

CHRISTMAS DAY

CHOIR Rose of Bethlehem

There's a Rose in Bethlehem with a beauty quite divine;
Perfect in this world of sin, on this silent holy night.

There's a fragrance, much like hope, that it sends upon the wind,
Reaching out to ev'ry soul, lowly manger's crib.

Oh, Rose of Bethlehem, how lovely, pure, and sweet,
Born to glorify the Father, born to wear the thorns for me.

There's a Rose in Bethlehem; colored red like mercy's blood.
'Tis the flower of our faith. 'Tis the blossom of God's love.
Though its bloom is fresh with youth, surely what will be, he knows.
For a tear of morning dew is rolling down the Rose.
Oh, Rose of Bethlehem, lovely, pure, and sweet,
Born to glorify the Father, born to wear the thorns for me.

Oh, Rose of Bethlehem, how lovely, pure, and sweet, Born to glorify the Father, born to wear the thorns for me, Born to wear the thorns for me.

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming, when half-spent was the night. Oh, Rose of Bethlehem.

WORDS OF WELCOME



Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, alt.; John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786 Tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

Please stand, if you are able

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.

For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For sins of habit and sins of choice,

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

ABSOLUTION

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



- 1 Now sing we, now re joice, now raise to heav'n our voice;
- 2 Come from on high to me; I can not rise to thee.
- 3 Now through his Son doth shine the Fa-ther's grace di vine.
- 4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n-ly ground,



he from whom joy stream - eth poor in a man-ger lies; Cheer mv wea - ried spir - it, 0 pure and ho - ly Child: and van - i - tv Death was reign - ing o'er us through sin where the an - gels sing - ing with all his saints u - nite,



so bright - ly beam - eth the sun in yon - der skies. not mer - it, blest Je - sus, Lord most mild, thy grace and thro' o - pened till for a bright e - ter - ni - ty. sweet - est prais - es bring - ing in heav'n - ly joy and light.



Oh,

that we

were

there!

Text: tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–1874, alt.; Latin and German, 14th cent. Tune: German, 14th cent., alt.

there!

that we were

Text and tune: Public domain

Oh,

THE WORD

Please stand, if you are able

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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

Amen.

Please be seated

First Reading

Exodus 33:18-23; 34:5-7

¹⁸Then Moses said, "Please show me your glory."

¹⁹The LORD said, "I will make all my goodness pass in front of you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD in your presence. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will show mercy to whom I will show mercy." ²⁰He said, "You cannot see my face, for no human may see me and live."

²¹The LORD also said, "Look, there is a place next to me, where you shall stand on the rock. ²²It will happen that, while my glory passes by, I will put you in a crevice in the rock. I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will take away my hand, and you will see my back. But my face will not be seen."

⁵The LORD came down in the cloud. He took his stand there with Moses and proclaimed the name of the LORD. ⁶The LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed: "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, and overflowing with mercy and truth, ⁷maintaining mercy for thousands, forgiving guilt and rebellion and sin. He will by no means clear the guilty. He calls their children and their children's children to account for the guilt of the fathers, even to the third and the fourth generation."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

361 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

CW 361



Text: John W. Work II, 1873–1925, verses, alt.; African American spiritual, refrain Tune: African American spiritual

us

an - gel cho-rus

Second Reading

rang out

and God sent

Text and tune: Public domain

the

Romans 8:31-32

birth.

morn.

³¹What then will we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him?

that hailed our Sav-ior's

sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR Joy Has Dawned

Joy has dawned upon the world, promised from creation—God's salvation now unfurled, hope for ev'ry nation.

Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory,
But a humble gift of love—Jesus born of Mary.

Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels
As the mighty Prince of life shelters in a stable.

Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in darkness,
Cling now to a bother's breast—vuln'rable and helpless.

Shepherds bow before the Lamb, gazing at the glory.

Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story.

Gold—a king is born today; incense—God is with us;

Myrrh—his death will make a way, and by his blood he'll win us.

Gospel John 1:1–18

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him everything was made, and without him not one thing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind. ⁵The light is shining in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man, sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as an eyewitness to testify about the light so that everyone would believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light.

⁹The real light that shines on everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, yet his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, to those who believe in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. ¹³They were born, not of blood, or of the desire of the flesh, or of a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and dwelled among us. We have seen his glory, the glory he has as the only-begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵John testified about him. He cried out, "This was the one I spoke about when I said, 'The one coming after me outranks me because he existed before me." ¹⁶For out of his fullness we have all received grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. The only-begotten Son, who is close to the Father's side, has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!



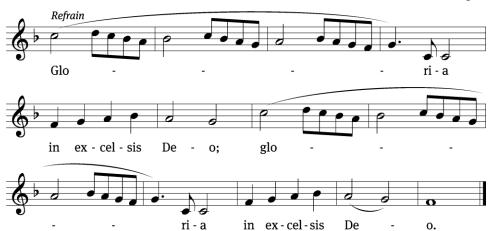
CW 346



- 1 An gels we have heard on high, sweet ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep-herds, why this ju bi lee? Why your joy ous strains pro long?
- 3 Come to Beth le hem and see him whose birth the an gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re-ply, ech-o-ing their joy-ous strains. What the glad-some ti-dings be which in-spire your heav'n-ly song? come, a-dore on bend-ed knee Christ the Lord, the new-born King.



Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, Part 2, 1862, alt.; French Tune: French

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMONETTE *EXODUS* 33:18–23; 34:5-7

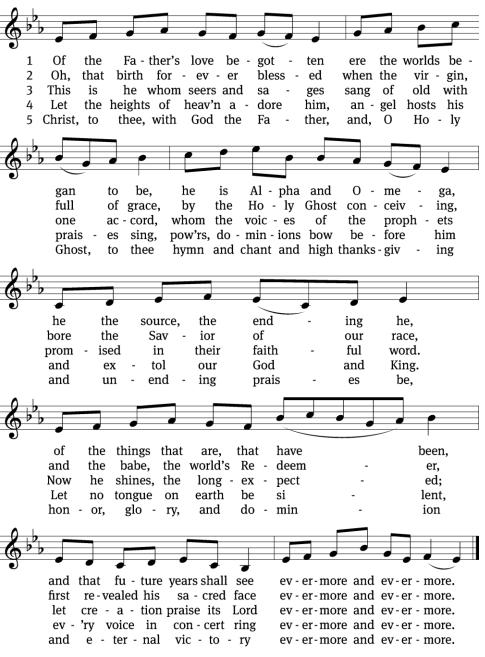
Please stand, if you are able

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.



Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-c. 413, abr.; (sts. 1-4): tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.; (st. 5): tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877, alt. Tune: plainsong, 13th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with his favor and give you peace.

Amen.



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748 Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Officiant	Pastor Pappenfuss
Organist	Sarah Hanke
Preservice Organ	David Robertson
Instrumentalist	
Choir Director	Sarah Hanke
Choir Accompanist	Laura Sala
Deacons	Dave Stevenson and Gary Knowlton
Altar Guild	Sharon Boswell and Judy Lindemann
Videographer	Jeff Neuburger

