

O COME, LET US ADORE HIM!

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2024



ALL SOULS
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome & Call to Worship

Hymn No. 208 · **O Come, All Ye Faithful**+

+Please stand as you are able.

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.

God of God, Light of Light;
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created;

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God in the highest;

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning:
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing;

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord.

Text: Latin hymn, attr. to John Francis Wade (1751), tr. by Frederick Oakeley (1841), alt.

Music: John Francis Wade's Cantus Diversi (1751) · Public Domain.

First Lesson

God announces that the seed shall bruise the serpent.

Scripture Reading · **Genesis 3:8–15**

Hymn No. 196 · **Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

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.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Dayspring from on high, appear;
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth;
"Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories knew no end;
By his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

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.

Text: St. 1, 4 Charles Wesley (1744). St. 2–3 Mark E. Hunt (1978) · Music: Rowland Hugh Pritchard (1855)
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Music: Public Domain.

Second Lesson

God promises that Abraham's seed shall bless the nations.

Scripture Reading · **Genesis 22:15–18**

Hymn No. 194 · **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

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

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

(continued)

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by thy drawing night;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Key of David, come
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Text: Latin antiphons (12th cent.), Latin hymn (1710), Tr. by John Mason Neale (1851), alt. 1961
Music: Plainsong (13th cent.), arr. Thomas Helmore (1856) · Public Domain.

Third Lesson

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

Scripture Reading · **Isaiah 9:2, 6–7**

Hymn No. 195 · **Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come+**

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let every 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.

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.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

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.

Text: Based on Psalm 98; Isaac Watts (1719)
Music: George Frederick Handel (1742), arr. Lowell Mason (1836) · Public Domain.

Fourth Lesson

The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem.

Scripture Reading · **Micah 5:2-4**

Hymn No. 201 · **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

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.

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 men on earth.

(continued)

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.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

Text: Phillips Brooks (1868) · Music: Lewis H. Redner (1868) · Public Domain.

Fifth Lesson

The angel Gabriel salutes the virgin Mary.

Scripture Reading · **Luke 1:26–35**

Hymn No. 221 · **Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming**

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
As men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

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 men a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.

The shepherds heard the story,
Proclaimed by angels bright,
How Christ, the Lord of glory,
Was born on earth this night.
To Bethlehem they sped
And in the manger found him,
As angel heralds said.

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 Savior, child of Mary,
Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of glory,
Who dost our weakness know,
Bring us at length, we pray,
To the bright courts of heaven
And to the endless day.

Text: German hymn, ca. 1500, St. 1-2 tr. by Theodore Baker (1894), St. 3-4 tr. by Harriett R. Spaeth (1875)
St. 5 tr. by John C. Mattes (1914) · Music: German melody (15th cent.), arr. by Michael Praetorius (1609), alt.
Public Domain.

Sixth Lesson

Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus.

Scripture Reading · **Matthew 1:18–23**

Hymn No. 211 · **God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen+**

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray;
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

From God our heav'nly Father, a blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

(continued)

“Fear not, then,” said the angel, “let nothing you affright;
This day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in him from Satan’s pow’r and might.”
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding, in tempest, storm, and wind:
And went to Bethlehem straightway, the Son of God to find.
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

Text: English carol (18th cent.) · Music: English melody (18th cent.) · Public Domain.

Seventh Lesson

The shepherds go to the manger.

Scripture Reading · **Luke 2:1–16**

Hymn No. 216 · **Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**

Infant holy, infant lowly,
For his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ, the babe, is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
Noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Christ the babe is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping: shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
Praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you.
Christ the babe was born for you.

Text: Polish carol, paraphrased by Edith M. G. Reed (ca. 1925) · Music: Traditional Polish melody
Public Domain.

Eighth Lesson

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

Scripture Reading · **Matthew 2:1–11**

Hymn No. 226 · **As with Gladness Men of Old+**

As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious God, may we
Evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped
To that lowly cradle bed,
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
At that cradle rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy,
Pure, and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heav'nly King.

Holy Jesus, ev'ry day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds thy glory hide.

(continued)

In the heav'nly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown,
Thou its sun which goes not down;
There for ever may we sing
Alleluias to our King.

Text: William Chatterton Dix (1860), alt. 1961
Music: Conrad Kocher (1838), arr. by William H. Monk (1861) · Public Domain.

Ninth Lesson

John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation.

Scripture Reading · **John 1:1–14**

Hymn No. 210 · **Silent Night! Holy Night!**

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.

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!

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.

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!

Text: Traditional English, adapted by William C. Dix (ca. 1865)
Music: English melody (16th century) · Public Domain.

Christmas Commission

Hymn No. 207 · **Good Christian Men, Rejoice**•

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Earth and heav'n before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Latin hymn, attr. to John Francis Wade (1751), tr. by Frederick Oakeley (1841), alt.
Music: John Francis Wade's Cantus Diversi (1751) · Public Domain.

Commission & Benediction



Worship with Us!

Sundays @ 10:30am

202 W Illinois St, Urbana

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Scott Morrison · **Daniel Thies** · **David Thies**

Deacons: **Larry Knox** · **Mark Wenneborg**