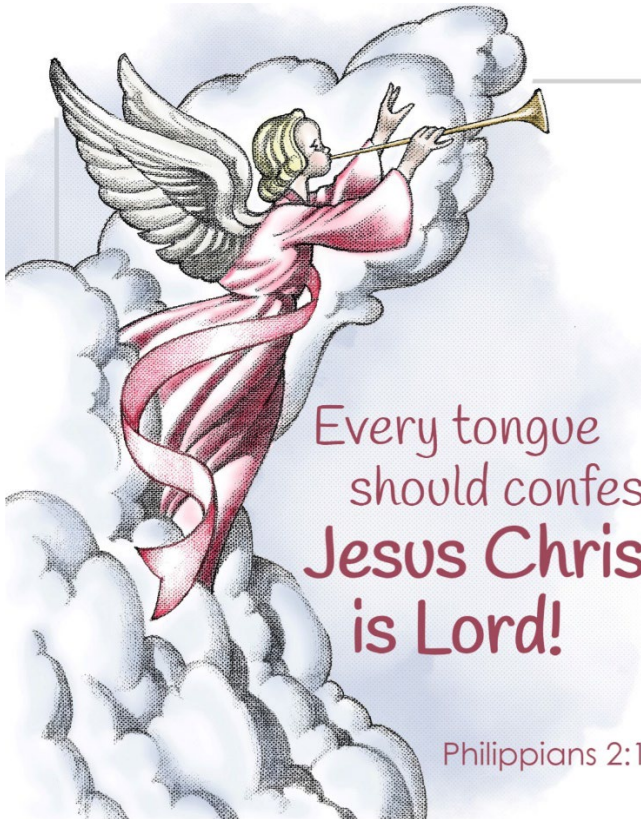


Welcome to worship at
New Hanover Evangelical Lutheran Church

Service of Lessons and Carols

December 31, 2023



The psalmist calls on the natural world, celestial bodies, fire and earth, creatures, and all humanity, to praise God. The voices of Simeon and 84-year-old Anna join the chorus today, recognizing what God is doing in Jesus. Simeon's song is often sung after communion, for we have seen God's salvation in the assembled community and have held Jesus in our hands in the bread. Then, like the prophet Anna, we tell of Jesus to all who look for the healing of the world.

**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](https://www.facebook.com/NewHanoverLutheranChurch)
and on YouTube.**

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

Welcome

Nancy Gross

From the beginning, through baptism, we are called Christian. We are "Christ-ened" at the font. Bearing Christ's name, we share the same Father and are invited to address this parent intimately: Abba! Jesus bears our sins in humble obedience to the will of God. Today we pray that the mind of Christ, whose name we bear, would be our own. It is a good way to begin again, another year.

Please rise as you are able.

Prayer of the Day

Nancy Gross

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.

Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Angels We Have Heard on High

ELW #289

Please be seated.

Lesson

Numbers 6:22-27

Sharon Wise

The Aaronic Blessing

²²The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ²³Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,

²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵the LORD make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you;

²⁶the LORD lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.

²⁷So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

Carol

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ELW #272

Lesson

Psalm 8

Barbara Noecker

¹O LORD, our Sovereign,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

²**Out of the mouths of babes and infants**

**you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,
to silence the enemy and the avenger.**

³When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;

⁴**what are human beings that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?**

⁵Yet you have made them a little lower than God,
and crowned them with glory and honor.

⁶**You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet,**

⁷all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,

⁸**the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**

⁹O LORD, our Sovereign,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Carol

Away in a Manger

ELW #277

Lesson Galatians 4:4-7 Donna Kehs
We are no longer slaves, but children

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Carol *It Came upon the Midnight Clear* ELW #282

Lesson Philippians 2:5-11 Nancy Gross
God takes on human form

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Please rise as you are able.

Carol *The First Noel* ELW #300

Lesson Luke 2:21-38 Sharon Wise
Jesus receives his name

²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴and they offered a

sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Please be seated.

Carol

In the Bleak Midwinter

ELW #294

Please rise as you are able.

Lesson

Matthew 2:1-11

Barbara Noecker

The magi follow the star

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.

Carol

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ELW #270

Blessings

Donna Kehs

God bless you and keep you,
Jesus grant you grace and truth,
and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
now and forever.

Amen.

Dismissal

Donna Kehs

Christ the Savior is born!

Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

O Come Rejoicing

Dan Forrest

arr. by Douglas E. Wagner

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Announcements

Today

The bulletin and flowers are sponsored to the glory of God and in memory of all their departed loved ones by Doug and Kathy Taylor.

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

Serving Next Sunday Head Usher: Steve Weidner; Ushers: Rick Hausch and Ryan Waltermeyer; Lector: Brenda Hunsberger; Children's Sermon: Donna Kehs; Acolyte: Norm Hunsberger; Communion Assistants: Leslie Gates and Brenda Hunsberger

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.

The Adult Sunday School Class will not be held today. Classes will resume next Sunday.

Update your information NHELCC 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

Food Delivery Pickup – Today, 10:00 AM, portico

Praise Band Rehearsal – Today, 11:15 AM, sanctuary

Scout Lock-in – Today, 7:00 PM – Monday, 9:00 AM

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

Addiction 12 Step – Wednesday, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, room 32

Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Wednesday, 6:30 – 7:45 PM, room
15

Property - Wednesday, 7:00 PM, room 33

God on Tap – Thursday, 6:00 PM, offsite

Handbell Choir Rehearsal – Thursday, 6:15 – 7:30 PM, room 15

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

J.A.M. – Next Sunday, 10:15 – 11:15 AM, room 21

Praise Band Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 11:15 AM, sanctuary

Kids Choir Rehearsal – Next Sunday, 11:20 – 11:50 AM, room
15

God on Tap Come to dinner at Main Street in Bally on Thursday, January 4th, at 6:00 PM. The discussion topic this month is, “multi-generational church families and friends AND newcomers. WHY? Come and find out! For more information, email Randy Dotterer at RDPTW6489@Gmail.com or call/text him at 610-306-0621.

Upcoming Events

Flutter will hold a lock-in at the church on Friday, January 12th, starting at 7:00 PM, to Saturday, January 13th, ending at 9:30 AM. All youth in 6th - 12th grades are invited! Bring a sleeping bag, pillow, toiletries, a snack to share, and a favorite game. This is

always a fun event! See Lindsey Waltermyer or Jen Boyer for more information.

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 held 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 stieven.weidner@gmail.com.

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 NHELCC 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 psstaub@gmail.com, or call him at 610-326-1335 ext. 1, or log on 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 <https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice>. 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 www.newhanoverlutheran.org. 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 on 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.

Join us on 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	Ally Musser & family

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, Lindsey 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

Cemetery

Norm Hunsberger, nhunsberger29@gmail.com



Send

Go in peace

Jesus has come, and we can live in peace.

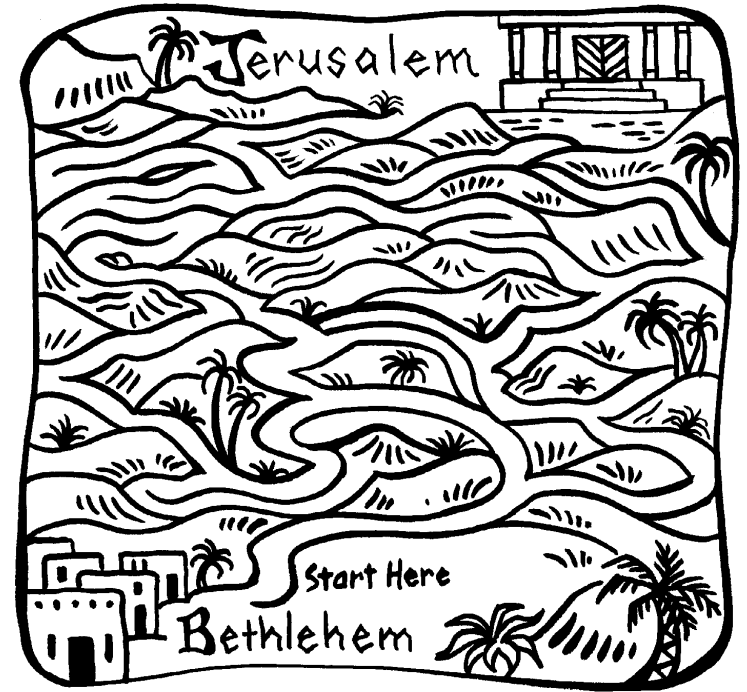
Draw a picture of what you think peace looks like, and hang it up at home.




gather

Welcome to worship.

When Jesus was eight days old, Mary and Joseph brought him from Bethlehem to the temple in Jerusalem for a special ceremony. Help them find their way through the hills to the temple.



 Jesus, Thank you for all the people who tell us about you. Amen

This week

Send a note of thanks or a drawing to someone who has talked to you about God.










How did you get to church today? How long did the trip take you? Who did you come with?







hear & celebrate








This is the Messiah!







Luke 2:22-40


Read the story, using the pictures to help you!

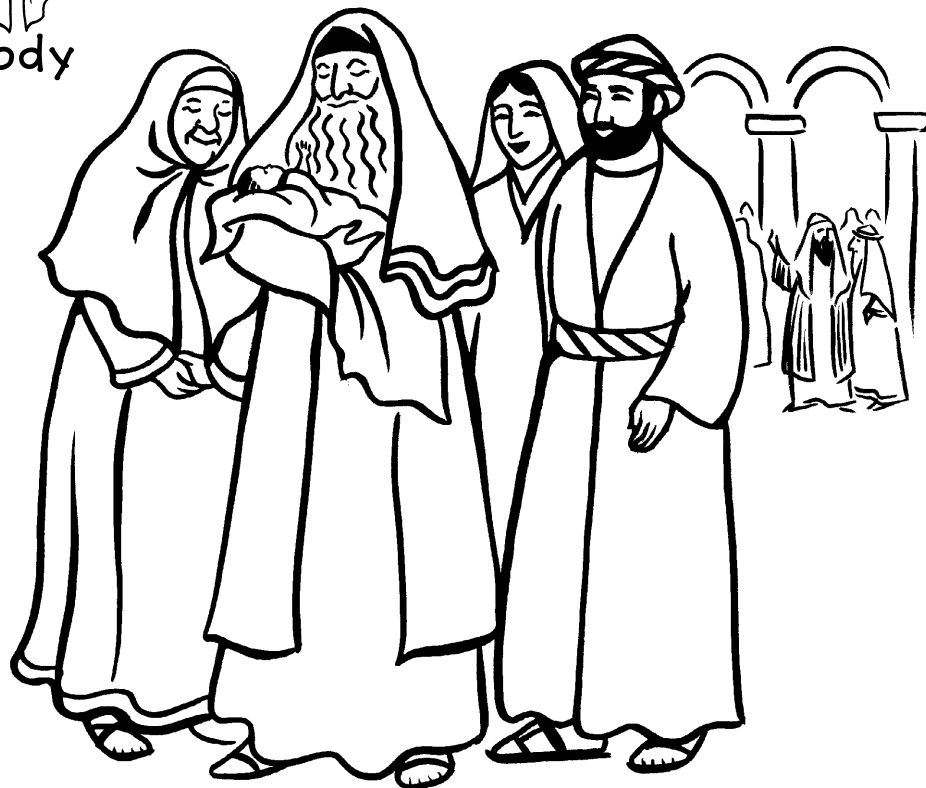
Code:  = Messiah  = Anna  = Simeon  = temple
 = Mary  = Joseph  = blessing  = Jesus  = peace

 and  brought  to the  when he was a tiny baby and there he received a very special  from an old man named  .

 and a very old prophet named  also said something important. They told everybody in the  that baby  was the  , God's Son, and a special  who would save all people everywhere and bring  to the world.

After meeting  and  in the  ,  and  and baby  returned home to Nazareth in Galilee.

 grew and became strong and wise, and God blessed him.



HAVE YOU BEEN IN ANY SPECIAL CEREMONIES AT CHURCH? WHAT WERE THEY? WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER ABOUT THEM?

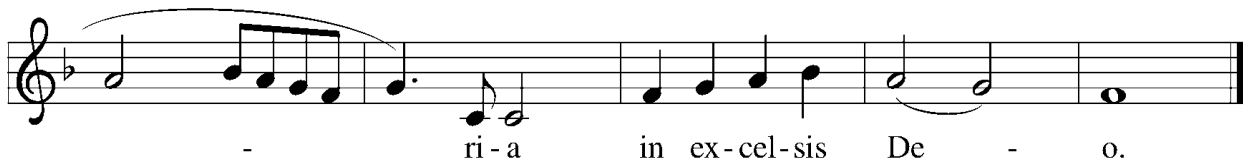
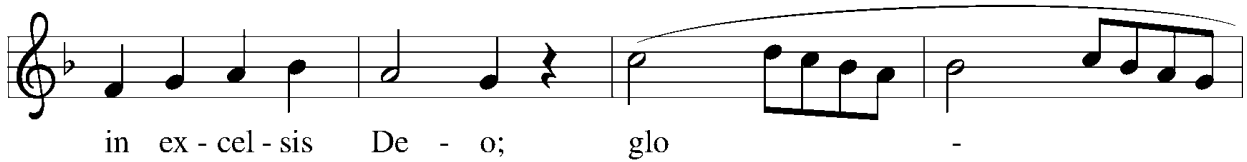
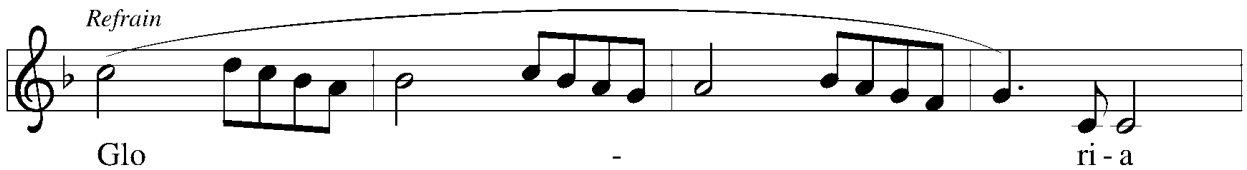
Angels We Have Heard on High



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 tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

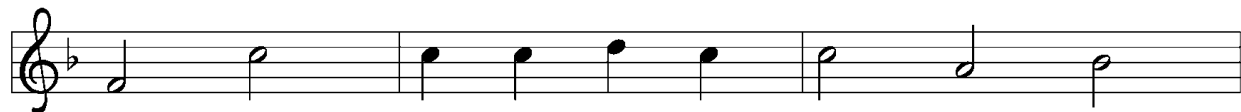


“Angels We Have Heard on High” Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, The Crown of Jesus Music, 1864. Music: GLORIA, French carol. Text and music are in public domain.

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath
 2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in
 3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the
 4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as
 mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the
 air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the
 woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who



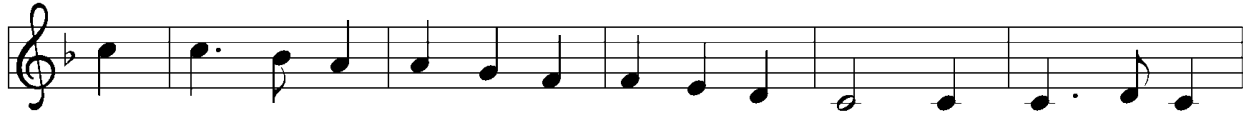
seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -
 vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she
 dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from
 dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to



mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
 bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
 sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming” Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851-1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845-1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876-1948, st. 4. Music: ES IST EIN ROS, Alte catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1599. Text and music are in public domain.

Away in a Manger



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
your ten - der care and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

"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.

It Came upon the Midnight Clear



- 1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
- 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
- 3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
- 4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear" Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876. Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819-1900. Text and music are in public domain.

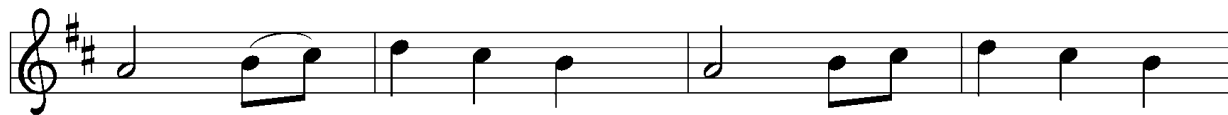
The First Noel



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



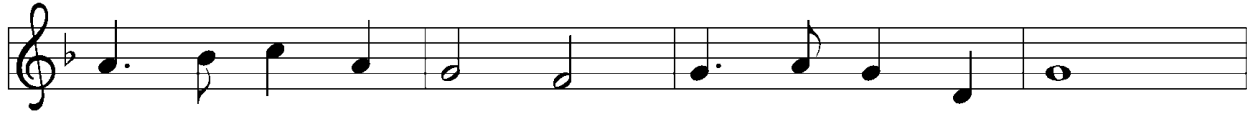
night that was so deep.
 tin-ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

"The First Noel" Text: English traditional. Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional. Text and music are in public domain.

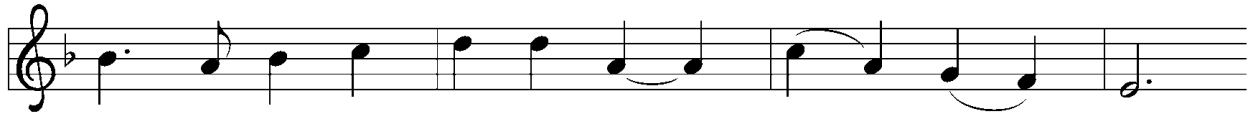
In the Bleak Midwinter



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
3 What . . . can I give him, poor as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

“In the Bleak Midwinter” Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830-1894. Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874-1934. Text and music are in public domain.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915. Text and music are in public domain.