

Christmas Eve Service
Friday, December 24th
Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Because Christ has been born in the world,

People: people who walked in darkness now live in great light.

Leader: Because Christ has been born in the world,

People: the power to oppress and kill will not stand.

Leader: Because Christ has been born in the world,
we respond in wonder:

People: with angels, we sing glory to God;

with shepherds, we share the good news;

with Mary, we ponder the words of this night,

and the Word that has come into the world: Immanuel.

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Hymn # 133 – O Come, All Ye Faithful (verses 1, 3, & 4)

*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! 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, all glory in the
highest! O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!*

*Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be all glory given; Word of the Father, now in
flesh appearing! O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ, the
Lord!*

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7

Special Music: *Gesu Bambino*

Jake Bushong

Scripture: Luke 2:1-7

Hymn # 121 – O Little Town of Bethlehem

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

*For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of
wondering love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the king, and peace
to all on earth.*

*How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his
heaven. No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, still the dear
Christ enters in.*

*O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. We hear
the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!*

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Scripture: Luke 2:8-14

Hymn # 113 – Angels We Have Heard on High

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! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song? Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing; come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Scripture: Luke 2:15-20

Special Music: *Mary, Did You Know?*

Clay Modelevsky

Scripture: John 1:1-18

Special Music: *O Holy Night*

Matt Carey

Prayers of the People

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn # 122 – Silent Night, Holy 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, heavenly 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 thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King: Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

O Come, All Ye Faithful 133

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain

born the King of an - gels!
got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
glo - ry in the high - est!
now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y and, gath - ered all a - bove,
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by.
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
O come to us; a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Though he was famed during his lifetime as a great preacher, no sermon Phillips Brooks ever preached has been heard or read by as many people as have sung this carol he wrote in December 1868 for the Sunday School children of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Philadelphia.

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

113 Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?
3 Come to Beth-le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some ti - dings be which in - spire your heaven-ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo -

This French carol probably dates from the 1700s, though it was not printed until the following century. Because it uses a vernacular language for the narrative stanzas and Latin for the refrain, it belongs to a special category called "macaronic" or mixed-language texts.

TEXT: French carol; trans. James Chadwick, 1860, alt.
MUSIC: French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937
Music © 1937, ren. 1965 H. Augustine Smith Jr.
(admin. Fleming H. Revell Company, a div. of Baker Publishing Group)

GLORIA
7.7.7.7 with refrain

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The musical score consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat major or D minor). It begins with a melodic line for the voice, starting on a whole note G4, followed by eighth notes A4, Bb4, and C5. The lower staff is in bass clef and provides harmonic support with chords and single notes. The lyrics 'ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!' are positioned below the vocal line. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Silent Night, Holy Night! 122

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light
4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and
glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu -
ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing
with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"
grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

GERMAN

1 *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!*
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

KOREAN

1 고요한밤 거룩한밤
어둠에 묻힌밤
주의부모 앉아서
감사기도 드릴때
아기잘도 잔다
아기잘도 잔다

SPANISH

1 *¡Noche de paz, noche de amor!*
Todo duerme en derredor,
entre los astros que esparcen su luz,
bella, anunciando al niño Jesús,
brilla la estrella de paz,
brilla la estrella de paz.

The tradition that this carol's tune was created for guitar accompaniment at its first singing on Christmas Eve 1818 seems reliable, though a recent find shows that the text was about two years old. But there is no question that this is now a favorite Christmas carol worldwide.