

Calvary United Methodist Church

Sunday, December 13, 2020; 10:15 am

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Dee Freeman

Call To Worship

We come to worship Christ
who proclaims good news to the poor,
binds up the broken-hearted,
frees the prisoner
and comforts those who mourn.

We come to worship Christ
who bestows a crown of beauty instead of ashes,
the oil of joy instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

We come to worship Christ
who rebuilds ancient ruins
and restores broken places.¹

Invocation of the Spirit

Opening Hymn

Jesus, Name Above All Names

See the next page for the lyrics.

First Testament Lesson:

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

“The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.”

“For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting

¹ — written by Phil Whyte, Holy City Planning Group, and posted on the Church of Scotland’s [Starters for Sunday](#) website.

covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.” (Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11, NRSV)

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

We want everything to look nice: the decorations of the season, our homes with their lights and tinsel, wreaths and ribbons. We want to lighten the darkness around us, bring beauty to the ugliness that wears us down. We decorate, because it is tradition. Because it lifts our hearts. Because it makes us feel like children again. We deck our halls because company is coming.

The prophet Isaiah smiled when he said, “God will give a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.” No matter how far we feel from the spirit of the season, God promises to decorate us with love and with joy.

We light these candles as a sign of our joy in the beautiful things of this season – not just the things that glitter and flash, but the deeper things, the beauty of the heart and the soul, the beauty of love shared in service and hospitality. We light this candle of joy because company is coming.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

Declaration of Praises

Sharing of Prayer Concerns

Prayer Time

Scripture Lesson

John 1:6-8, 19-28

“God sent a man, John the Baptist, to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light.” “This was John’s testimony when the Jewish leaders sent priests and Temple assistants from Jerusalem to ask John, “Who are you?” He came right out and said, “I am not the Messiah.” “Well then, who are you?” they asked. “Are you Elijah?” “No,” he replied. “Are you the Prophet we are expecting?” “No.” “Then who are you? We need an answer for those who sent us. What do you have to say about yourself?” John replied

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in the words of the prophet Isaiah: "I am a voice shouting in the wilderness, 'Clear the way for the LORD's coming!' " Then the Pharisees who had been sent asked him, "If you aren't the Messiah or Elijah or the Prophet, what right do you have to baptize?" John told them, "I baptize with water, but right here in the crowd is someone you do not recognize. Though his ministry follows mine, I'm not even worthy to be his slave and untie the straps of his sandal." This encounter took place in Bethany, an area east of the Jordan River, where John was baptizing." (John 1:6-8, 19-28, NLT)

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Williams

Company's Coming: Deck The Halls

Closing Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

See the next page for the lyrics.

Benediction

Jesus, Name above All Names

2071

Je - sus, name a - bove all names, beau - ti - ful
Sav - ior, glo - ri - ous Lord. Em - man - u - el, God is
with us, bless - ed Re - deem - er, liv - ing Word.

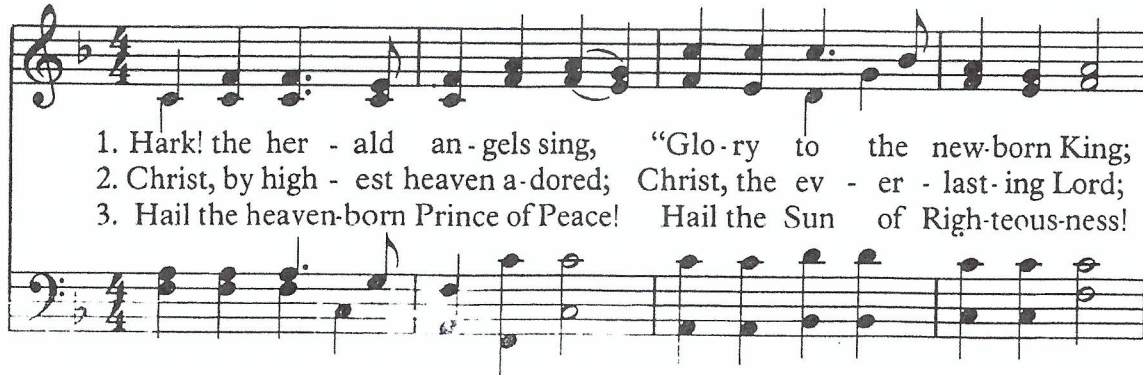
The musical notation consists of three staves in G major, 12/8 time. The first staff contains the melody for 'Je - sus, name a - bove all names, beau - ti - ful'. The second staff continues with 'Sav - ior, glo - ri - ous Lord. Em - man - u - el, God is'. The third staff concludes with 'with us, bless - ed Re - deem - er, liv - ing Word.' The lyrics are printed below the notes.

WORDS: Naida Hearn (Matt. 1:23; John 1:14; Phil. 2:9)
MUSIC: Naida Hearn

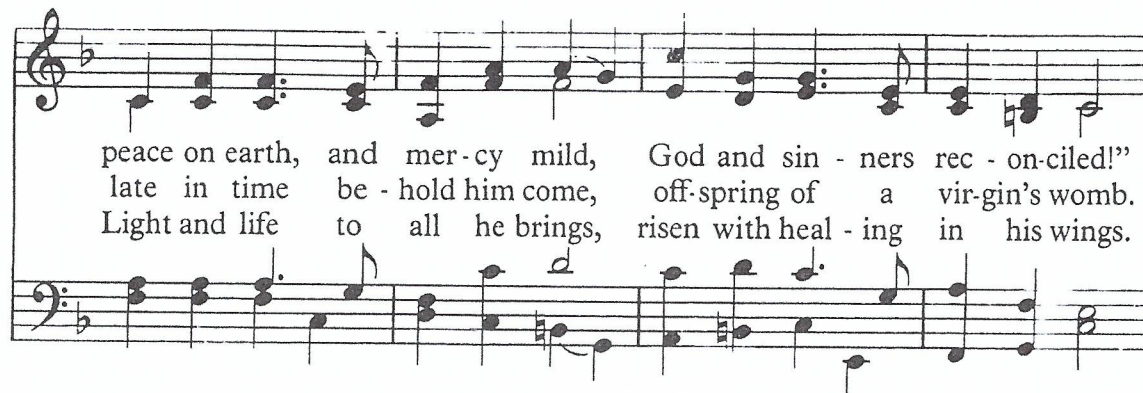
NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES
Irregular

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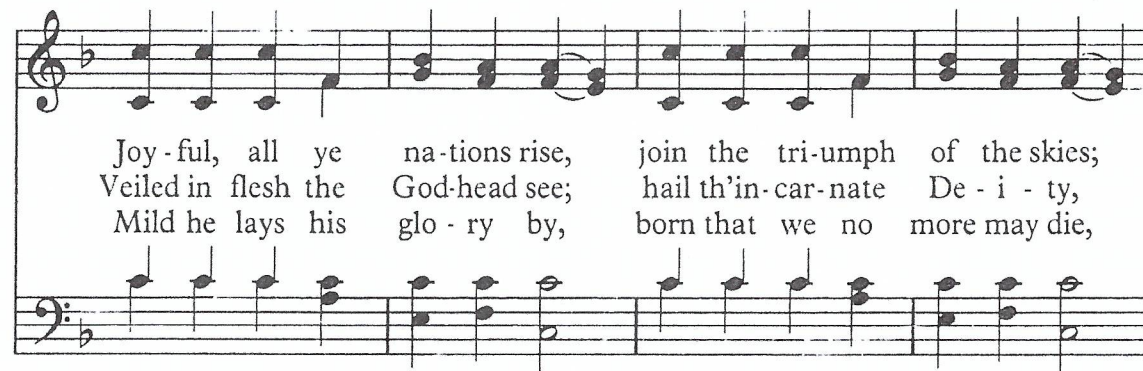
Hark! the Herald Angels Sing



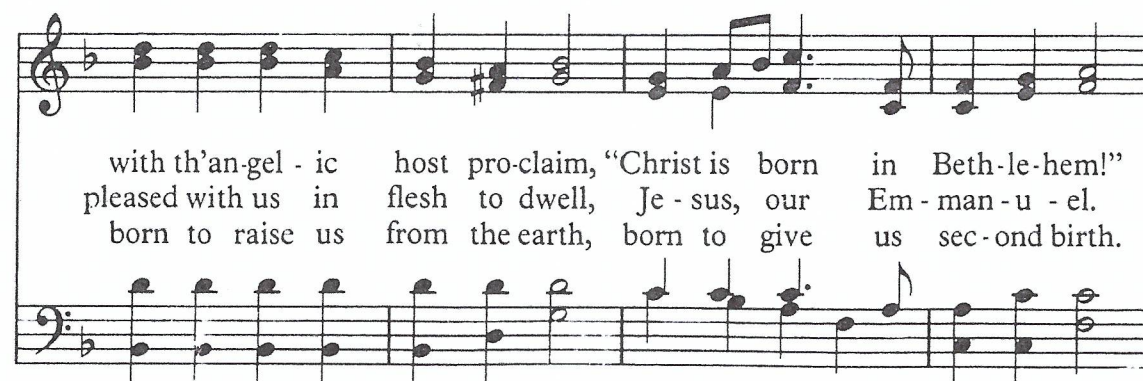
1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;
 2. Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored; Christ, the ev - er - last-ing Lord;
 3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



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, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

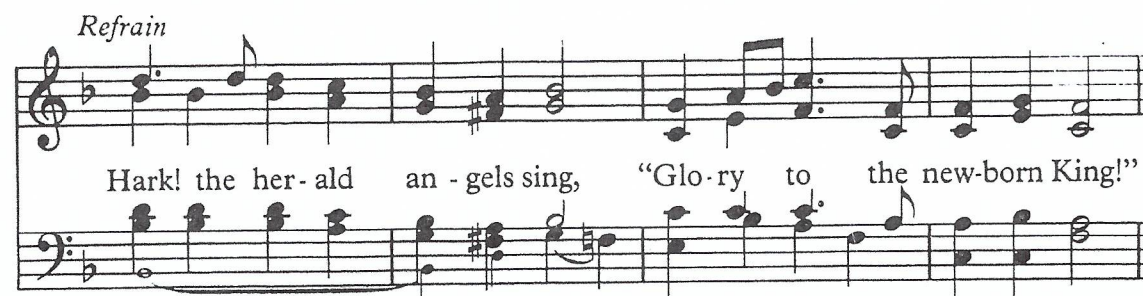


Joy - ful, all ye na-tions rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'in-car-nate De - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with th'an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!"
 pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain



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

Announcements

- Condolences:
 - Sympathy is extended to Dave Alwine-Passmore and family on the death of his daughter, Courtney Alwine, on November 22.
 - Sympathy is extended to family and friends of Georgann Schropp who passed away on December 1.
- We would like to deplete our inventory of holiday nuts; if you can help us do that, it will be appreciated. They are in the chapel. Call Myrna at 535-1236 to access building if you don't have a key.
 - 3 bags of Almonds @ \$10 a bag
 - 4 bags of Pistachios @ \$11 a bag
 - 2 bags of Harvest Medley @ \$11 a bag
- WE DID IT!! A BIG THANKS to all who helped us get gifts purchased for our 70 foster care children. Kate Miller, Missi Johnson, and Myrna Rudnik will be in the sanctuary around 2pm today to check-off gifts and get them ready for pick-up by Professional Family Care tomorrow. If you haven't already done so, please try to drop them off this afternoon.
- The January/February Upper Room devotional booklets and the December/January/February Daily Bread devotional booklets are now available. They are in the book rack at Bheam Ave. entrance if you can access the building. If not, call Myrna in the office and she will mail you a copy.

