God has led us here
on this
Christmas morning!

Announcements

Call to Worship

"Earthed"

a poem by Jeremy Williams

Rise and Whisper to your neighbor:

"Christ is born, Joy to the World"

Rise and Whisper to your neighbor:

"Christ is born, Joy to the World"

Joy to the world

Hymnal #318
words by Isaac Watts, 1719 altered
music from Handel,
by Lowell Mason, 1836

1.
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.

2.
Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their our songs employ
While fields & floods, rocks, hills, & plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

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.

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.

Christmas Morning Prayer

(ends with Lord's Prayer)

written by Rev. Thom M. Shuman,
currently interim Pastor at
Galloway Presbyterian Church near Columbus, Ohio.

Isaiah 52:7-10

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Go tell it on the mountain

an African-American spiritual

refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.

1.

While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light.

refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.

2.

The shepherds feared and trembled,
when lo! above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed the Savior's birth.

refrain:
Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.

3.
Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.

refrain:
Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.

Sharing a joy,
a concern,
a word of testimony
or praise

I heard the bells on Christmas day

words by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 1863
music by John Baptiste Calkin, 1848

1.
I heard the bells on Christmas day
their old familiar carols play.
And mild and sweet the words repeat,
of peace on earth, good will to men.

2.
I thought how as the day had come,
the belfries of all Christendom
Had roll'd along th' unbroken song
of peace on earth, good will to men.

3.
And in despair I bow'd my head:
"There is no peace on earth," I said,
"For hate is strong, and mocks the song
of peace on earth, good will to men."

4.
Then pealed the bells more loud & deep:
"God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
with peace on earth, good will to men."

5.
'Til ringing, singing on its way,
the world revolved from night to day,
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime,
of peace on earth, good will to men!

Pastoral Prayer

Titus 2:11-14

from *The Message*
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Returning our
Tithes and Offerings

Luke 2:1-20
a responsive reading

from the *New Revised Standard Version* Bible,
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One:
In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

Everyone:
All went to their own towns
to be registered.

One:
Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

Everyone:
While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

One:
In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them,

Another:
"Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

One:
And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,
Everyone (loudly!):
"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

One:
When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

Everyone:
"Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

One:
So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

Everyone:
But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.
One:
The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Message:
"To treasure and ponder"

Children, go where I send thee

a traditional African-American spiritual

Children, go where I send thee!
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you -
1 by 1 - 1 for the little bitty baby
that's born, born, born in Bethlehem.

Children, go where I send thee!
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you -
2 by 2 - 2 for Paul and Silas
1 for the little bitty baby
that's born, born, born in Bethlehem.

Children, go where I send thee!
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you -
3 by 3 - 3 for the Hebrew children
2 for Paul and Silas
1 for the little bitty baby
that's born, born, born in Bethlehem.

Children, go where I send thee!
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you -
4 by 4; 4 for the 4 that stood at the door
3 for the Hebrew children
2 for Paul and Silas

1 for the little bitty baby
that's born, born, born in Bethlehem.

Children, go where I send thee!
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you -
5 by 5; 5 for the gospel preachers
4 for the 4 that stood at the door
3 for the Hebrew children

2 for Paul and Silas
1 for the little bitty baby
that's born, born, born in Bethlehem.

Children, go where I send thee!
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you -
6 by 6; 6 for the 6 that never got fixed
5 for the gospel preachers
4 for the 4 that stood at the door

3 for the Hebrew children
2 for Paul and Silas
1 for the little bitty baby
that's born, born, born in Bethlehem.

Children, go where I send thee!
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you -
7 by 7; 7 for the 7 that never got to heaven
6 for the 6 that never got fixed
5 for the gospel preachers

4 for the 4 that stood at the door
3 for the Hebrew children
2 for Paul and Silas
1 for the little bitty baby
that's born, born, born in Bethlehem.

Children, go where I send thee!
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you -
8 by 8; 8 for the 8 that stood at the gate
7 for the 7 that never got to heaven
6 for the 6 that never got fixed

5 for the gospel preachers
4 for the 4 that stood at the door
3 for the Hebrew children
2 for Paul and Silas
1 for the little bitty baby
that's born, born, born in Bethlehem.

Children, go where I send thee!
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you -
9 by 9; 9 for the 9 all dressed so fine
8 for the 8 that stood at the gate
7 for the 7 that never got to heaven
6 for the 6 that never got fixed

5 for the gospel preachers
4 for the 4 that stood at the door
3 for the Hebrew children
2 for Paul and Silas
1 for the little bitty baby
that's born, born, born in Bethlehem.

Children, go where I send thee!
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you -
10 by 10; 10 for the 10 commandments
9 for the 9 all dressed so fine
8 for the 8 that stood at the gate
7 for the 7 that never got to heaven

6 for the 6 that never got fixed
5 for the gospel preachers
4 for the 4 that stood at the door
3 for the Hebrew children
2 for Paul and Silas
1 for the little bitty baby
that's born, born, born in Bethlehem.

Benediction
from *Laughing Bird* worship resources
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Postlude