



SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND COVENANT RENEWAL

Season of Advent  
*29 November 2020*

Without a shepherd, sheep cannot, will not, and are not ever able to be a flock. —Sarah McCrie

For He hears the lambs innocent call.  
And He hears the ewes tender reply.  
He is watchful while they are in peace.  
For they know when their Shepherd is nigh.  
—William Blake

## GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP

*It is God Himself who calls His people to worship. We do not call ourselves, but it is the King who opens His gates and beckons us into His courts.*

### Gospel Invitation—from Lamentations 2:17

Good news. Glad tidings. Great joy. “The Lord has done what He purposed; He has carried out His Word, which He commanded long ago.”

### Introit—Angels We Have Heard On High, Vs. 1

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: "An - gels, we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains, And the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o back their joy - ous strains. Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Text: Traditional French Carol; Music: GLORIA, Traditional French Melody, Arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1937.

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

### Call to Worship—based on Micah 5:2-5

Pastor: Rejoice, O you people, and be glad.

All: For the Lord has spoken, and His promises are sure.

Reader 1: O Bethlehem, you are too little even to be among the clans of Judah, but from out of you shall come forth one who is to be ruler in Israel.

Reader 2: His coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

All: The Lord has spoken, and His promises are sure.

Reader 3: He shall stand and shepherd His flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

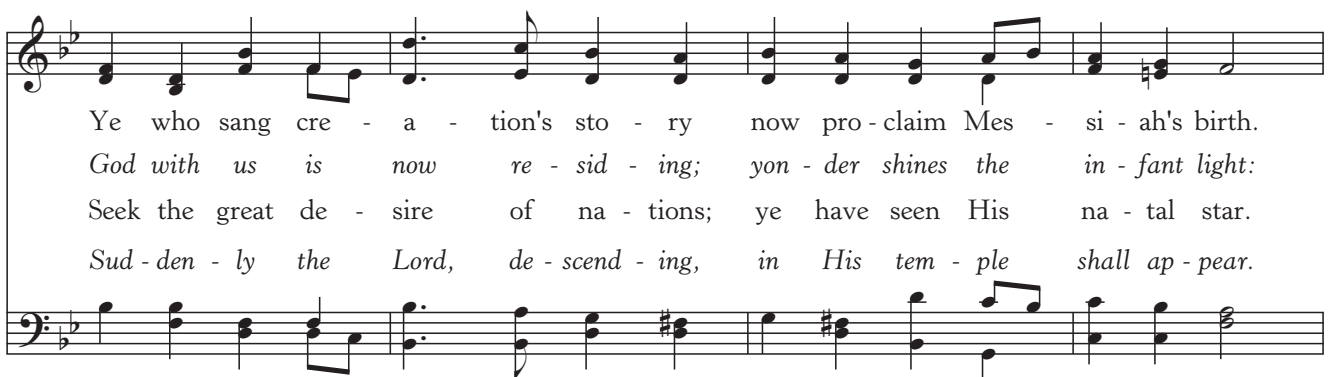
Pastor: And we shall dwell secure, for now He shall be great to the ends of the earth.

All: And He shall be our peace.

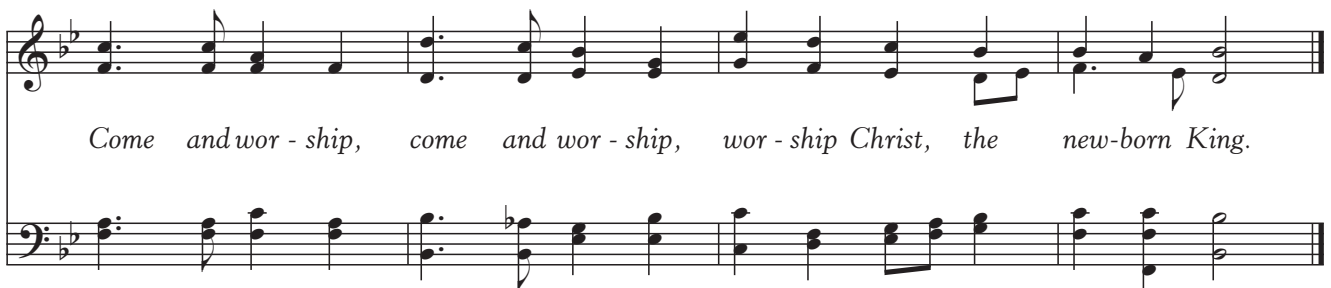
### Hymn of Praise—Angels From The Realms Of Glory



An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Shep - herds, in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
Saints, be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in hope and fear;



Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.  
God with us is now re - sid - ing; yon - der shines the in - fant light:  
Seek the great de - sire of na - tions; ye have seen His na - tal star.  
Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, in His tem - ple shall ap - pear.



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new-born King.

Text: James Montgomery, 1816, 1825; Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry Smart, 1867.

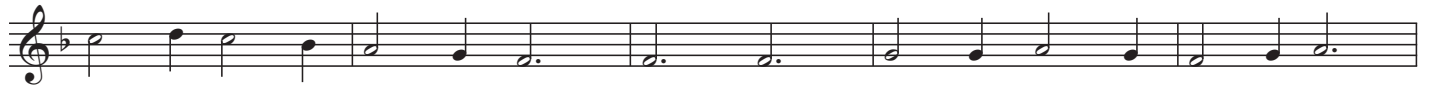
# GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE THROUGH HIS WORD

*The Bible is the means by which God graciously reveals Himself to His people—so we listen, read, and study with expectant hearts.*

## Hymn of Praise—Good Christian Men, Rejoice



Good Christ - ian men, re - joice \_\_\_\_\_ with heart and soul, and voice; \_\_\_\_\_  
Good Christ - ian men, re - joice, \_\_\_\_\_ with heart and soul and voice; \_\_\_\_\_  
Good Christ - ian men, re - joice \_\_\_\_\_ with heart and soul and voice! \_\_\_\_\_



Give ye heed to what we say: News! News! Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
Now ye hear of end - less bliss: Joy! Joy! Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Je - sus Christ was born to save;



Ox and ass be - fore Him bow; and He is in the man - ger now.  
He has op - ened heav - en's door, and man is blest for - ev - er - more.  
Calls you one and calls you all, to gain His ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! \_\_\_\_\_ Christ is born to - day! \_\_\_\_\_  
Christ was born for this! \_\_\_\_\_ Christ was born for this! \_\_\_\_\_  
Christ was born to save! \_\_\_\_\_ Christ was born to save! \_\_\_\_\_

Text: Medieval Latin Carol, Tr. John Mason Neale, 1853;  
Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German Melody, 14<sup>th</sup> c.

## Scripture Reading—Isaiah 40:10-11

Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and His arm rules for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him. He will tend His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs in His arms; He will carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## Hymn of Praise—The First Noel

The first No - el the an - gel did say was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;  
They look - ed up and saw a star shin - ing in the east, be - yond them far;  
This star drew nigh to the north - west, ov - er Beth - le - hem it took its rest;  
Then let us all in one ac - cord sing prai - ses to our heav'n - ly Lord;

In fields where they lay keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.  
And to the earth it gave great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.  
And there it did both stop and stay, right ov - er the place where Je - sus lay.  
That hath made Heav'n and Earth of naught, and with His blood man - kind hath bought.

No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el, born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: Traditional English Carol; Music: THE FIRST NOEL, W. Sandy's *Christmas Carols*, 1833.

## Reading of the Word—Psalm 23:1-6

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. <sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. <sup>3</sup>He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. <sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## Sung Response—Angels We Have Heard On High, Vs. 2

Shep-herds, why this ju - bi-lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?  
Say what may the tid - ings be, which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,  
Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

The image shows a musical score for the second verse of the hymn 'Angels We Have Heard On High'. It consists of four staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first two staves are for the vocal line, and the last two are for a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'Shep-herds, why this ju - bi-lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long? Say what may the tid - ings be, which in - spire your heav'n - ly song? Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.'

Text: Traditional French Carol; Music: GLORIA, Traditional French Melody,  
Arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1937.

## Sermon—*The Good Shepherd*

—Pastor, George Grant

## GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO CONFESSION, REPENTANCE, AND RECONCILIATION

*The People of God respond to His Word by confessing their sins, repenting of their sinful ways, and seeking God's favor through the reconciling work of Jesus, the Son of God.*

### Confession of Sin—from Isaiah 53:4-7

Pastor: Lord, we come confessing. We know that Christ has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.

All: **But He was pierced for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities.**

Pastor: Upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His wounds we are healed.

All: **All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way.**

Pastor: You, O Lord, have laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth.

All: **Like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.**

*(Silent prayers of confession)*

## Sung Response—Lamb Of God

UNISON

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. —

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. —

O Lamb of God, that takes away the sins of the world,

*Slightly faster* WOMEN

Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy, Grant us Thy peace,

MEN

Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy peace, Grant us Thy peace.

Text: Traditional, based on John 1:29; Music: CLOVERCROFT AGNUS DEI, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.

## Assurance of Pardon—from Revelation 7:17; Titus 2:11-14

Hear now the Good News: “For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be your shepherd, and He will guide you to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from your eyes.”

Pastor: This is the promise of God.

**All: This is the Word of the Lord.**

Pastor: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age.

**All: And so we await our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: Amen and amen.

## Sung Response—Twofold Amen

A - men, a - men

Text: Traditional; Music: DRESDEN, Johann Naumann, 18<sup>th</sup> Century.

## HEAVENLY GIFT—EUCCHARISTO

*As God beckons His people to the bounty of His table, they make joyous profession of their fealty to Him.*

### Profession of Faith—The Apostles' Creed

We believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of Heaven and Earth,

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,

Born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into Hell.

On the third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into Heaven and now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

From whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit; the one holy church—both visible and invisible;

The communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

The resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

### Sursum Corda

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth. Therefore, we praise You, Triune God, and we join our voices with the angels, the archangels, and the whole company of Heaven in this hymn of eternal praise:

UNISON



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth. —

WOMEN

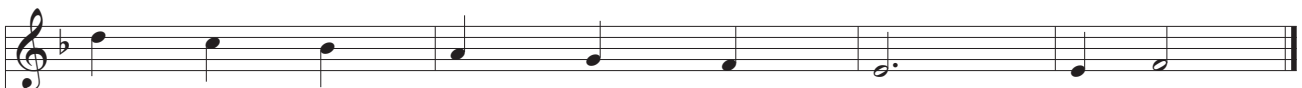


We praise You, we bless You, we wor-ship You, we glo-ri-fy You,

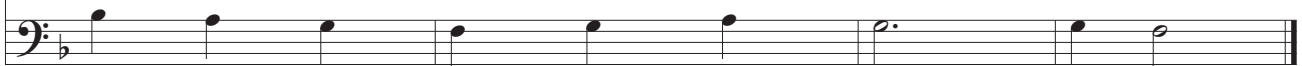
MEN



We praise You, we bless\_ You, we wor-ship You, we glo-ri-fy You,



We give You thanks for Your great glo - ry.



We give You thanks for Your great glo - ry.

Text: Traditional, based on Luke 2:14; Music: CLOVERCROFT GLORIA, Henry C. Haffner, 2019.



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE LORD'S TABLE

*This table is open to all baptized Christians who have made a profession of faith. You may come forward to receive the bread and wine or grape juice.*

### Hymn of Contemplation—The Angel Gabriel



The An - gel Gab - ri - el from heav - en came, his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;  
"The hand-maid of the Lord thy ti - tle be. most Son as Lord and King ex - al - ted He!—  
Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head, to me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,  
Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ was born in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry, — most high - ly fav - ored la - dy."  
Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told; most high - ly fav - ored la - dy."  
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy His ho - ly name: to all the on - ly Sav - ior."  
And Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say: — "Most high - ly fav - ored la - dy."



Glo - - - ri - a!

Text: Traditional, Tr. Sabine Baring-Gould, 19<sup>th</sup> Century; Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Traditional Basque Carol.

### Hymn of Contemplation—Lovely Child, Holy Child



Love - ly child, ho - ly child, gen - tle, mild, un - de - filed;  
Child of light, born to - night, our de - light, prom - ise bright;  
Rest Your head, sweet - est head; gifts we'll spread at Your bed.  
To this boy, our great joy, we em - ploy hymns of joy;



In - fant King, fair - est King, gifts we'll bring and an - thems sing;  
Child so — fair, see Him there; now de - clare Him ev - 'ry where;  
Je - sus — Lord, be a - dored, may this word now be out - poured:  
Child so — fair: see Him there; now de - clare Him ev - 'ry where:



Al - le - lu - - ia, al - le - lu - - ia.



Al - le - lu - - ia, al - le - lu - - ia.

Text: Folk Carol, adapted by David N. Johnson, 1968; Music: BETHLEHEM, Folk Carol.

# GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND IN GRATEFUL PRAISE, PETITIONS, TITHES & OFFERINGS

*Our praying, serving, and giving are essential aspects of worship. It is here that our faith moves from our heads and hearts into our lives and callings.*

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession—The Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

## Hymn of Praise—God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may,  
From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther, a bless - ed an - gel came;  
"Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "let noth - ing you af - fright;

re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas day,  
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same;  
this day is born a Sav - ior of a pure vir - gin bright,

to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray;  
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name,  
to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's pow'r and might."

O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy, O tid - ings of com - fort and joy.

Text and Music: 18<sup>th</sup> century English Carol.

# GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE OUT

*After calling His people into His presence, forgiving their sins, instructing them in His Word, and providing a foretaste of the marriage supper of the Lamb, God sends His people into the world to show His light in the darkness.*

## Benediction—Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. *Amen.*

## Sung Response—Angels We Have Heard On High, Vs. 3

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 'Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing; come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King. Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, glo ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.' The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody. The final system ends with a double bar line.

Text: Traditional French Carol; Music: GLORIA, Traditional French Melody,  
Arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1937.

## Announcements

## Worship Notes:

This may be the last Sunday in November, but it is also the first Sunday of the church year: the beginning of the season of Advent. Advent is usually observed as a season of confession, preparation, and anticipation, looking forward to the birth of Christ on Christmas Day. You'll notice several added elements in the service this morning: lighting of candles during the Call to Worship, purple accents on the bulletin and the pulpit, and a time of silent prayer followed by a sung response where we cry out "Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us." Each week, during communion, we will sing one unfamiliar Advent hymn or carol (this week, it's the traditional Basque carol, *The Angel Gabriel*), to broaden our knowledge of the rich and varied music of the season. We have also included an insert in the bulletin with a series of daily scripture readings for Advent, which you can use at home with your families. As we enter this new season, I hope these added elements help us to prepare our hearts for the coming of our Savior—the Savior who comes as a Good Shepherd, revealed first to "certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay." —Henry C. Haffner

**Key Words:** Shepherd, Want, Leads, Fear, Comfort, Anoint, Dwell

**Keystone Verse:** I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (Psalm 23:6)



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### Elders

Tom Goddard (218-3654)	Brandon Goodin (306-3652)	Brandon Herrenbruck (339-5516)
Michael Mastroberti (973-879-1368)	Mike Miserocchi (594-3880)	Matt Morrison (482-5107)
Jason Parolini (497-3337)	John Scherrer (916-0654)	

### Elders Emeritus

Phil Hutcheson Steve Nelson

### Deacons

Jimmy Allen (815-9368)	Brandon Blair (575-430-6436)	Ben Crist (509-3040)
Jeff Dokkestul (618-6064)	Ian Kern (512-9337)	Tom Milligan (805-403-2166)
Chris Ragsdale (619-988-1876)	Nolan Reategui (829-0412)	Thomas Rickstrew (830-834-1001)
Randy Sadler (972-1914)	Tim Simmons (850-532-8997)	Nae Soundara (519-3720)
	Walt Yates (785-477-0990)	