

Welcome & Prayer

Reading – Isaiah 9v1-7 (ESV)

¹But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shone.

³You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For 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 Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷Of 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.

Carol – O Come All Ye Faithful

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!

God of God,
 Light of light,
 Lo! He abhors not the virgin's womb;
 Very God,
 Begotten, not created;

Chorus

Sing, choirs of angels,
 Sing in exultation,
 Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
 "Glory to God,
 in the highest!"

Chorus

Yes, Lord, we greet Thee,
 Born that happy morning;
 Jesus, to Thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father,
 Now in flesh appearing;

"O Come All Ye Faithful (Adeste Fideles)" C. Frederick Oakeley; John Francis Wade; William Henry Monk
 © Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain
 CCLI Licence: 1215783

Video 1 – Four Kinds of Christmas

Reading – Luke 1v26-38 (ESV)

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favoured one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He 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, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵And 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. ³⁶And 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. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸And 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.

Carol – God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

God rest ye merry, gentlemen,
 Let nothing you dismay,
 Remember Christ our Saviour
 Was born on Christmas Day,
 To save us all from Satan's pow'r
 When we were gone astray;

Chorus:

O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father,
A blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same:
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name,

Chorus

"Fear not, then," said the angel,
"Let nothing you affright;
This day is born a Saviour
Of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in Him
From Satan's pow'r and might."

Chorus

Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace.
This holy tide of Christmas
All others doth deface;

Chorus

"God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" Unknown
© Words: Public Domain; Music: Public Domain
CCLI Licence: 1215783

Reading – Matthew 1v18-25 (ESV)

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Carol – While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night

While shepherds watched
Their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,

And glory shone around.

"Fear not," said he, for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind;
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind."

"To you, in David's town this day,
Is born of David's line
A Saviour who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign:

The heavenly babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swaddling bands,
And in a manger laid."

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song:

"All glory be to God on high
And on the earth be peace.
Goodwill hence forth
From heaven to men
Begin and never cease."

"God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" Nahum Tate
© Public Domain
CCLI Licence: 1215783

Video 2 – Happyland Nativity

Reading – Luke 1v39-56 (ESV)

³⁹In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴²and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

⁴⁶And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

⁴⁸for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

⁵⁰And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

⁵²he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;

⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things,

and the rich he has sent away empty.

⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever."

⁵⁶And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

Carol – Good Christian Men Rejoice

Good Christian men, 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!

Good Christian men, 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 man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, 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!

"Good Christian Men Rejoice" David Shipp; John Mason Neale
© Words: Public Domain; Music: 2006 Shipp, David (Admin. By PraiseCharts Publishing, Inc.)
CCLI Licence: 1215783

Reading – Luke 2v1-7 (ESV)

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And 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, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And 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.

Carol – O Little Town of Bethlehem

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.

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

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given;
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still,
The dear Christ enters in.

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!

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" Alex Mejias; Phillips Brooks

© Words: Public Domain; Music: 2009 Returned Music Publishing; (Admin. by Song Solutions www.songsolutions.org)

CCLI Licence: 1215783

Reading – Luke 2v8-21 (ESV)

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 great fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, 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!"

¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

²¹And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Talk (Luke 1v39-56)

Carol – Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing
 Glory to the new-born King,
 Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
 God and sinners reconciled.
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
 Join the triumph of the skies;
 With the angelic hosts proclaim
 'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'
 Hark! the herald angels sing
 Glory to the new-born King.

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 the Incarnate Deity!
 Pleased as man with men to dwell,
 Jesus, our Emmanuel!
 Hark! the herald angels sing
 Glory to the new-born King.

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 new-born King.

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Charles Wesley; Chris Douglas; Kurtis Parks
 © Words: Public Domain; Music: 2013 Songs of 714 (Admin. by Song Solutions www.songsolutions.org)
 CCLI Licence: 1215783

Closing prayer

Song words reproduced under CCLI 1215783