

CHRISTMAS EVE 2020

CULTIVATING CONNECTION WITH SELF, OTHERS, THE WIDE WORLD, AND GOD

FEEL FREE TO USE PRONOUNS OF YOUR CHOICE FOR ALL SONGS AND PRAYERS

Welcome

Opening Song: He Shall Lead His Flock

Advent Candle Lighting and Prayer

We rejoice in God's presence in the world, in our lives, and in the life of Jesus of Nazareth—born of Mary, growing in wisdom as a child, into his work as a carpenter, and his healing and teaching throughout the towns of the Galilee and Judah; his voice undimmed by the centuries, his call as clear to us as it was to his disciples so long ago. Come to us, Lord Jesus, Be born in us this night, in our hearts, our minds, our lives. May the light of your life be kindled in us, And lead us to the shining truth of God with us, God for us, God in us. Amen.

Song: Jingle Bells

Reading: Micah 5: 2-5a

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor bears a son, and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites. He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And he will be our peace.

Song: King of Heaven

You tore the night apart
And ripped the silent skies in half
Your glory breaking through the dark
And here our worlds collide
Divinity in us confined
This great design drawn out for me

Chorus:

Emmanuel, God with us
Emmanuel, Hallelujah
You hold the ends of time
Yet place Yourself here into mine

My life is now forever changed
Our eyes be lifted up
Our great eternal hope arise
This great design drawn out for me

(Chorus)

In our silence, heaven whispered out
In our darkness, glory pierced the night
We were broken, now we're lifted up
King of heaven, God is here with us
Hallelujah, angels cry aloud
Singing holy, all the praise resound
King of Heaven, on the Earth be found
King of Heaven, on the Earth be found

Reading: Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Song: 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 shepherds 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.

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 a song on high,
 His mother sings her lullaby.
 Joy, joy for Christ is born,
 the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Reading: Luke 2:1-7

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloth and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Song: O Holy Night/Hallelujah

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
 Til he appeared and the soul felt its worth.
 A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
 For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn
 Fall on your knees, oh hear the angel voices
 Oh night divine, oh night when Christ was born
 Oh night divine, oh night, oh night divine

Well maybe I've been here before
 I've seen this room and I've walked this floor
 I used to live alone before I knew ya
 And I've seen your flag on the marble arch
 And love is not a victory march

It's a cold and it's a broken Hallelujah
 Hallelujah (x4)

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
 Christ is the Lord, o praise His Name forever
 His power and glory evermore proclaim (x2)

Hallelujah (x4)

Reading: Luke 2: 8-14

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 Savior, 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 favors!"

Song: O Come All Ye Faithful (medley)

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

Chorus:

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, glory in the highest

(Chorus)

Angels we have heard on high

Sweetly singing o'er the plains
 And the mountains in reply
 Echoing their joyous strains
 Gloria, in excelsis Deo (x2)

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
 Why your joyous strains prolong?
 What the gladsome tidings be
 Which inspire your heavenly song?
 Gloria, in excelsis Deo (x2)

Chorus: Go, tell it on the mountain
 Over the hills and everywhere
 Go, tell it on the mountain
 That Jesus Christ is born

While shepherds kept their watching
 Over silent flocks by night
 Behold throughout the heavens
 There shone a holy light (Chorus)

The shepherds feared and trembled
 When lo above the earth
 Rang out the angel chorus
 That hailed our Savior's birth

Reading: Isaiah 11: 1-9

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Song: O Come O Come Emmanuel (instrumental)

Reading: Isaiah 42: 1-4

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Song: Silent Night

Silent night, holy night;
 All is calm and 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;
 Heavenly hosts sing hallelujah
 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 thy birth
 Jesus, Lord at thy birth

Reading: Philippians 2: 5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Song: Joy To The World

Joy To The World

Joy to the World, the Lord has come!

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare Him room,

And Heaven and nature sing (repeat)

Joy to the World, the Savior reigns!

Let us our songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy (repeat)

He rules the world with truth and grace,

And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness,

And wonders of His love (repeat)