

CHRISTMAS DAY EUCHARIST

DECEMBER 25, 2021 AT 11 AM

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN | 60 EAST AVENUE | NORWALK, CONNECTICUT 06851

INTROIT

sung by the Cantor

Hodie Christus natus est.
Hodie Salvator apparuit, Alleluia.
Hodie in terra canunt angeli.
laetantur archangeli,
Hodie exultant iusti, dicentes:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Alleluia.

*Today Christ is born.
Today the Savior has appeared, Alleluia.
Today the angels sing,
the archangels rejoice.
Today the righteous rejoice, saying:
Glory be to God in the highest.
Alleluia.*

Music: Gregorian Chant
Antiphon for Christmas Day Vespers

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

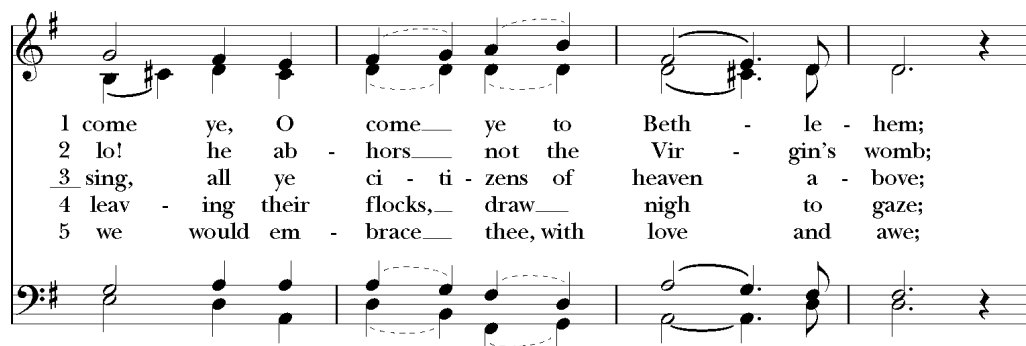
Please stand as the bells sound.

Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people.
For to us is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

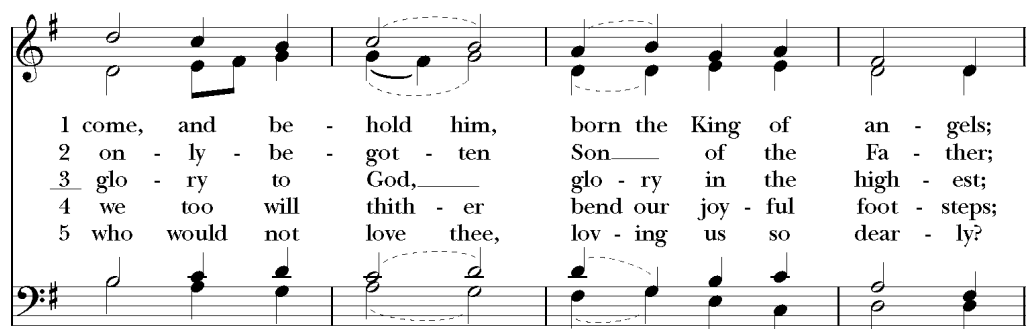
HYMN IN PROCESSION



1 O come, all ye faith - ful joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 *4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
 *5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,




1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
 4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
 5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;



1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -



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

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father,
 now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

OPENING COLLECT

O God of love, you are the true sun of the world, evermore risen and never going down:
We pray you to shine in our hearts and drive away the darkness of sin and the mist of error.
We pray that we may this day and all our lives long, walk without stumbling in the way you have
prepared for us, Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of music. The first system contains two lines of lyrics. The second system also contains two lines. The third system is the start of a 'Refrain' and contains one line of lyrics. The fourth system continues the refrain and contains one line. The fifth system concludes the refrain and contains one line. The lyrics are: '1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night, 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 brave de - light. 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 - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.'

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
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 brave de - light.
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 - ri - a

- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813–1882), alt.
Music: Gloria, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887–1958)

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

We praise you, gracious God, for the glad tidings of peace, the good news of salvation: your Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory. Let the radiance of that glory enlighten the lives of those who celebrate his birth. Reveal to all the world the light no darkness can extinguish, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, in the splendor of eternal light, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSON *seated*

Isaiah 52: 7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.
For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.
For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.
Honor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts.
Worship the Lord in holy splendor;
tremble before him, all the earth.

Anglican chant: William Crotch (1775-1847)

THE EPISTLE

Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL HYMN

standing; all turn toward the Gospel as it is brought among the People



1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far - peat the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

Music: *Antioch*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

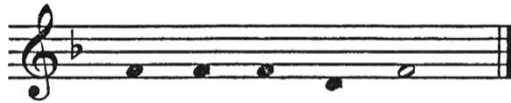
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.



Glo - ry to you O Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you O Christ.

THE SERMON

seated

The Rev. Daniel Simons

A period of silent reflection follows the sermon.

THE NICENE CREED

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit, He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son, She* is worshipped and glorified. She 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.

**Holy Spirit in biblical languages is a feminine-gendered word,
and we use the feminine pronoun here to highlight that aspect of God's fullness.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

On this holy day in which we celebrate the birth of our Lord and his presence with us, let us now pray for the needs of the world.

Almighty God, who by the glorious birth of your Son enlightened the darkness of the world: Grant us such love and wonder that, with humble shepherds, and pilgrims unknown, we may come and adore the holy Child, the heavenly King, and with our gifts worship and serve him.

Holy God, **Hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, strengthen us in this time of conflict, uncertainty and fear to be people of peace. Grant relief and protection to all who suffer persecution and fear of terror, and give us your grace that we, by acts of kindness and words of goodwill, may spread the spirit of Christ our Savior.

Holy God, **Hear our prayer.**

God of all people, bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve you in them, and love another as you love us. We give thanks for all who have blessed our life. (PLEASE OFFER YOUR OWN THANKSGIVINGS AT THIS TIME, SILENTLY OR ALOUD.)

Holy God, **Hear our prayer.**

God of healing, give your grace to those who are sick, unemployed or in any special need, and give us strength to come to their aid and comfort. (PLEASE NAME THOSE WHO ARE ON YOUR HEART AND MIND.)

Holy God, **Hear our prayer.**

God of mercy, we remember those who rejoice with us but upon another shore and in a greater light. Comfort those who mourn and send your peace to their souls. (PLEASE NAME THOSE WHO HAVE DIED.)

Holy God, **Hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant prays

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your Incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of peace with a distanced gesture to those nearby.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Giving to St. Paul's

The work and mission of St. Paul's is fully supported by the generous contributions of its members and friends. You can make a one-time offering or a sustaining gift to St. Paul's by visiting stpaulsnorwalk.org/givebycard, or text to give at 203-889-9983. For other means of giving, visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/support.



Thank you for your support!

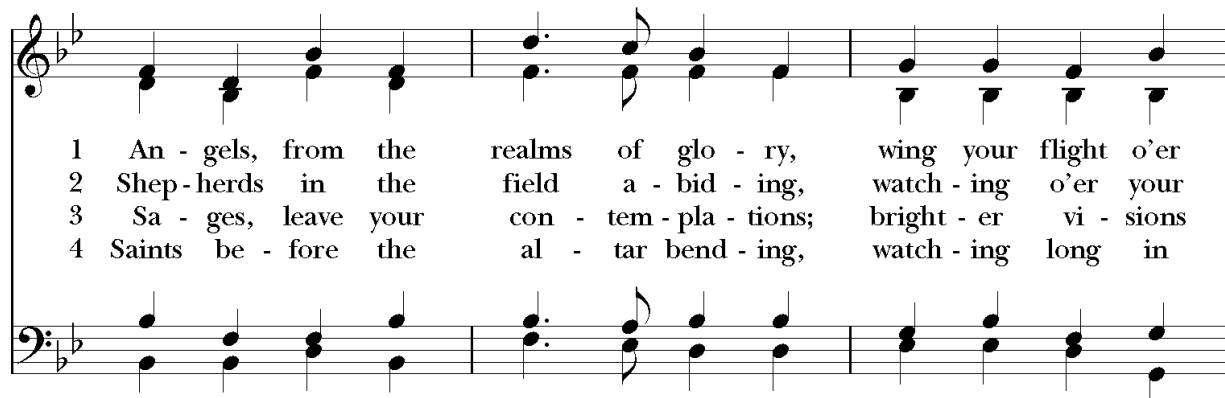
ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

seated; sung by the Cantor


Good people all, this Christmas
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done
In sending his beloved son
With Mary holy we should pray
To God with love this Christmas Day
In Bethlehem upon that morn
There was a blessed Messiah born
Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep
To whom God's angels did appear
Which put the shepherds in great fear
'Prepare and go, ' the angels said
'To Bethlehem, be not afraid
For there you'll find, this happy morn
A princely babe, sweet Jesus born
With thankful heart and joyful mind
The shepherds went, this babe to find
And as God's angel had foretold
They did our saviour Christ behold
Within a manger he was laid
And by his side the virgin maid
Attending on the Lord of life
Who came on earth to end all strife.

Traditional Irish Carol
Wexford

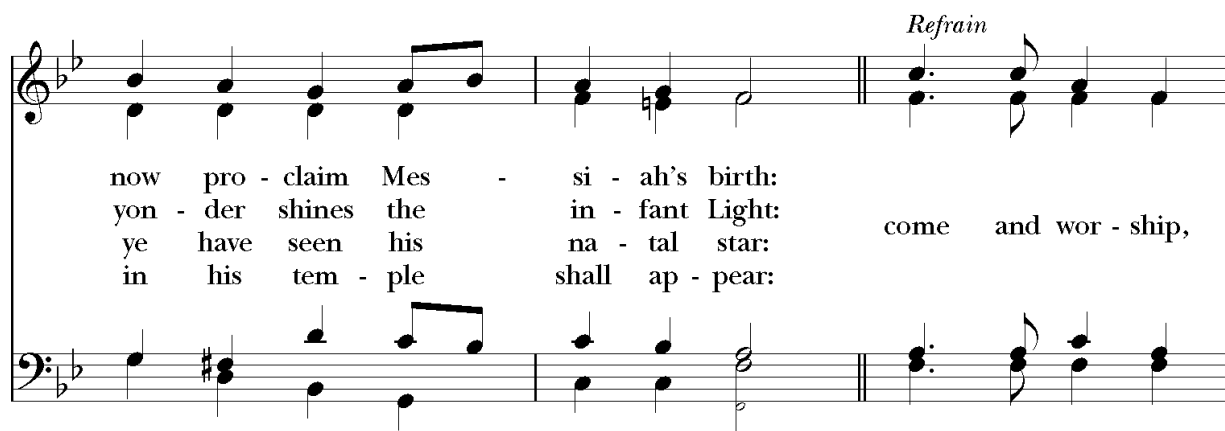
HYMN AT THE OFFERTORY

standing; the gifts of bread, wine, and the offering are brought forward


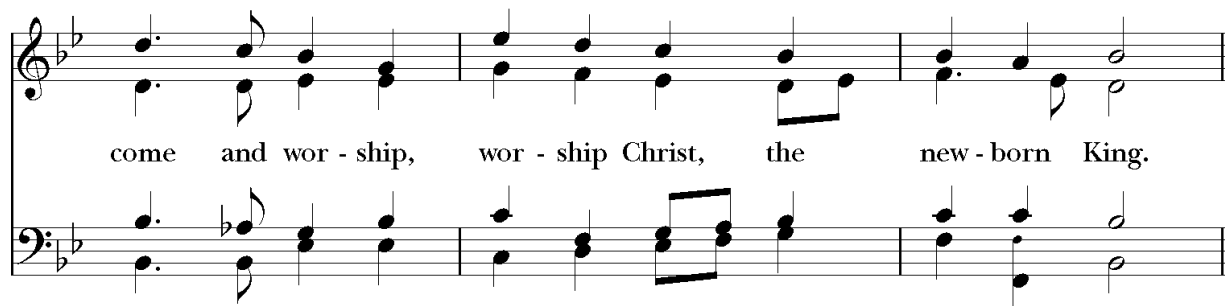
1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in



all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing;
 beam a - far: seek the great De - sire of na - tions;
 hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,



Refrain
 now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,
 ye have seen his na - tal star:
 in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:



come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt.

Music: *Regent Square*, Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

O Eternal Wisdom, we praise you and give you thanks, because you emptied yourself of power and became foolishness for our sake; for on this day you were delivered as one of us, a baby needy and naked, born into poverty and exile, to proclaim the good news to the poor, and to let the broken victims go free. Therefore, we sing with the stars of heaven, with the angels and archangels, and with all those who have loved you throughout the ages, and we praise your name, evermore singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, Ho - ly,
10 ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, heav-en and earth are
19 full, full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high -
28 est. Ho - san - na in the high - est Bless-ed is he who comes
37 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
43 high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues:

Blessed is our brother Jesus, bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh; who, on the night when he was delivered over to death, took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said: "This is my body, which is for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, whenever you drink it, for the remembrance of me." Come now, Holy Spirit, embrace us with your comforting power. Brood over these bodily things, and make us one body in Christ. As Mary's "Yes" brought forth your Son, may Christ be ever born in us for the life of the world. All this we pray in the risen life of the one who unites heaven and earth, your son, Jesus Christ, through whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all power and glory are yours, now and for ever,



Music: McNeil Robinson II (1943-2015) Music: © 1943 Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved; OneLicense.net License #A-7091

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa - ther in hea-ven, hall-owed be your Name, your king - dom come,

The first system of musical notation for 'The Lord's Prayer'. It consists of a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The treble staff contains a melody with eighth and quarter notes, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with similar rhythmic values. The lyrics are written below the staves.

your will be done, on earth as in hea-ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.

The second system of musical notation. It continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are written below the staves.

And for-give us our sins as we for-give those who sin a - gainst us.

The third system of musical notation. It continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.

The fourth system of musical notation. It continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the staves.

For the king-dom, the po - wer, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

The fifth and final system of musical notation. It concludes the piece with a double bar line. The lyrics are written below the staves.

THE COMMUNION

The Celebrant breaks the bread and invites the People to Communion, saying

This is the true bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.

Whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

Everyone is welcome to receive the bread and wine of Communion. Please follow the direction of the ushers.

All sing together as the distribution of Communion begins.



Words and Music: Franz Schubert (1797-1828)
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CAROL AT THE COMMUNION *seated; sung by Annette Nauraine.*

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *standing*

Let us pray.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May Christ born among us fill you with joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you now, and remain with you always. Amen.

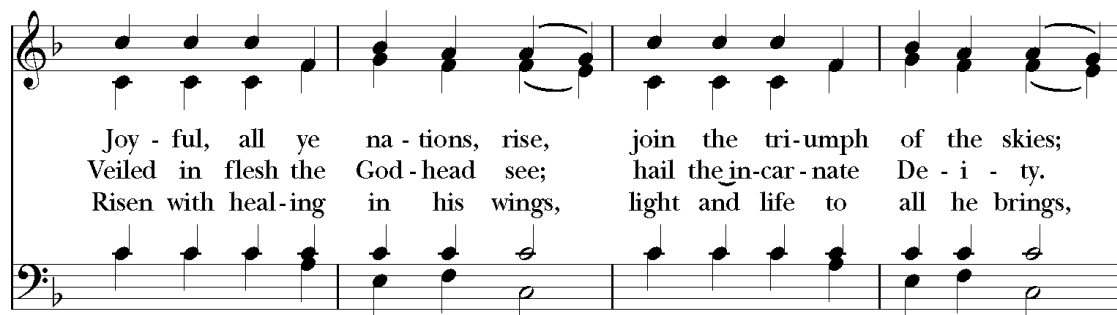
HYMN IN PROCESSION



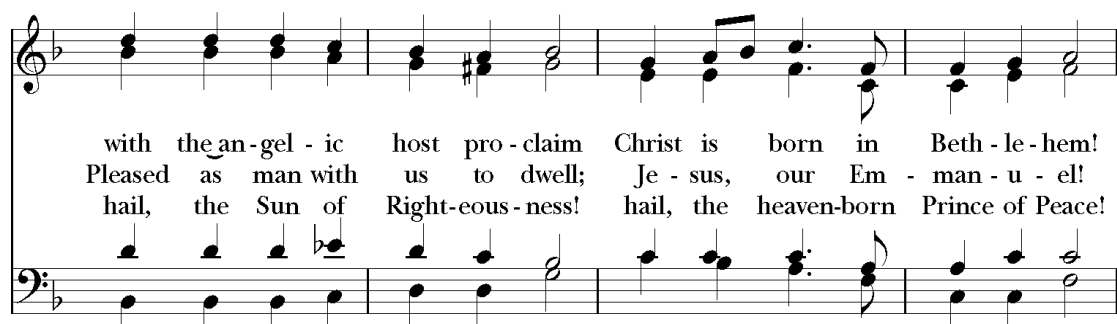
1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in-car-nate De - i - ty.
 Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,



with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915)

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go and tell the world that we have seen the glory of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

THE WORSHIP IS OVER – THE SERVICE BEGINS

ST PAUL'S ON THE GREEN

Contact us at: 203-847-2806 info@stpaulsnorwalk.org

The Rev. Daniel Simons *Priest in Charge*

Will Doreza *Interim Director of Music*

Josh Ehlebracht *Interim Organist*

Marsha Dunn *Parish Administrator*