Welcome to worship at New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 24, 2023



God keeps the promise made to David to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Count me in." We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, "Count us in."

The Rev. Scott Staub, pastor Patricia Nyce, director of music ministry Lindsey Waltermyer, Grace band leader

We love our neighbors with healing and feeding them!

All worship can be viewed online at newhanoverlutheran.org facebook.com/NewHanoverLutheranChurch and on YouTube.

May your worship experience strengthen you with God's love and grace.

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Candle

John, Diana, Junie and Ezra Hazel

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, Desire of nations, Bind all peoples in one heart and mind; Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease; Fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Words and music by Veni Emmanuel, translated by John Mason Neale, arranged by Thomas Helmore. Words and music are in public domain.

Please rise as you are able. Gathering Hymn Good Christian Friends, Rejoice ELW #288

Call to Worship

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

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.**

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Centering Song O Come All Ye Faithful (His Name Shall Be) Grace Band

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 1: 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!

Chorus 1

Yea Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning. Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n. Word of the Father now in flesh appearing.

Chorus 2: O come, let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord, the Lord. Bridge:

His name shall be wonderful, counselor. His name shall be Everlasting Father. His name shall be Prince of Peace, Mighty God. His name shall be Emmanuel.

Chorus 3 (sing 2x): We'll praise Your name forever. We'll praise Your name forever. We'll praise Your name forever. Christ, the Lord (the Lord).

Bridge

"O Come All Ye Faithful (His Name Shall Be) Words and music by JD Myers and Kristian Stanfill. © 2020 KPS 1.0; sixsteps Music; worshiptogether.com songs; Thank The Maker Music. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under CCLI License #2329082.

Please be seated. Children's Message

Pastor Scott

Ron Fegley

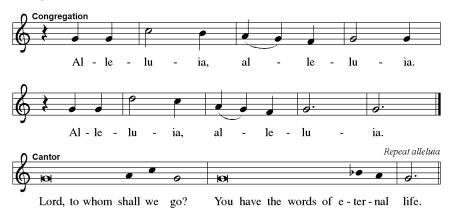
First ReadingRomans 16:25-27A reading from the book of Romans

²⁵Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Here ends the reading.

Please rise as you are able. Gospel Acclamation

Lee Wesner, cantor



Gospel/Live Nativity Luke 2:1-20

Cast

Mary: Nicole Ewing

Joseph: Nate Ewing

Shepherds: Noah Waltermyer, Ryan Waltermyer, Sam Young Wisemen: Gary Moser, Brett Boyer, Mason Artim Angels: Kylie Ewing, Cara Boyer, Hannah Waltermyer, Alexa Moser, Charlotte Moser

The holy gospel according to Luke **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. ⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" ¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Nativity Hymn	Away in a Manger	ELW #277
Please be seated. Message		Pastor Scott
Please rise as you ar Hymn of the Day	e able. Of the Father's Love Begotten	ELW # 295
_		

Peace The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

The people give a sign of peace to each other.

Prayers of Intercession Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Lord's Prayer Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

Please be seated. Announcements

Please rise as you are able. Sending Hymn Joy to the World

ELW #267

Dismissal Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Go get'em!!!

Postlude On Christmas Day in the Morn Patricia Lou Harris

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Announcements

Today

The bulletin is sponsored to the glory of God and in memory of Brian Hansley by his family.

The flowers are sponsored to the glory of God and in honor of John and Hazel LeVan's 68th wedding anniversary on Christmas Day.

The Word in Season devotion booklet is sponsored to the glory of God and in honor of Steve's mother's 85th birthday by Steve and Faye Weidner.

Serving Today 9:00 Head Usher: Ron Fegley; Usher: Faye Weidner; Lector: Ron Fegley; Acolyte: Faye Weidner
4:00 Head Usher: Steve Weidner; Ushers: Marty Hauser, George Trowbridge and Rick Solazzo; Lector: Miller Quigley; Children's Sermon: Nikki Young; Acolyte: London Meeker; Communion Assistants: Donna Kehs and Nikki Young
8:00 Head Usher: Barbara Repa; Ushers: Bill Allen and Brian Flack; Lector: Erica Lucas; Acolyte: Elsa Lucas; Communion Assistants: Carolyn Fleming and Marsha Staub

Serving Next Sunday Head Usher: Jeff Wise; Ushers: Jim Gross and Bryce Manthorne; Acolyte: Bryce Manthorne

Altar Guild Serving this Month Deb Solazzo, Barb Eisenhart and Marsha Staub

Celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ this evening at a Christmas Eve Candlelight service. Services will be held both at 4:00 PM and 8:00 PM. Special music for the 8:00 service will begin at 7:30 PM.

The Nursery room is now open. It is located between the Welcome Center and the Fellowship Hall. Parents are welcome to use the room during worship services as needed. The room provides for a comfortable play area in a joyful environment, toys and books included. The room has access to a changing room and a private nursing room next door.

Update your information NHELC is preparing a new directory with member names, addresses, phone numbers and family picture. To ensure accuracy, the information we currently have on file is available on Sundays in the Welcome Center and in front of the stage in Fellowship Hall. We ask you to review and update your family's information at one of these locations. If you cannot check your records in person and for you to submit your family photo, contact Nance White at 610-741-7977 or Nance2237@yahoo.com.

Calendar

Worship Service – Today, 9:00 AM, sanctuary and online Food Drop Off – Today, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen Praise Band Rehearsal – Today, 11:15 AM, sanctuary Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – Today, 4:00 PM, sanctuary Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – Today, 8:00 PM, sanctuary and online

Boy Scouts - Tuesday, 6:30 PM, room 1

Food Drop Off – Wednesday, 1:00 – 2:00 PM, kitchen Food Delivery Pickup – Wednesday, 1:30 PM, portico Manlay Wedding – Wednesday, 5:30 PM Addiction 12 Step – Wednesday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, room 32

Worship Service – Next Sunday, 9:00 AM sanctuary and online Food Drop Off – Next Sunday, 9:00 – 10:00 AM, kitchen Food Delivery Pickup – Next Sunday, 10:00 AM, portico Scout Lock-in – Next Sunday, 7:00 PM – Monday, 9:00 AM Praise Band Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 11:15 AM, sanctuary

Merry Christmas from the staff at NHELC. The office will be closed on Monday, Tuesday and Friday.

Upcoming Events

The NHELC Book Club is reading *Mad Honey* by Jodi Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan. You are invited to join in the discussion of this book on Tuesday, February 6th, at 6:30 PM at the Plaza Azteca in Greshville. Any questions about the Book Club, contact Sharon Tracey. **Swamp Picnic Committee Soup Sale** is Sunday, January 21st, following the morning worship service. Soup can be purchased in Fellowship Hall or at the kitchen door for drive up service. This year's selections are: vegetable barley, chicken pot pie and ham and bean. The suggested donation is \$9 a quart.

The congregational meeting will be on Sunday, February 11, 2024. **Annual reports are due by Monday, January 8, 2024**.

Help Resources

Mental Health and Wellness Millions of people across the nation are affected by mental health conditions. Check out the websites below and the resources they have to offer. NAMI has local centers in both Reading and Lansdale. They offer in-person and online support groups.

Contact Information

NAMI Help Line 1-800-950-6242 and is available Monday -Friday 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM ET.

Text "Helpline" to 62640 or if in crisis call or text 988.

PA Addiction Helpline 1-800-662-HELP (4357).

Online live chat offered at 1-717-216-0905 or text

Website References

www.NAMI.org National Alliance on Mental Illness www.ddap.pa.gov Department Drug and Alcohol Prevention www.nimh.nih.org National Institute of Mental Health Grieving/Wellness Online Support

https://grateful.org/welcome/

You Can Help

Social Media assistance: The Food Ministry Board is looking for someone with the skills to post their "good works" and "needs/desires" on Social Media. This position does not require you to participate in board functions, nor will they be assigned other Food Ministry related tasks. We anticipate this role to take two - four hours per month. If you have any social media skills and are interested in assisting with this ministry, contact Steve Weidner at <u>stieven.weidner@gmail.com</u>.

Meeting Scribe: The Food Ministry Board is looking for someone to take meeting notes. This position does not require you to participate in board functions, nor will the person be assigned other Food Ministry related tasks. We anticipate this role to take two and a half - three hours per month. The board meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM. Contact Steve Weidner at stieven.weidner@gmail.com if interested.

Thrivent members get free money they can use to help NHELC programs.

Thrivent Action Teams

Did you know Thrivent members receive free of charge two (2) \$250.00 gifts a year to help our church? For details and help to do this, contact Pastor Scott at <u>psstaub@gmail.com</u>, or call him at 610-326–1335 ext. 1, or logon if you know how to do it alone at https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-action-teams.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

You may also be given free Choice Dollars directly to the church! Simply go onto your account and search for choice dollars at <u>https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice</u>. You can make a personal donation to New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church and Thrivent pays the processing fees. It's that simple!

Again, contact Pastor Scott if you have any questions or need help navigating the sign-ups.

If not a Thrivent member, you may still donate directly to these ministries. Go to newhanoverlutheran.org to donate, serve or learn more about these ministries.

Wanted: Assistant Caretaker for Cemetery Duties consist of taking care of cemetery and church grounds, helping with maintaining equipment and assisting with funerals. If interested in this position, contact Norm Hunsberger at 484-431-3622 or nhunsberger29@gmail.com.

Dreaming of being a TV producer/director? Sign up with Amy to learn how you can produce and direct our weekly worship service. The sessions will be scheduled for two hours at a time so you can learn and practice using the equipment. There are two spots or one family spot available per training session. A sign-up

Genius is available at <u>www.newhanoverlutheran.org</u>. All Dates are subject to change.

Volunteers are needed to help during the church service: Ushers, Lectors, Children's Sermons, Acolytes and Communion Assistants. Contact Faye Weidner at omiweidner@gmail.com or 484-929-5958 if you can help.

Food Ministry

More than 160,000 meals have been delivered! NHELC's Loaves & Fishes Food Ministry is changing lives. And, you can be a part of the team. 1) You can donate food. Drop off your donation on Wednesdays between 1 – 2 PM and Sundays between 9 – 10 AM. Items most needed include: hamburger, chicken (thighs and breast meat), pasta (ziti, elbows, bowties), cheese (mozzarella, cheddar, parmesan), potatoes, fresh fruit (apples, oranges, bananas) and eggs. 2) Donate money through Thrivent Gift Cards. Place monetary donations in the offering plate or mail to the church. 3) Deliver meals. Sign up at https://www.newhanoverlutheran.org/loaves-fishes-food-ministry/.

NHELC Grief Share Group to Begin in January

No matter what the circumstances, grief is a painful process. GriefShare is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief. Over 13 weeks, you'll find relief and comfort as you learn what to expect in the days ahead and how to navigate your personal grief process.

Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way. Topics include how to manage grief-related emotions such as loneliness, anxiety, sadness, anger, and regret; how to cope with the changes in your life and relationships; how to recognize what's normal in grief; and what to do if you feel stuck or hopeless.

At a weekly GriefShare meeting, you will view a video featuring respected counselors, teachers, and healthcare professionals on grief-related topics. After that is a small-group discussion for sharing, support, and personal application of what you learned on the video.

You will receive a book to take home filled with valuable exercises for navigating your personal grieving process. We ask for a \$20 registration fee to cover the cost of the book. Scholarships are available.

Please join us: Wednesdays, beginning January 17th – we will have off the week of March 7th and conclude April 17th (Any cancellations due to weather will be added at the end).

Feel free to contact Nikki Young at

nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org or by calling the church office (leave a message if Nikki is unavailable) or visit griefshare.org, if you have questions or would like more information. You can register here

https://www.griefshare.org/groups/180046/registrations/new or speak to Nikki.

Prayer Requests

Long-term: Sarah Bowman, Keeley Staples, Logan Conley, Tina Farrell, Carol Buchholtz Yost

Shut-in: Penny Frymoyer

Military: Shawn Dietz, Michael McHugh, Kevin Dugan, Jason Bernhard, Craig Geiser, Patrick Mathias, Steven Kane, William Zearfoss, Will Wilson V, Milton Jack Repa, Megan Fricker, Kyle Woods

Peace for violence in our area and nationally

Toni Rath	Katy Mahon-Miller	Matt Hall
Luann Hanley	Carol Estes	William Trotter
Kathy Kane	Maxwell Girard	Pat Fryer
Jean Renninger	Pr. Kork Moyer	Betty Lou Shadle
Julia Hauck	Tony Mancini	Raul Castro
Amy LeVan	Jeffrey Kunsch	Wilma Lahr
Melissa	Bernadette Phillips	Mary Lou
Doug Weaver	Joan Wagner	Robert Ganovsky
Dorothy Bingaman	Emily Ocelus	Eric & Wendy Hess
Sue Care	Deb Matthews	Marceline
Anne Eshleman	Daniel Johnson	Chris Fatzinger
Hank Droneberg	Pena family	Kim Frain
Jen Perez	Frank D.	Pam Helfrich
Barb & Tom Faust	Andy Van Dyke	Janet
Pam Abbott	Holli Muffler	Louise Karns
Mary Van Dyke	Pr. Jennifer Phelps	Jessica Trout
Denny Smith	Verdie Smith	Mabel Gaugler
Sandy Wesner	Helen Foulke	Carla Hausmann
Joan Price	Rodney Snell	Betty Seroski
Ralph Borneman	Lucille Powell	Virginia Specht
Bill Lowry	Tom Fleagle	Mary Alice Mack
Jeffrey Weems	Joan Scheffey	Arnold Amundsen
Chuck Beck	Diane DeLong	

New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

2941 Lutheran Road Gilbertsville, PA 19525 Office Hours: Mon. – Fri., 9 AM – 2 PM Call 610-326-1335 for an appointment

Contact Information Pastor, The Rev. Scott Staub psstaub@gmail.com Director of Children, Family & Youth Ministry, Nikki Young nikki.young@newhanoverlutheran.org **Church Office Manager, Susan Gutshall** susan.gutshall@newhanoverlutheran.org **Director of Music Ministry, Patricia Nyce** patricia.nyce@newhanoverlutheran.org Food Ministry Director, Chris Fatzinger Cfatzinger@chris-cooks.com Grace Band Director, Lindsev Waltermyer goldielw@gmail.com Handbell Choir Director, Barbara Eisenhart eisenbarb@aol.com **Peer Support Recovery Ministry Team** peersupport@newhanoverlutheran.org Sexton, Jen Boyer jcboyer0408@gmail.com Bookkeeper, Maria Boyer mariaboyer@comcast.net Cemeterv Norm Hunsberger, nhunsberger29@gmail.com



ſend

Jesus comes for all

God sent Jesus for everyone all over the world, even people we don't know who live in places we've never heard of.

Color the continents, connect them together with hearts, and say a prayer of thanksgiving that Jesus' light shines all around the world!





At home, light four candles to celebrate the fourth week of Advent.

Thanks be to God that え Jesus comes for everyone everywhere! Amen

This week

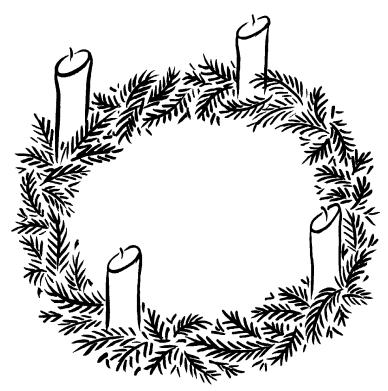
Each evening before bed, point to a spot on a map or globe. Pray for all people living in that place.



gather

Welcome to worship. Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent, and we continue to watch and wait for baby Jesus. It's almost time!

Color all four candles in the advent wreath shown below, then draw pictures of other things you have been waiting for during Advent.



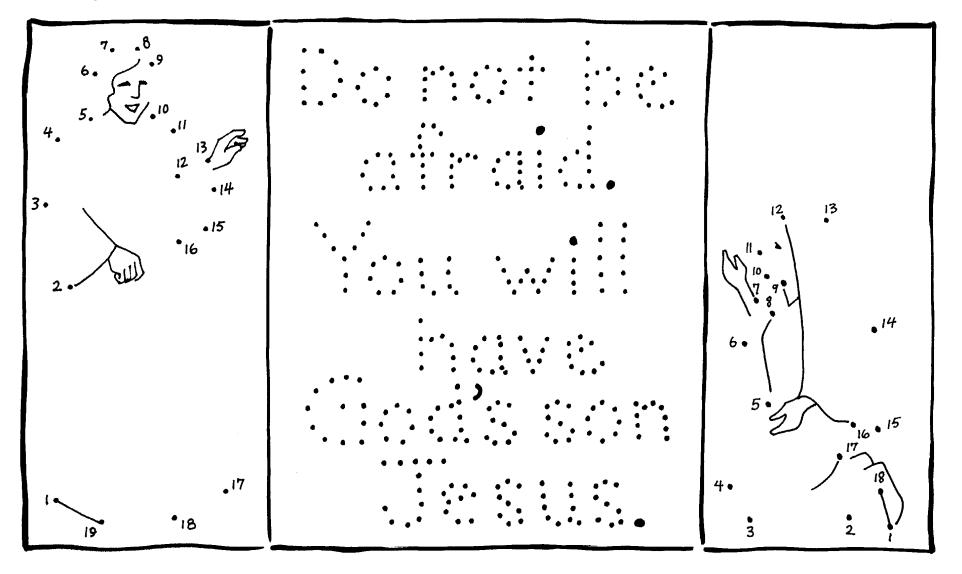
hear & celebrate

Gabriel Makes an Announcement

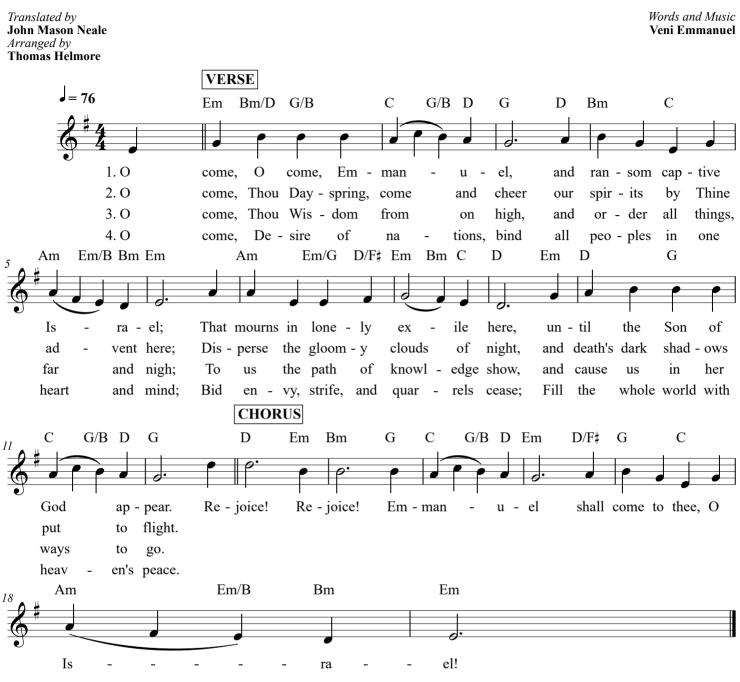
Luke 1:26-38

Who told Mary that she was going to have a baby? What was Gabriel's announcement? Who said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord"?

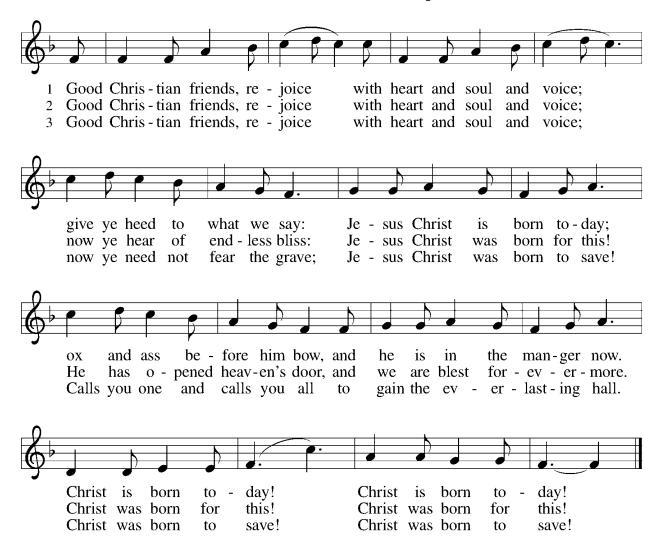
Listen to the gospel, and connect the dots to discover the answers to the questions, then read about it at home in the first chapter of Luke.



O Come **O** Come Emmanuel



Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866. Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent. Text and music are in public domain.

O Come All Ye Faithful (His Name Shall Be)

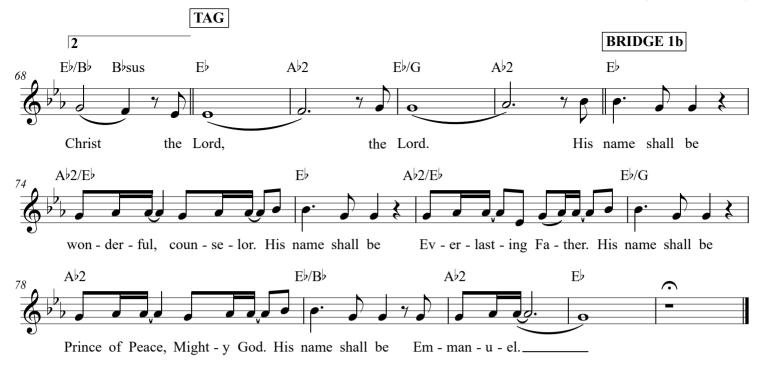
Original Translation and Music by C. Frederick Oakeley John Francis Wade (based on the recording by Passion, Feat. Melodie Malone)

Addt'l. Words and Music by Kristian Stanfill and JD Myers

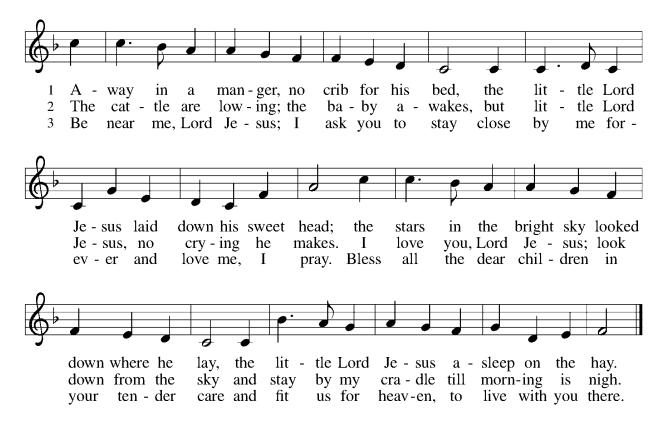


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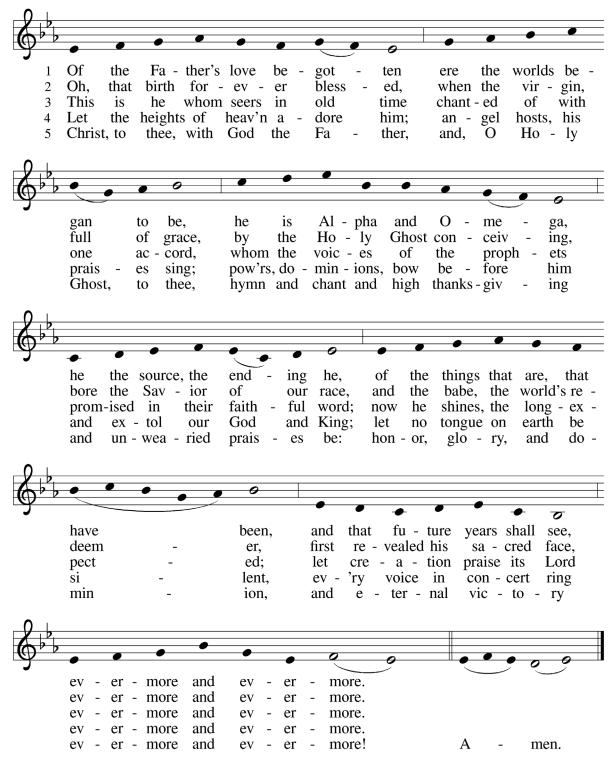


Away in a Manger



"Away in a Manger" Text: North American, 19th cent. Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841-1905. Text and music are in public domain.

Of the Father's Love Begotten



"Of the Father's Love Begotten" Text: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413; tr. Composite. Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, plainsong mode V, 13th cent. Arranged by Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Reprinted and streamed with permission under One License #A-701229.

Joy to the World



"Joy to the World" Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748. Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872. Text and music are in public domain.