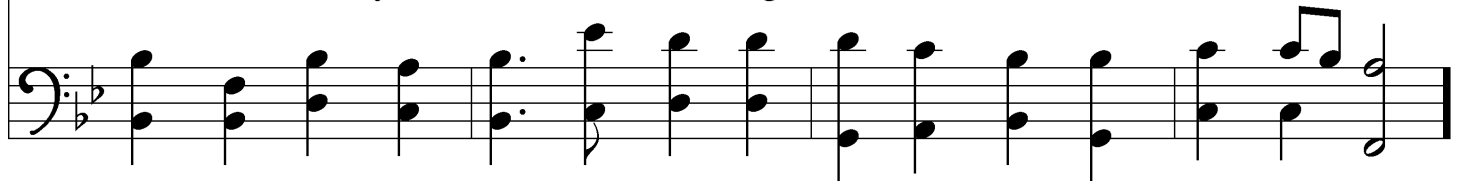
## GATHERING HYMN ELW 275 Angels, from the Realms of Glory



1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



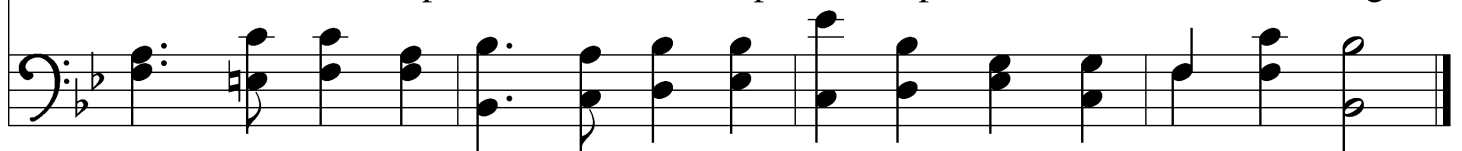
once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.  
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.



### *Refrain*



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.



Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4  
Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE ELW 268 From Heaven Above

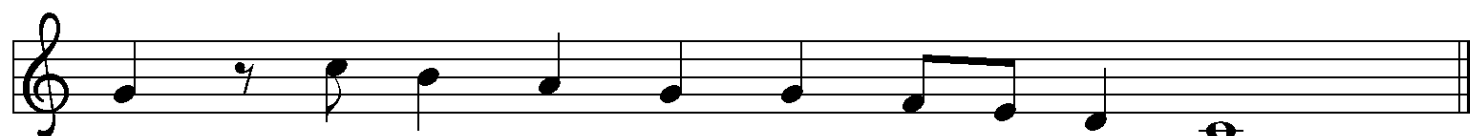
### Verses 1 & 14



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come to bear good  
14 "Glo - ry to God in high - est heav'n, who un - to

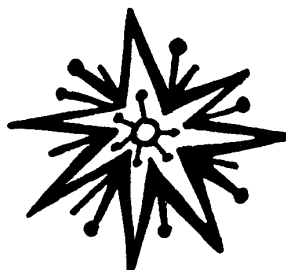


news to ev - 'ry home! Glad tid - ings of great joy I  
us the Son has giv'n." With an - gels sing in pi - ous



bring to all the world, and glad - ly sing:  
mirth a glad new year to all the earth!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: VOM HIMMEL HOCH, atr. Martin Luther; V. Schumann, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1539  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.



### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Word

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

*Please be seated.*

### **FIRST READING** Isaiah 60:1–6

<sup>1</sup>Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. <sup>2</sup>For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. <sup>3</sup>Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. <sup>4</sup>Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. <sup>5</sup>Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. <sup>6</sup>A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

*The reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 72:1–2, 10–13**

<sup>1</sup>Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

<sup>2</sup>**that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**

<sup>10</sup>May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,  
and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.

<sup>11</sup>**May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.**

<sup>12</sup>For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,  
the oppressed, and those who have no helper.

<sup>13</sup>**He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.**

### **SECOND READING** Ephesians 3:1–12

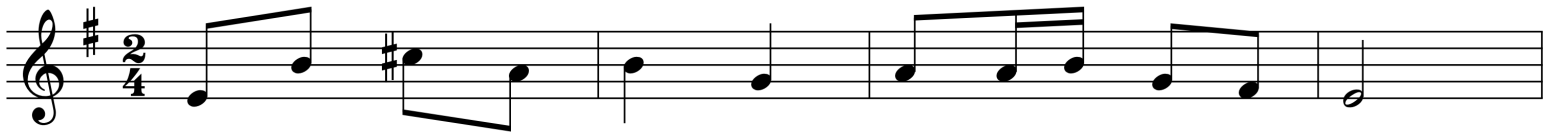
<sup>1</sup>This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—<sup>2</sup>for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, <sup>3</sup>and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, <sup>4</sup>a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. <sup>5</sup>In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: <sup>6</sup>that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, <sup>9</sup>and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

*The reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

**GOSPEL PROCESSION** Sing We Now of Christmas



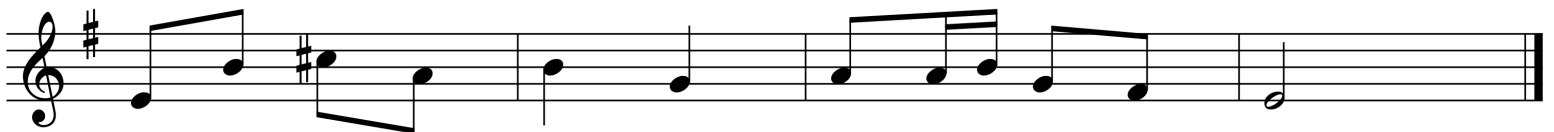
Sing we now of Christ - mas, No - ël sing we here.  
Wise men from the O - rient jour - neyed from a - far  
Gold and myrrh they of - fered, gifts of great - est price.



Sing our grate - ful prais - es to the Child so dear.  
Bear - ing cost - ly treas - ure, guid - ed by a star.  
There was ne'er a sta - ble so like par - a - dise.



Sing we No - ël, the King is born, No - ël!



Sing we now of Christ - mas, sing we here No - ël!

Text: French carol; tr. anonymous; adaptation, hymnal version, © 2011, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Tune: NOËL NOUVELET, 11 11 with refrain; French carol; harm. by Thomas Foster, b.1938

## GOSPEL Matthew 2:1–12

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>“And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” <sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

*The gospel is proclaimed, concluding:* The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

## SERMON

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet





*Please stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** ELW 296 What Child Is This



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?  
2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?  
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898

Music: GREENSLIEVES. English ballad. 16th cent.

## **NICENE CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

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

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only 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 of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

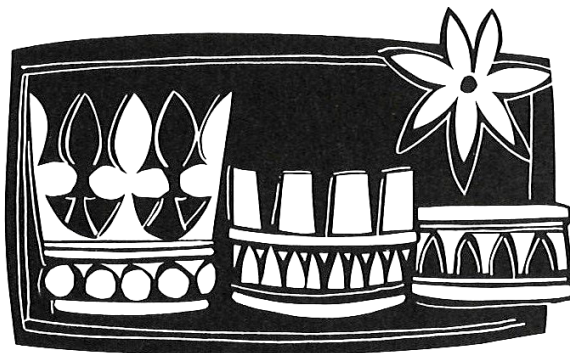
**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**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.**



## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us worship the Savior with joy and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.

The magi came from the east to worship your Son:

**Grant to Christians everywhere the spirit of adoration.**

The infant Christ received gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh:

**Accept the offering of our hearts and minds.**

By the rising of a star, all nations have been drawn to the light of your presence:

**Grant wisdom to rulers, justice in all nations, and peace to your world.**

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death:

**Look with mercy on all who are poor and powerless, and all who suffer.**

Your Son shared the life of his home and family at Nazareth:

**Protect in your love our neighbors, our families, and this community.**

*Other petitions may be added here.*

Eternal God, we rejoice in our fellowship with the shepherds, the angels, the magi, the Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph, and all the faithful departed.

**In your unfailing love for us and for all people, hear and answer our prayers through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MISSION

### GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*We present monetary, food, and other offerings for God's mission and this congregation's ministry. Both visitors and members alike may use the pew envelope to make a contribution. If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, or want information about mailing checks, you may visit [www.stjohnssummit.org/giving](http://www.stjohnssummit.org/giving) or scan this code.*

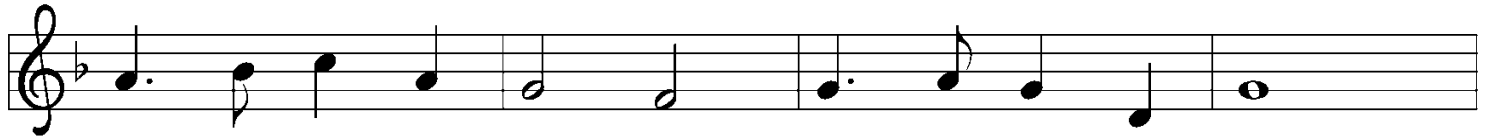


**OFFERING MUSIC** Setting of "Gentle Mary Laid her Child"

By Paul Manz

OFFERING HYMN ELW 294 In the Bleak Midwinter

*Verse 3*



3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830–1894  
Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

*Please stand.*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. **Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love come among us, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**Meal**  
*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. And also with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**PROPER PREFACE**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

### LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

*Please be seated.*

### RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

*If you wish to receive communion, please approach the pastor one at a time.*

*The pastor will place a wafer in your open hands. Please indicate if you need a gluten free wafer.*

*The assisting minister serves the wine / grape juice in pre-filled individual cups.*

*You may pick up your personal cup, being careful to only touch that cup.*

*Step aside and drink the wine, placing the used cup in the return tray.*

*All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table.*

*If you do not wish to commune, you may come forward for a blessing.*

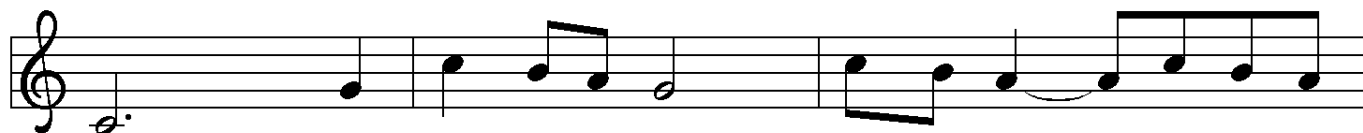
### LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -



way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 301 Bright and Glorious Is the Sky



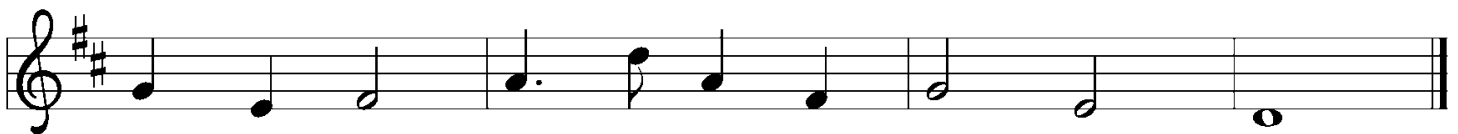
1 Bright and glo - rious is the sky, ra - diant are the  
2 On that ho - ly Christ - mas night through the dark - ness  
3 Sa - ges from the east a - far, when they saw this  
4 Him they found in Beth - le - hem, yet he wore no



heav - ens high where the gold - en stars are shin - ing.  
beamed a light; all the stars a - bove were pal - ing,  
won - drous star, went to find the king of na - tions  
di - a - dem; there they saw a maid - en low - ly



All their rays to earth in - clin - ing beck - on us to  
all their lus - ter slow - ly fail - ing as the won - drous  
and to of - fer their ob - la - tions to the child, the  
with an in - fant pure and ho - ly rest - ing in her

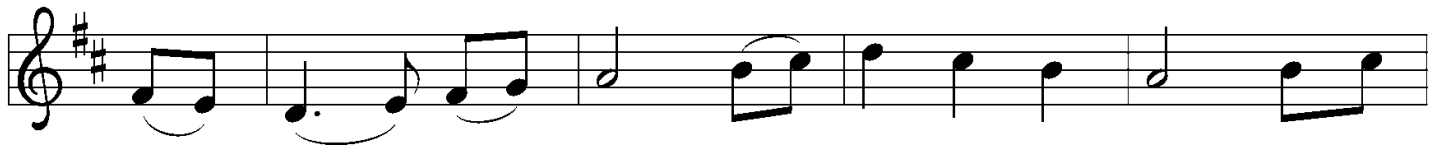


heav'n a - bove, beck - on us to heav'n a - bove.  
star drew nigh, as the won - drous star drew nigh.  
new - born king, to the child, the new - born king.  
lov - ing arms, rest - ing in her lov - ing arms.

5 Guided by the star, they found  
him whose praise the ages sound.  
We too have a star to guide us,  
which forever will provide us  
with the light to find our Lord,  
with the light to find our Lord.

6 And this star, as bright as day,  
that will never lead astray  
with its message so appealing,  
is the word of God, revealing  
Christ, the way, the truth, the life,  
Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

COMMUNION HYMN ELW 300 The First Noel



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to  
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing  
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .  
 4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .  
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where  
 in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the  
 wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a  
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it  
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's  
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -  
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the  
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the  
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

*Refrain*



night that was so deep.  
 tin-ued both day and night.  
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -  
 place where Je - sus lay.  
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.



*Please stand.*

## **BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## **POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. Holy and astounding God, at this table, in this meal, we have been met by Christ—the reflection of your glory, the imprint of your being. As we go from this place may our lives shine the good news of your righteousness and peace for all the world. **Amen.**

## Sending

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### BLESSING

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the  $\dagger$  Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

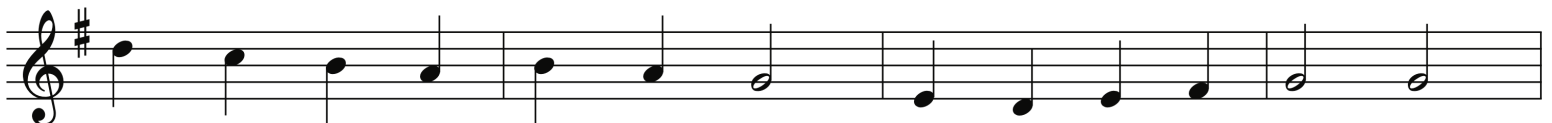
### SENDING HYMN Gentle Mary Laid Her Child



1. Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger.  
2. An - gels sang a - bout his birth; Wise men sought and found him.  
3. Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger.



There he lay, the un - de - filed, To the world a stran - ger.  
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth, Glo - ry all a - round him.  
He is still the un - de - filed, But no more a stran - ger.



Such a babe in such a place, "Can he be the Sav - ior?"  
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing.  
Son of God, of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found his fa - vor.  
All the plains were lit that night; All the hills were ring - ing.  
Praise his name in all the earth, Hail the King of glo - ry!

Text: Joseph S. Cook, 1859–1933

Tune: TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM, 7 6 7 6 D; *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; arr. by Ernest C. MacMillan, 1893–1973

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The light of Christ guides our way.

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE In Dulci Jubilo *BWV* 729

By J.S. Bach

**January 2, 2022**

**Today's altar flowers** are given to the glory of God.

**2022 Offering Envelopes:** If you use offering envelopes for your contributions, 2022 envelopes are available for pickup in the church office.

**The 2022 Flower Chart** is up! Please sign up for dedication in the coming year. Multiple people can sign up each week. Weekly flowers cost St. John's \$80. Please donate as you are able.

**The church office will be closed December 25 through January 4.**

**Blood Drive at St. John's, Friday, January 7 from Noon–6:00 PM** here at St. John's. Please sign up at [www.nybc.org/njdrive](http://www.nybc.org/njdrive) and use sponsor code 12199.

**Help us take down the Christmas decorations** after the 10:30 service **January 9.**

**Upcoming Forums:** The Anti-Racism Committee will be hosting forums on **January 16 & 23 at 9:00 AM** with discussions about redlining, healthcare encounters, race cards, and other hidden forms of racism.

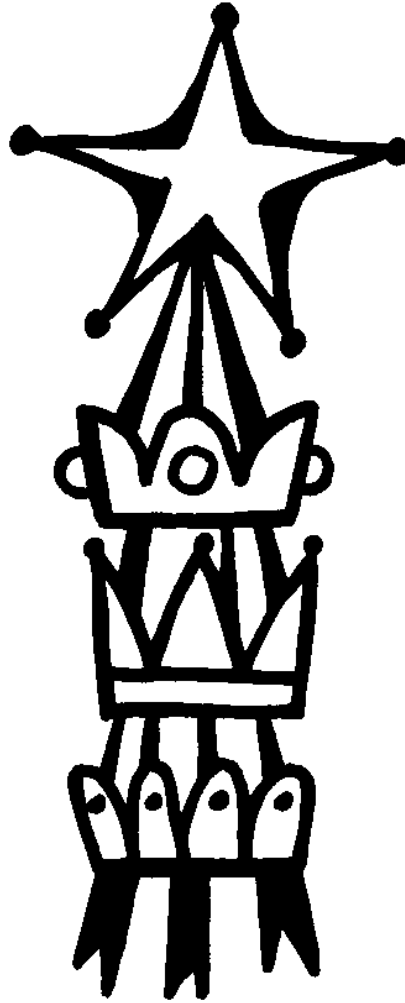
**Budget Forum, February 6 at 9:00 AM.**

**One Service, February 13 at 9:30 AM** with the Annual Congregation Meeting immediately following the service.

**Lutheran Disaster Response Tornado Relief:** Gifts to LDR designated for "U.S. tornadoes" will be used entirely (100%) to assist those affected by tornadoes until the response is complete. Together, we can support those who are on the long road to recovery. You may give to St. John's with the memo: "LDR Tornadoes" or you may give online at [elca.org/disaster](http://elca.org/disaster).

**Appalachia Service Project July 2–9, 2022 Update:** Youth AND adults can still sign up for this awesome service opportunity. The need in Appalachia is so great, ASP is permitting some all-adults teams for the summer program usually geared to youth. This is a unique year and a great opportunity for adults to try ASP. Contact Laura Snyder ASAP: [njsnyders5@verizon.net](mailto:njsnyders5@verizon.net).

**Lutheran Summer Music Winter Session** will run January 9–February 11, 2022 and will be held completely via Zoom. The LSM Winter Session aims to remove the barriers of distance, tuition cost, and time commitment so that we can welcome even more young musicians into our community! For more information about the program, visit [LSMacademy.org](http://LSMacademy.org).



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