

Prelude, Ringing of the Bell, Words of Welcome, Announcements

368 Angels We Have Heard on High



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 tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav' - n - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

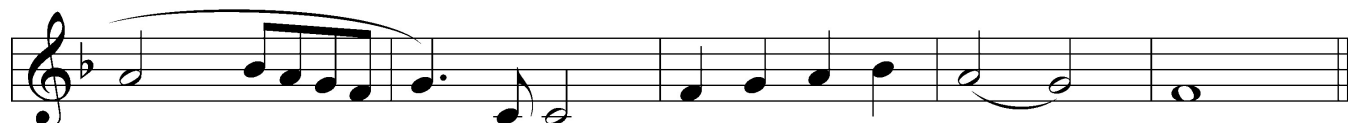
Refrain



Glo - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - -



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.
Text and tune: French
Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Baptism of Edwards Millar Meuser

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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.

Lighting Of The Advent Wreath

P: In this season of Advent, we pray for God's peace.

C: Christ is our light and the source of our peace.

P: We witness the hostility between nations and neighbors.

C: Christ is our light and the source of our peace.

P: We see a world full of fractured relationships and unforgiving hearts.

C: Christ is our light and the source of our peace.

P: We seek relief from our own inner turmoil and restlessness.

C: Christ is our light and the source of our peace.

P: As the two candles are lit, we pray together:

All: Gracious God, as we continue our Advent journey, we thank You for sending the Prince of Peace into a world filled with unrest and strife. We ask that You quiet our restless hearts and instill in each of us the calm assurance that tells us You are in control so we need not worry. Give us the tools we need to serve as You would have us serve, and make us willing instruments of Your peace. Amen

Advent Confession & Words of Forgiveness

P: The Lord of Advent tells us to be watchful for His coming, keeping our lamps lighted – being ever vigilant for Jesus' continuing presence in our lives and His imminent return.

(Silence for personal prayer)

P: God and Father of all:

C: We prepare our hearts for the coming of Your Son, confessing our sins, confessing our attraction to a godless world that does not know Christ.

Forgive our sins, cleanse our hearts, and keep us faithful for the promised coming of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: God sent His Son, the Babe of Bethlehem, to show His infinite love and forgiveness for all. By the authority given to me by God the Father, I forgive you your sins in the holy name of Christ who came and will come again.

C: Amen.

361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

sts. 3–4

3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;

So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.
Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.

No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;

Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–93
Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908
Text and tune: Public domain

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 26:1–6

¹In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah:

“We have a strong city;
he sets up salvation
as walls and bulwarks.

²Open the gates,
that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in.

³You keep him in perfect peace
whose mind is stayed on you,
because he trusts in you.

⁴Trust in the LORD forever,
for the LORD GOD is an everlasting rock.

⁵For he has humbled
the inhabitants of the height,
the lofty city.

He lays it low, lays it low to the ground,
casts it to the dust.
⁶The foot tramples it,
the feet of the poor,
the steps of the needy.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Peter 3:8–12

⁸Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. ⁹Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. ¹⁰For

“Whoever desires to love life
and see good days,
let him keep his tongue from evil
and his lips from speaking deceit;
¹¹let him turn away from evil and do good;
let him seek peace and pursue it.
¹²For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
and his ears are open to their prayer.
But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:8–14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

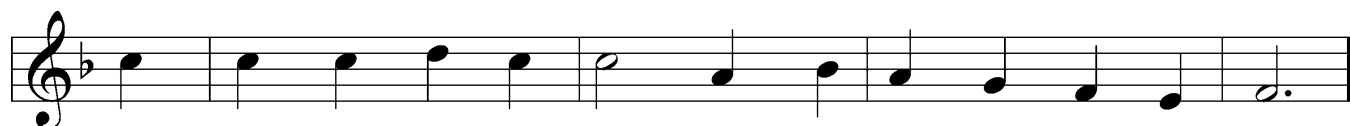
Trinity Kids Message

383 A Great and Mighty Wonder

sts. 1, ref, 2–3

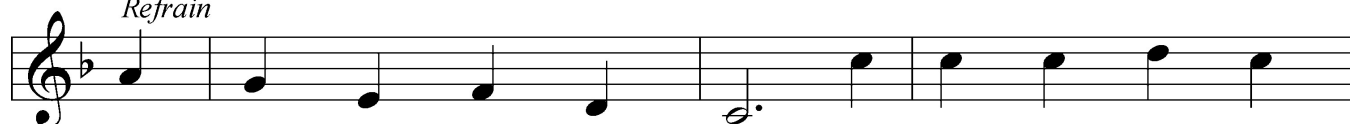


1 A great and might - y won - der, A full and ho - ly cure:
2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate And yet re - mains on high,
3 While thus they sing your Mon - arch, Those bright an - gel - ic bands,



The vir - gin bears the in - fant With vir - gin hon - or pure!
And cher - u - bim sing an - thems To shep - herds from the sky.
Re - joice, O vales and moun - tains, And o - ceans, clap your hands.

Refrain



Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

Text: Germanus, c. 634–c. 734; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Tune: Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 1599, Köln
Text and tune: Public domain

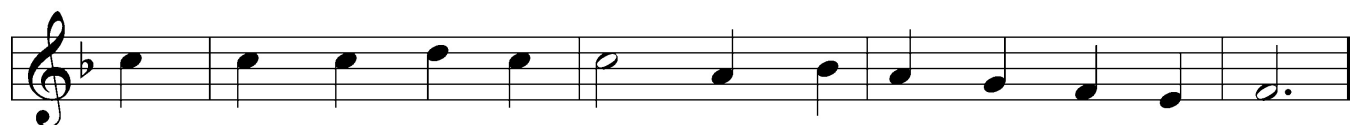
Sermon

383 A Great and Mighty Wonder

sts. ref, 4–5



4 Since all He comes to ran - som, By all be He a - dored,
5 All i - dols then shall per - ish And Sa - tan's ly - ing cease,



The in - fant born in Beth - l'em, The Sav - ior and the Lord.
And Christ shall raise His scep - ter, De - cree - ing end - less peace.

Refrain

Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be
glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

Text: Germanus, c. 634-c. 734; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.
Tune: Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 1599, Köln
Text and tune: Public domain

Offering

Prayer of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

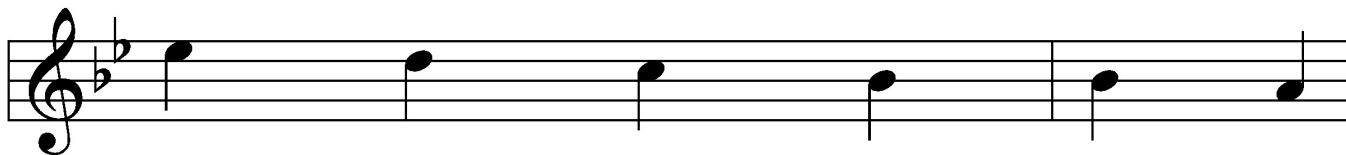
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

sts. 1, ref, 2, 5

1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing y
2 Shen - herds in the field a - hid - ing. Watch - i
all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's
flocks hv night God with us is now re
Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's
Yon - der shines the In - fant

Refrain



Text (sts. 1, ref. 2): James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.; (st. 5): Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, Salisbury, alt.
Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–79
Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude

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