

## Christmas Eve 7:30 p.m. Service - Lyrics

### A CELTIC NOEL – Chancel Choir (A call to worship)

Noel, noel! The heavens are ringing.  
Creation is singing as angels take wing.  
Noel, noel! Let great jubilation resound through creation to welcome the king.

Sing alleluia, alleluia! Gloria, Gloria! Glory to God!

Noel, noel! The song is beginning with praise and thanksgiving.  
Sing “Jesus is born.”

Noel, noel! The angels are praising.  
The shepherds are raising their voice to the sky.  
Noel, noel! Lay gifts now before Him.  
Come kneel and adore Him, the Savior divine.

Sing alleluia, alleluia! Gloria, Gloria! Glory to God.

Noel, noel! God’s light is upon us.  
His Word is among us, for Jesus is born.

*(Not the tune you know...)*

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav’n’s all-gracious King.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the glorious angels sing!

Sing noel! Noel, noel! The heavens are ringing.  
Creation is singing as angels take wing.  
Noel, noel! Let great jubilation resound through creation to welcome the King.  
Sing alleluia, alleluia! Gloria, Gloria! Glory to God!

Noel, noel! The song is beginning with praise and thanksgiving.  
Sing Gloria, Gloria, Gloria! Glory to God!  
Sing noel! Sing noel! Sing noel!

**BELL CHOIR:** Patapan

Willie, bring your little drum;  
Robin, bring your fife and come;  
And be merry while you play,  
Tu-re-lu-re-lu,  
Pat-a-pan-a-pan,  
Come be merry while you play,  
Let us make our Christmas gay!

When the men of olden days  
To the King of Kings gave praise,  
On the fife and drum did play,  
Tu-re-lu-re-lu,  
Pat-a-pan-a-pan,  
On the fife and drum did play,  
So their hearts were glad and gay!

God and man today become  
More in tune than fife and drum,  
So be merry while you play,  
Tu-re-lu-re-lu,  
Pat-a-pan-a-pan,  
So be merry while you play,  
Sing and dance this Christmas day!

O Come All Ye Faithful - Chancel Choir & Memorial Bell Choir

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold him, born the King of angels.  
*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;  
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest.

*{Refrain}*

6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given.  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *{Refrain}*

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

### **Lesson**                      *The Prophecy of Peace - Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.  
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.  
They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

### **AN ADVENT GARDEN** – Choir anthem

A tender rose is blooming, a flower pure as snow.  
The winter air perfuming, heaven's graceful winds will blow.  
The gift of love sent from above will like a garden grow.

The desert sands will come alive as streams begin to flow.  
The barren lands will bloom and thrive. The hills will be made low.  
In ev'ry place, God's gift of grace will like a garden grow.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the earth lift its voice;  
For a new rose is blooming in Zion.  
Let the garden rejoice.

The lion and the lamb will rest. The bear will feed on straw.  
In Zion hope will reign at last. A Child will lead them all.  
The gift of peace will be released and like a garden grow.

Then peace, like a garden, will grow.

### **Lesson**    *The Angel Visits Mary - Luke 1:26-35, 38*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.  
And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."



## Carol

### *Joseph Heard the Troubling News*

1. Joseph heard the troubling news: Mary was expecting!  
What should he, a just man, do? He sought God's directing.  
Joseph thought to send her home — leave her, without blaming;  
Then an angel in a dream spoke of joy, proclaiming:
2. Go, take Mary as your wife; Joseph, don't you fear it —  
God has formed a precious life by the Holy Spirit!  
Mary soon will bear a son; you shall name him Jesus.  
When the prophet spoke of him, he said, "God is with us!"
3. God of love, we too may face times of doubt and trouble.  
May we know your daily grace, even when we struggle.  
Just as Joseph answered, "Yes!" with new dedication,  
We rejoice, for we've been blessed by your incarnation.

## Lesson

### *The Birth of Jesus - Luke 2:1-7*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered.

This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

All went to their own towns to be registered.

Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.

He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child.

And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

## **INNKEEPER** – Chancel Choir

Oh, Mary, I know you're tired but there's no room at the Inn.

Oh, Mary, I'll try once more, maybe he'll fit us in.

Innkeeper, innkeeper, do you have room for my wife with child?

Innkeeper, innkeeper, can you make room for the meek and mild?

Oh, Mary, sorry is he... there is no room today.

Oh, Joseph, please try once more. I'll wait behind and pray.

Innkeeper, innkeeper, please don't say no. We've traveled far you see.

Innkeeper, innkeeper, how could you know a King he's destined to be.

Innkeeper, innkeeper, what's that you say? A stable lined with straw?

Innkeeper, innkeeper, where will he lay? With friendly beasts in awe.

Innkeepers, innkeepers, innkeepers all. Do you have room for the child?

Innkeepers, innkeepers, won't you make room for the Holy Child.

Innkeepers, innkeepers, innkeepers all! Do you have room for the child?

Lesson

*The Shepherds and the Angels - Luke 2:8-14*

In that 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,

“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.

This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

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

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!”

Carol

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

UMH 238

1. Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

*Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?

*Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

3. Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

*Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

Lesson

*The Shepherds and the Angels (continued)*

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’

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.

Carol

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

UMH 240

1. Hark! the Herald Angels Sing, “Glory to the new-born King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”*

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold him come, off-spring of a virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th’incarnate Deity,  
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”*

3. 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!"

Sermon

Rev. Vicky Starnes

OFFERING

Still, Still, Still

Bell Choir

Still, still, still one can hear the falling snow  
For all is hushed, the world is sleeping  
Holy Star its vigil keeping  
Still, still, still one can hear the falling snow.

Sleep, sleep, sleep 'tis the eve of our Savior's birth  
The night is peaceful all around you  
Close your eyes let sleep surround you  
Sleep, sleep, sleep 'tis the eve of our Saviour's birth

Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come  
While guardian angels without number  
Watch you as you sweetly slumber  
Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come

COMMUNION

\*The Great Thanksgiving

Vicky

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.  
Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them up to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.  
You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth.  
You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.  
When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.  
You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God,  
and spoke to us through your prophets.  
In the fullness of time you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our savior,  
and at his birth the angels sang  
glory to you in the highest and peace to your people on earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.  
(Please be seated)

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.  
As Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem

Todd

and there found no room,  
so Jesus went from Galilee to Jerusalem and was despised and rejected.  
As in the poverty of a stable Jesus was born,  
so by the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection  
you gave birth to your Church,  
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,  
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

As you Word became flesh, born of women, on that night long ago,  
so, on the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,  
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Vicky

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

Todd

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,  
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

#### The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

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. Amen.

#### Sharing Bread and Cup

Music during Communion    *O Holy Night* ... Adolphe Adam                      Chancel Choir  
O holy night, the stars are brightly shining, it is the night of our dear Savior's birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

Fall on your knees. Oh hear the angel voices. O night divine. O night when Christ was born.  
O night divine! O night, O night divine.



Truly he taught us to love one another. His law is love and his gospel is peace.  
Chains shall he break for the slave is our brother, and in his name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, let all within us praise his holy name!

Fall on your knees. Oh hear the angel voices.  
O night divine. O night when Christ was born.  
O night divine! O night, O night divine.

Communion Carols *Away in a Manger* UMH 217

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.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes;  
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray;  
bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

*It Came upon the Midnight Clear* (vs. 1, 2 & 4) UMH 218

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

For lo! The days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,  
when with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold  
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

***We give candles to everyone in the congregation, turn out the lights and sing:***

Carol *Silent Night* UMH 239

1. Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright, round yon virgin, mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.
2. Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia!" Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!
3. Silent night, holy night, son of God, love's pure light; radiant beams from thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.
4. Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

**Benediction**

\*Sending Forth Carol *Joy to the World* (verses 1, 2 & 4) UMH 246

1. 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.

2. Joy to the world, the Savior 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.
4. 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, and wonders of his love.