



PROGRAM

Greeting & Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn: *Once In Royal David's City*
Words: Cecil Alexander; Music: Henry Gauntlett

Verse 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.

Verse 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 meek, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

Verse 3

Jesus is our childhood's pattern; day by day, like us He grew.
He was little, weak, and helpless. tears and smiles like us He knew.
And He feels for all our sadness; and He shares in all our gladness.

Verse 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 heaven above.
And He leads His children on to the place where He has gone.

First Lesson: John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

First Carol:***O Come, All Ye Faithful***

Words: F. Oakeley; Music: John F. Wade

Verse 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

Chorus

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Verse 2

God of Gods, Light of light eternal,
Lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb.
Very God, begotten, not created.

Chorus

Verse 3

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

Chorus

Verse 4

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning.
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.

Chorus

Second Lesson: Genesis 3:1-15

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field;

on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

Second Carol: ***O Come, O Come, Emmanuel***
Latin Plainsong chant; 13th C, anon.

Verse 1 ***[Men sing]***
O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

Chorus ***[All sing]***
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Verse 2
O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave. ***Chorus***

Verse 3
O come, Thou Dayspring, from on high,
And cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. ***Chorus***

Verse 4
O come, Desire of nations bind
All peoples in one heart and mind.
Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease;
Fill all the world with heaven's peace. ***Chorus***

Third Lesson: Genesis 22:1-18

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together. When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided." And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

Third Carols: *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!*

Words: John Mason Neale; Trad German carol

Verse 1

Good Christian friends, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before Him bow and He is in the manger now.
Christ is born today, Christ is born today.

Verse 2

Good Christian friends, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this.
He has opened heaven's door and we are blessed forevermore.
Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this.

Verse 3

Good Christian friends, 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.

Fourth Lesson: *Isaiah 7:14, 9:2,6-7*

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel...The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone...For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Fourth Carol: *Joy To The World*

Words: Isaac Watts; Music: George F. Handel

Verse 1

Joy to the world, the Lord has 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.

Verse 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.

Verse 3

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.

Verse 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.***

Fifth Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-9

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,

and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf 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 cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Fifth Carol: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: R.H. Prichard

Verse 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 every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Verse 2

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.

Verse 3

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.

Sixth Lesson: *Luke 1:26-38, 46-49*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 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, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" 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. 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. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her...And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

Sixth Carol: *What Child Is This*

Words: W. C. Dix; Music: Trad. English Folksong

Verse 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.**

Verse 2

Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear, for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
**Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh;
The Babe, the Son of Mary.**

Verse 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.

[Repeat]

Seventh Lesson: Micah 5:1-2, Luke 2: 1-7

[Micah 5] Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops; siege is laid against us; with a rod they strike the judge of Israel on the cheek. But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

[Luke 2] In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. 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, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 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.

Seventh Carol: *O Little Town Of Bethlehem*

Words: Phillips Brooks; Music: Lewis Henry Redner

Verse 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.

Verse 2

For Christ is born of Mary and gathered all above;
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth.
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

Verse 3

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.

Eighth Lesson: Luke 2: 8-16

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

Eighth Carol: *Hark The Herald Angels Sing*

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: Felix Mendelssohn

Verse 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 th'angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King!

Verse 2

Christ by highest heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King!

Verse 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.
Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King!

Ninth Lesson: 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, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: "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." Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. 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." 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. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. 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. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Ninth Carol: *Silent Night*

Words: Joseph Mohr; Music: Franz Gruber

Verse 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.

Down in a lowly manger,
The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.

[Chorus]

Blessing



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and all of the
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Finally, to all of YOU: Thank you for
joining
us today!***

If you are not connected to a local church, and would like to know more about a life of faith in Jesus Christ, please reach out to any of us here, or contact us at any of the following:

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Joy To The World; & Merry Christmas To All!