



## **Children's Christmas Service December 22, 2024**

### Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful – TLH #102

**1. Oh, come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him  
Born the king of angels.**

**Refrain:**

**Oh, come, let us adore Him,  
Oh, come, let us adore Him,  
Oh, come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!**

**2. Highest, most holy,  
Light of Light eternal,  
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;  
Son of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing! [Refrain]**

**P:** The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

### Confession & Absolution: WS p. 12

**P:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

**C: Amen**

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

### Song of Thanksgiving: WS p. 10

**C: Thank the Lord; sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name. Thank the Lord; sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Send us with Your promises, Lord; lead Your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Thank the Lord; sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

P: Let us pray.

### Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God, grant that the birth of your one and only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### The Christmas Account - Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup> But she was greatly troubled at the

saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>

And the angel said to her,

**Kaylee:** *“Do not be afraid, You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus.*

<sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

<sup>34</sup> And Mary said to the angel,

**Xeona:** *“How will this be, since I am a virgin?”*

<sup>35</sup> And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God.” <sup>38</sup> And Mary said,

**Xeona:** *“I am the Lord's servant*

let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

### From Heaven Above to Earth I Come – TLH #85

**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.**

**15. 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.**

## Matthew 1:18-20

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

**Kyle:** *“She will give birth to a son and you are to give him the name Jesus because he will save his people from their sins.”*

## Gentle Mary Laid Her Child – LSB #374

### **1. Gentle Mary laid her child**

**Lowly in a manger;  
There He lay, the Undefined,  
To the world a stranger.  
Such a babe in such a place,  
Can He be the Savior?  
Ask the saved of all the race  
Who have found His favor.**

### **3. Gentle Mary laid her child**

**Lowly in a manger;  
He is still the Undefined  
But no more a stranger.  
Son of God of humble birth,  
Beautiful the story;  
Praise His name in all the earth;  
Hail the King of glory!**

## Luke 2:1–20

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup> And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from

the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup> to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

O Little Town of Bethlehem – TLH #647

**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.**

<sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth.

A Great and Mighty Wonder – TLH #76

**1. A great and mighty wonder,**

**A full and holy cure:**

**The virgin bears the infant**

**With virgin honor pure!**

**Refrain:**

**Proclaim the Savior's birth:**

**"To God on high be glory**

**And peace to all the earth!"**

**2. The Word becomes incarnate**

**And yet remains on high,**

**And cherubim sing anthems**

**To shepherds from the sky. [Refrain]**

**4. Since all He comes to ransom,**

**By all be He adored,**

**The infant born in Beth'lem,**

**The Savior and the Lord. [Refrain]**

<sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Away in a Manger – LSB #364

Children:

1. 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.

**Congregation:**

**2. 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.**

**3. 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 take us to heaven to live with Thee there.**

<sup>8</sup> And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup> And the angel said to them, **Xeona:** *“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great Joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a child has been born to you. Christ the Lord.”*

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear – LSB #366

**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.**

**3. All you, beneath your heavy load,  
By care and guilt bent low,  
Who toil along a dreary way  
With painful steps and slow:  
Look up, for golden is the hour,  
Come swiftly on the wing,  
The Prince was born to bring you peace;  
Of Him the 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.**

<sup>12</sup> And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace goodwill towards men!”

To Shepherds as They Watched by Night – TLH #103

**1. To shepherds as they watched by night**

**Appeared a host of angels bright;  
Behold the tender Babe, they said,  
In yonder lowly manger laid.**

**2. At Bethlehem, in David's town,  
As Micah did of old make known;  
'Tis Jesus Christ, your Lord and King,  
Who doth to all salvation bring.**

<sup>15</sup> When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

**Kyle and Olivia:** “*Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.*”

<sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup> And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup> And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.



Hark the Herald Angels Sing – TLH #94

**1. Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"**

**Refrain:**

**Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

**2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel! [Refrain]**

**3. Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth. [Refrain]**

*Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From there 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.**

What Child is This – LSB #370

**1. 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!**

**2. Why lies He in such mean estate  
Where oxen now are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear;  
For sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through;  
The cross He'll bear for me, for you.**

## Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the Son of Mary!

### Matthew 2:1-12

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem,<sup>2</sup> saying,

**Brandt, Brax and Azena:** *“Where is the one who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star in the East and have come to worship him.”*

<sup>3</sup>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup>“And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

<sup>7</sup>Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” <sup>9</sup>After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup>And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

**3. 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!**

*Gathering of Offerings*

Prayer of the Church

P: Oh gracious and almighty Father, we praise you that you kept your ancient promises by sending your everlasting Son in human flesh.

**C: On this festive day, receive our thanks and devotion, our songs and prayers.**

P: You sent Jesus as a lowly child to demonstrate your concern for all, the weak and lonely, the troubled and frightened, the timid and helpless. No one is overlooked by your ever-seeking eyes. No one is excluded from your upholding arms. No one is denied the comfort and help of your outstretched hand.

**C: Bless us with a childlike faith in the divine assurance that you love and care for us always.**

P: You sent Jesus as the Savior of the world to deliver all from the curse of sin, the power of death, and the torment of hell. He took our place. He was born under the law to set us free. He became the innocent lamb of sacrifice. He came to die and rise again in order that we might live eternally. Firmly implant this good news in our hearts, and fill us with an eager desire to spread the Word concerning what we have heard today.

**C: May all who hear the message, in every nation under heaven, be amazed and believe what is told them about the child.**

**P: You sent Jesus as the Light of the world to drive out all darkness that would rob us of the full life that you intend for us. May the “joy that will be for all people” be our joy. May the “peace on earth goodwill toward men” be our peace. May the treasure that Mary pondered in her heart be our treasure.**

**C: For today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to us. He is Christ, the Lord. Amen.**

Silent Night – TLH #646

**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,  
Heav'nly 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.**

## Lord's Prayer & Blessing

### Joy to the World – TLH #87

**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.**

Unless otherwise marked the text of all hymns were public domain. Streaming License: Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014283.