



*Second Sunday of
Christmas 1-3-2021*

PRELUDE

Joel Raney

O Come, All Ye Faithful
Char Pope, piano; Curtis L. King, organ

THE GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all!

C: **And also with you!**

THE GATHERING LITANY

P: People of God, arise, shine, for your light has come! The light of Christ has come into the world. Immanuel, God is with us! Arise, shine, for your light has come!

C: **We will follow the light!**

P: When it shines brightly in the night sky, when it glows dimly on the horizon.

C: **We will follow the light!**

P: When it leads down familiar paths to expected destinations

C: **We will follow the light!**

P: When the road is unfamiliar and the star rests above a dubious-looking home.

C: **We will follow the light!**

P: Together, let us lift up our eyes and look around. Let us see the Christ child.

C: **May our hearts be overwhelmed with joy. May our knees bend in worship. May our hands open in generous sharing. May our mouths open in generous praise.**

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.

Text: English traditional

Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

C: **And also with you!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

A READING FROM ISAIAH 60:1-6

R: A reading from Isaiah the 60th chapter.

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;

but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift 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.

⁵Then 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.

⁶A 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.

R: The Word of the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

A READING FROM EPHESIANS 3:1-12

R: A reading from Ephesians the 3rd chapter:

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In 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: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of 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. ⁸Although 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, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so 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.

¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

R: The Word of the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful child.

Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly meek and

mild; new life, new hope the child will bring,

Lis - ten to the an - gels sing: "Glo - ry, glo - ry,

glo - ry," let the heav - ens ring.

Text: Spiritual
Music: Rollo A. Dilworth, b. 1970
Arr. © 2007 by Hal Leonard Corporation

WONDERFUL CHILD

THE GOSPEL

LUKE 2:1-12

P: This is the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 2nd chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, “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.” ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶“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.” ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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.” ⁹When 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

C: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful child.

Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly meek and

mild; new life, new hope the child will bring,

Lis - ten to the an - gels sing: "Glo - ry, glo - ry,

glo - ry," let the heav - ens ring.

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WONDERFUL CHILD

THE THREE CAMELS

A skit performed by members of our Youth Group.

Act 1

Hymn Response

We three kings of Orient are;
 bearing gifts we traverse afar,
 field and fountain, moor and mountain,
 following yonder star.

Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
 star with royal beauty bright;
 westward leading, still proceeding,
 guide us to thy perfect light!

Act 2

Hymn Response

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!

Act 3

Hymn Response

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again;
king forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign.
Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!

Act 4

Hymn Response

Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a deity nigh;
prayer and praising, gladly raising,
worshiping God Most High
Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!

Act 5

Hymn Response

Glorious now behold him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
heav'n sings alleluia:
alleluia the earth replies.
Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!

APOSTLES' CREED

P: Living together in comfort and joy, we confess our faith as expressed in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

ORGAN MEDITATION

George F. Handel
John Innes, arranger

For Unto Us a Child Is Born
Char Pope, piano; Curtis L. King, organ

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

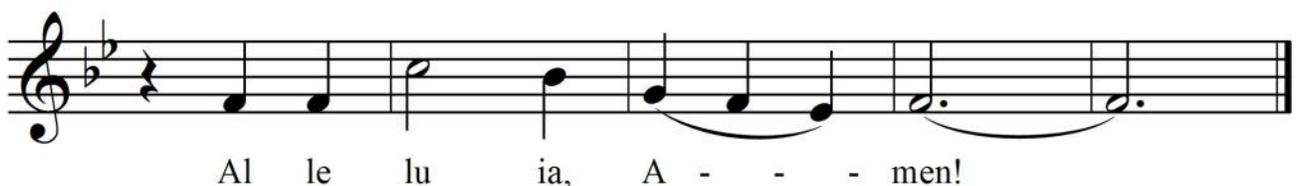
LORD'S PRAYER

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

C: **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.**

BLESSING

P: God of wonder, in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near. As you have come among us now, send us out in joy, hastening to share the good news of your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus, united as one with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.



AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

DISMISSAL

P: We go in peace, to share the light of Christ!

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

G. F. Handel

Carolyn Hamlin, arranger

Joy to the World

Char Pope, piano; Curtis L. King, organ

Many thanks to our Cantor,
Victor Welsch and Char Pope, piano.

THANK YOU to Jan Grangaard for serving as today's Lector and
Blake & Jan Grangaard for being today's Host family.

TODAY'S FLOWERS were given by Sandy & Ron Mellott
in loving memory of their son, Greg Mellott.

Please note that it has been decided that the date of
the Annual Congregational Meeting will be moved to
January 31st. Hopefully, by that time, we may be
back to a Yellow or Orange level.



*Drive-Thru Communion will
take place TODAY, January
3rd beginning at 11:30 and
continuing for one hour.*

Please enter from the parking lot and
use the south side driveway.
Stop under the portico to receive the
sacrament, then exit onto Melmore St.

*If you dedicated a poinsettia and
would like it, please let us know and
one will be put into a protective sleeve
and delivered to your car.*

*The next mobile Communion will take
place on Sunday, February 7th.*

Corrections/Additions to the 2020 Poinsettia Dedications

The name of Margaret McFall was inadvertently missed in the dedications of poinsettias given by *Ann Koning*.

Due to glitches in quick mail delivery from Florida, the poinsettia dedications from *Bill Hertzner* arrived on December 29th. He dedicated two poinsettias in loving memory of:

Billy Jr.

Jean Hertzner

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH



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Director of Music:
CURTIS L. KING

"God is among us!"
"We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel, forgive,
reconcile and trust God for all that we need."