

GOD GATHERS US FOR WORSHIP

God's Welcome and Responsive Call to Worship

One: Listen to the Spirit – he calls us to hope

All: Listen to the Spirit – he calls us to joy

One: Clap your hands, all you nations; Shout to God with cries of joy.

All: For the Lord Most High is awesome the great King over all the earth

One: Sing praises to God, sing praises;

ALL: Sing praises to our King, sing praises.

Songs of Praise and Worship:

Angels from the Realms of Glory (LUYH 81)

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
you, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant Light:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations; you have seen his natal star:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

Though an infant now we view him, he will share his Father's throne,
gather all the nations to him; every knee shall then bow down:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (LUYH 98)

Good Christian Friends rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

How Great Our Joy (LUYH 90)

While by the sheep we watched at night, glad tidings brought an angel bright.

Refrain:

***How great our joy! Great our joy! Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy!
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!***

There shall be born, so he did say, in Bethlehem a child today.

Refrain

There shall the child lie in a stall, this child who shall redeem us all.

Refrain

This gift of God we'll cherish well, that ever joy our hearts shall fill.

Refrain

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (LUYH 80)

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.

Mild, he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Advent Moment and Prayer

Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy

Advent Song:

Hope is a Star

Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on 'til the morning is nigh

Refrain:

***When God is a child, there's joy in our song
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong
and none shall be afraid.***

Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn telling the world that the Saviour is born

Refrain

GOD GIVES US HIS WORD

Message: "From Desolation to Joy"

Scripture: Isaiah 49:1-13

Song of Response:

Joy to the World (LUYH 92)

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns: let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

GOD SENDS US OUT TO SERVE

Prayers of the People

Offering: Christian Horizons

Benediction

Benediction Song: God, the Father of Your People (LUYH 927)

God, the Father of your people, you have called us to be one;
grant us grace to walk together in the joy of Christ, your Son.
Challenged by your Word and Spirit, blest with gifts from heaven above,
as one body we will serve you and bear witness to your love.
May the grace of Christ, our Saviour, and the Father's boundless love,
with the Holy Spirit's favour, rest upon us from above.
May we now remain in union with each other and the Lord,
and possess, in sweet communion, joys that earth cannot afford.