Christmas Eve December 24, 2022



Worship – 4:00 pm



www.riverofhopehutchinson.org

Gathering

O Come, All Ye Faithful



Welcome

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the community of the Holy Spirit is with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth.

Amen.

In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

we confess our sin before you.
We replace compassion with competition.
We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek.
We are quick to anger but slow to forgive.
We have not put on love in harmony with you.
Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word.
Swaddle our hearts with your peace,
that all we do, in word or deed,
may reflect your love born among us.
Amen.

I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord.

In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace.

Amen.

Song: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Greet Someone New

Music to bring us back together: (refrain of Angels We Have Heard on High)

THE STORY

(Reader): Our story and God's story continues today with a reading from The Gospel of Luke chapter 2 verses 8-14.

(Reader): Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them,

(Side 1): "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

(Side 2): This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

(Reader): And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

(Side 1): "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

(Reader): When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

(Side 2): "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

(Reader): So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told

them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

(Reader): Stay tuned for the continuing saga that is our story and God's story.

(ALL): Thanks be to God.

Children's Time

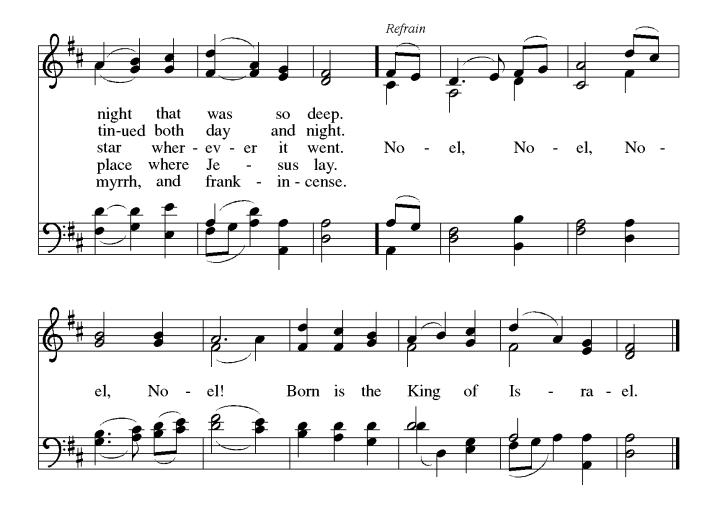
Song of the Day – "We Have Seen the Messiah"



Christmas Skit – "The Light of Christmas" by Richard Paul Evans

Scene 1: Song "The First Noel" verse 1-2





Text: English traditional

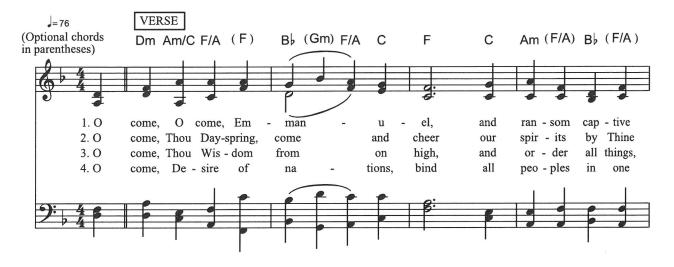
Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional; arr. John Stainer, 1840–1901

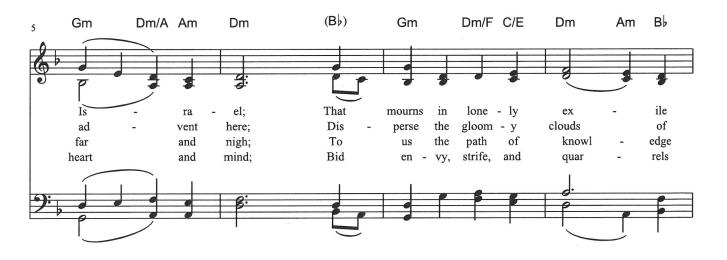
Scene 2: Song - "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" vs. 3

O come, green shoot of Jesse, free
Your people from despair and apathy;
Forge justice for the
poor and the meek,
Grant safety for the
young ones and the weak. Refrain

O Come O Come Emmanuel

Translated by John Mason Neale Words and Music Veni Emmanuel Arranged by Thomas Helmore







Scene 3 Song: "Joy to the World" Verse 1, 4

Joy to the World



Scene 4

Song: "Joyous Light..." verse 1-2

Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory



Text: Greek hymn, 3rd cent., para. Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen
Text and music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

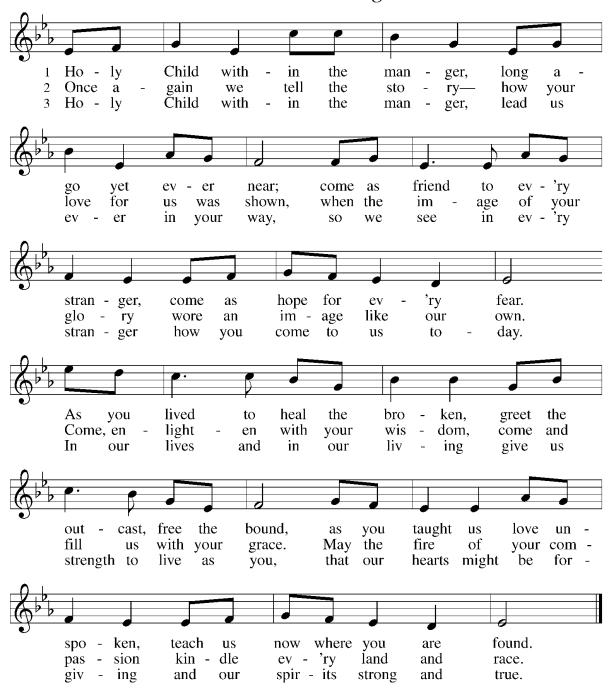
The Feast

Offering

All that we have and all that we are comes from God. Let us give back to God in a spirit of generosity. There will be enough. Please put your offering of gratitude to God in the plate as it passes by. Prayerfully consider giving a consistent financial gift to River of Hope so our community cannot just survive but thrive.

Music during Offering – "Holy Child Within the Manger"

Holy Child within the Manger Carol at the Manger



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Text and music @ 1987 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

The Feast

Setting the Table the children lead us as we sing together: Gloria, in Excelsis Deo! (2X)

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord is with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

As we gather in this place, we remember, that in the night when Jesus was betrayed by his best friends, he took bread. He blessed it and broke it and gave it to these same friends saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup, blessed it and gave it for all to drink saying, "This is the new covenant, the new promise, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me." Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

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.

This is Christ's table. It's a table of love and welcome. It's a table of fellowship with the poor and communion with the earth.

So, come, those of you with great faith and those of you who wish you had more. Come, those of you who have tried to follow Jesus and those of you who have failed. Come, those of you who depend on this meal for your lives, and those of you for whom it is a strange thing.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

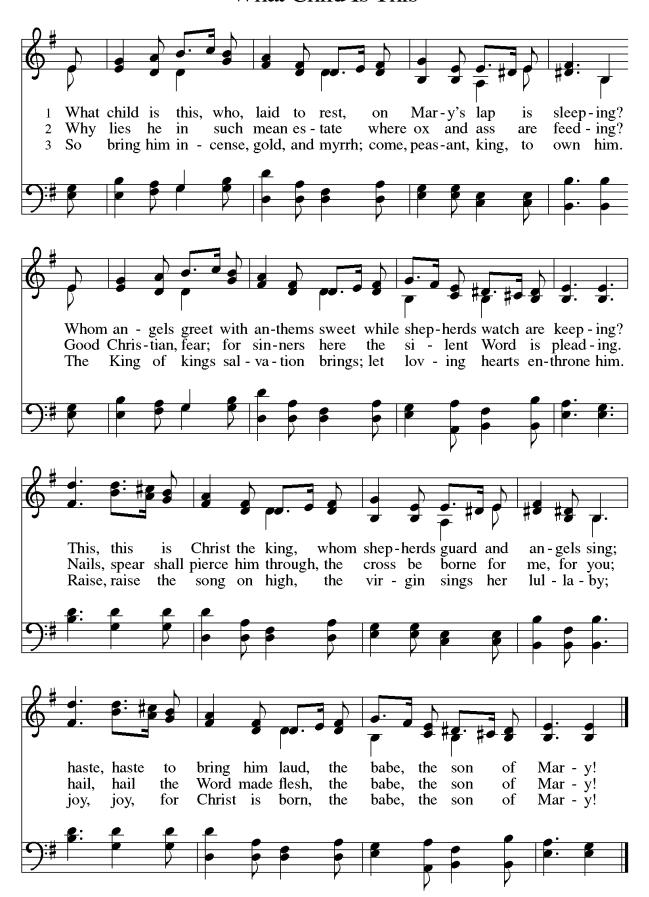
Communion Song: "Away in a Manger" and "What Child is This"

Away in a Manger



Text: North American, 19th cent. Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905

What Child Is This



Prayer after Communion
We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus,
God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine.
As we have shared this feast of love,
strengthen us to share your love with all the world.
In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

The Sending

Litany before Candle Lighting for Silent Night

(Pastor): Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

(ALL): For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

(Pastor): The People who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

(ALL): God so loved the world that God gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. Jesus said, "I am the Light of the World, whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

The Pastor, taking a large candle, lights it from the Christ Candle, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the World. The light is passed to the ushers. Pastor reminds congregation that they are to dip the unlit candle

Silent Night

Ushers will come forward and light their candles off the pastor's candle and then proceed down the aisles. Please hold the lit candle upright and dip the unlit candle into the flame.

Silent Night, Holy Night!



Blessing
Almighty God,
who proclaimed joy through the angels,
sent the shepherds with good news,
raised Jesus from the dead,
and meets us in the face of the stranger
bless you this day + through the Word made flesh.

Amen.

Sending Song
Go Tell It on the Mountain

Go Tell It on the Mountain



Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt. Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

Go in peace – serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Music to Send You Out

Music to Send You Out