

From Heaven Above

Sunday School Christmas Program

December 17, 2017

11:00



PRELUDE “Pat-a-Pan”

Will Maxfield & Grant Maxfield
piano, duet

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN “Angels We Have Heard on High” *LSB 368*

Children: Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain Sung by Children: Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Congregation: **Shepherds, why this jubilee?**
Why your joyous strains prolong?

What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav’nly song? Refrain

Congregation: **Come to Bethlehem and see**
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. Refrain

THE INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

RESPONSIVE READING

Leader: From heaven above,

People: **The angels sing.**

Leader: On earth below,

People: **Our praises bring.**

Leader: Our Lord has come,

People: **With us to dwell.**

Leader: Now we go out:

People: **Good News to tell!**

ALL: Amen!

HYMN "What Child Is This" Congregation

LSB 370

**What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!**

**Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!**

**So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING "Silent Night"

*Noah Clark, trombone
Alyssa Hansen, trombone
Will Maxfield, clarinet
Bella Bracken, percussion*

THE MESSAGE PRESENTED BY THE CHILDREN

READINGS *Luke 2:1-7*

HYMN "Away in a Manger"

LSB 364

Preschool – 3rd Grade:

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Now in flesh appearing! Refrain

Congregation: Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest: Refrain

CHILDREN GRADES PRESCHOOL–3RD GRADE

Children: Angels filled the sky with light,
Singing out into the night:
God has sent His Son for all:
Find Him in a cattle stall.

Children: From heav'n above,
People: To earth in love!

HYMN "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" Congregation *LSB 358, v. 5–6*

Men ***"These are the signs that you shall mark:
The swaddling clothes and manger dark.
There you will find the infant laid
By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."***

Women *How glad we'll be to find it so!
Then with the shepherds let us go
To see what God for us has done
In sending us His own dear Son.*

READINGS *Luke 2:15-20*

HYMN "Where Shepherds Lately Knelt" Congregation *LSB 369, v. 1–2*

**Where shepherds lately knelt and kept the angel's word,
I come in half-belief, a pilgrim strangely stirred;
But there is room and welcome there for me,
But there is room and welcome there for me.**

**In that unlikely place I find Him as they said:
Sweet newborn babe, how frail! And in a manger bed:
A still, small voice to cry one day for me,
A still, small voice to cry one day for me.**

CHILDREN GRADES 4–8

Children: The shepherds marveled at the Word.
Their minds were shocked; their hearts were stirred.
They ran to see this wonder new:
The Savior born for me and you!

And when they saw the promised Lord,
Their joy and adoration soared.
They spread the news both far and wide:
Across the quiet countryside!

Children: From heav'n above,
People: To earth in love!

HYMN "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" *LSB 358, v.13–14*

Men Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
***Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart
For You to dwell within my heart.***

Women My heart for very joy must leap;
*My lips no more can silence keep.
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue
That sweetest ancient cradlesong.*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

ANTHEM "Coventry Carol" *Anna Clark, piano*

CHILDREN GRADES 4–8

Children: From heav'n above, our Lord came down
To wear for us a thorny crown.
He died to save us from our sin;
He rose again, our life to win!
The angels came, great news to tell.
The shepherds saw Immanuel.
Now, we can share the truth we know
As messengers, where'er we go.

Children: From heav'n above,
People: To earth in love!

HYMN "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" Children *LSB 358 v. 15*

Children: Glory to God in highest heav'n,
Who unto us His Son has giv'n!

While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.

ANTHEM “Good King Wenceslas”
RESPONSIVE READING

Bella Bracken, piano

Leader: From heaven above,
People: **The angels sing.**

Leader: On earth below,
People: **Our praises bring.**

Leader: Our Lord has come,
People: **With us to dwell.**

Leader: Now we go out:
People: **Good News to tell!**

Leader: The angels gave
Children: *Good News to tell!*

Leader: The shepherds ran
Children: *Good News to tell!*

Leader: Now we go out:
People: **Good News to tell!**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us now pray for the Church of God and for all people according to their needs. Ever-present and comforting Lord, we pray for all those who have doubts and fears, suffering and sadness, grief and sorrow. As you affirmed John the Baptist and others that You are the true God to come to His people, we now also lift up in prayer all who wait in their time of need. We pray for the sick, [*especially . . .*], who wait for healing and recovery.

People: **Come, Lord Jesus, with Your healing Spirit.**

Pastor: We pray for the grieving who in their loss wait with heavy hearts.

People: **Come, Lord Jesus, bring hope to those who feel hopeless.**

Pastor: We pray for all who experience transitions in jobs, relationships, and are in the middle of conflict or change, who wait for peace and security.

People: **Come, Lord Jesus, and grant Your steadfast presence in times of change.**

Pastor: We pray for nations and people waiting for peace,

People: **Come, Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, and bring justice to all.**

Pastor: We pray for those who sit in darkness, waiting to hear the Good News of forgiveness, hope, and life through Your Word,

People: **Come to them in Your Word, and use us as witnesses and instruments through Your Spirit.**

(Special Petitions)

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Pastor: We pray:

All: 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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord above is with you wherever you go. May the peace of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you every day as you tell of His love to others.

People: Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN “Go Tell It on the Mountain” Congregation LSB 388

**Refrain: Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev’rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!**

**While shepherds kept their watching
O’er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. Refrain**

**The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior’s birth. Refrain**

**Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. Refrain**

Copyright © 2017 Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118-3968, 1-800-325-3040 • www.cph.org
All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without purchasing this product from Concordia Publishing House. Through this registered purchase, your congregation is allowed to adapt and duplicate the contents for your local, one-time Christmas-service use.

Written by Lisa M. Clark

Edited by Lisa A. Krenz

Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Hymns marked *LSB* are from *Lutheran Service Book*, copyright © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

“Where Shepherds Lately Knelt” text copyright © 1986 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Manufactured in the United States of America