

**Once in Royal David's City**

- 1 **Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.**
  
- 2 **He came down to earth from heaven,  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable,  
And His cradle was a stall;  
With the poor and mean and lowly  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.**
  
- 4 **And our eyes at last shall see Him,  
Through His own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heav'n above;  
And He leads His children on  
To the place where He is gone.**

**INVOCATION, RESPONSES AND COLLECT**

**P** In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** *Isaiah the prophet declares (Is. 12:1-6) I will praise you, O LORD. Although you were angry with me, your anger has turned away and you have comforted me.*

**C** **Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.**

**P** With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

**C** **Isaiah the prophet says: "Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted."**

**P** Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.

**C** **Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.**

**P** Let us pray . . . one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*It Came upon the Midnight Clear*

- 1 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, goodwill to all,  
From heav’n’s all-gracious king.”  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.
  
- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come  
With peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heav’nly music floats  
O’er all the weary world.  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hov’ring wing,  
And ever o’er its babel sounds  
The blessèd angels sing.
  
- 4 For lo, the days have come to pass  
By prophets seen of old,  
When down into the circling years  
Came Christ as was foretold.  
His word of peace shall to the earth  
God’s ancient promise bring,  
And all who take this gift will hear  
The song the angels sing.

## FIRST LESSON

*Genesis 3:8–19**Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

- 1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel’s strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
Dear desire of ev’ry nation,  
Joy of ev’ry longing heart.
  
- 2 Born Thy people to deliver;  
Born a child and yet a king!  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all-sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

## SECOND LESSON

*Isaiah 9:2, 6–7*

### *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

- 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear. Refrain

*Refrain:* Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

- 2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who ord'rest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go. Refrain
- 4 O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,  
Free them from Satan's tyranny  
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. Refrain

## THIRD LESSON

*Isaiah 11:1–3a; 4a; 6–9*

### *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

- 1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming  
As prophets long have sung,  
It came, a flow'ret bright,  
Amid the cold of winter,  
When half-spent was the night.
- 2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
The rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it,  
The virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
She bore to us a Savior,  
When half-spent was the night.
- 3 This flow'r, whose fragrance tender  
With sweetness fills the air,  
Dispels with glorious splendor  
The darkness ev'rywhere.  
True man, yet very God,  
From sin and death He saves us  
And lightens ev'ry load.

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary,  
And, gathered all above  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the king  
And peace to all the earth!
- 3 How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming;  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him, still  
The dear Christ enters in.

## FIFTH LESSON

*Luke 1:26–35, 38*

## CHOIR

*Sing of Mary, Pure and Lowly*

## SIXTH LESSON

*Luke 2:1, 3–7*

## CHOIR

*Born This Night*

## SEVENTH LESSON

*Luke 2:8–16**Angels from the Realms of Glory*

- 1 Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

*Refrain:* Come and worship, come and worship;  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

2 Shepherds in the field abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
Yonder shines the Infant Light. Refrain

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations,  
Ye have seen His natal star. Refrain

## EIGHTH LESSON

*Matthew 2:1–12*

## CHOIR

*Watchman, Tell Us of the Night*

## NINTH LESSON

*John 1:1–14*

### *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*

- 1 “From heav’n above to earth I come  
To bear good news to ev’ry home;  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,  
Whereof I now will say and sing:
- 2 “To you this night is born a child  
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;  
This little child of lowly birth  
Shall be the joy of all the earth.
- 3 “This is the Christ, our God Most High,  
Who hears your sad and bitter cry;  
He will Himself your Savior be  
From all your sins to set you free.

## SERMON

Expect Great Things From Jesus!  
Matthew 11:2-15

## OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

### *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

- 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: Refrain

Refrain: 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,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God  
In the highest: Refrain**

**4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing! Refra**

## **PRAYER AND BENEDICTION**

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.  
(After each petition . . . ) Lord, in your mercy,

**C** Hear our prayer.

**P** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray.

### **Lord's Prayer**

**C** 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.

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus . . . be with you all

**C** Amen.

## *Joy to the World*

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
  
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men 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, wonders of His love.



### **Altar Flowers**

Altar Flowers are given this weekend by Don & Gayla Ohde for Don's birthday on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Choral Music Acknowledgments**

*"Still, Still, Still,"* by Ed Dickerson  
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