

Sermon Notes

Title: The Greatest Gift in the World
Passage: John 3:16

Order of Worship

*Please Stand
All Songs CCLI # 1399831

Prelude *(Preparing Our Hearts for Worship)*

Welcome and Call to Worship*

John 1:1-5, 14

Hymn of Praise*

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth
Ye, who sang creations story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Chorus Come and worship, come and worship
Worship Christ the newborn King

Shepherds in the fields abiding, Watching over your flocks by night
God with man is now residing, Yonder shines the Infant light. *(chorus)*

Sages leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar
Seek the great Desire of nations, Ye have seen His natal star. *(chorus)*

Saints before the alter bending, Watching long in hope and fear
Suddenly the Lord, descending, In His temple shall appear. *(chorus)*

Prayer of Adoration and Confession*

Words of Assurance*

Heidelberg Catechism Q 1

Q. What is your only comfort in life and death?

A: That I with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Savior Jesus Christ; who, with his precious blood, has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation, and therefore, by his Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me sincerely willing and ready, henceforth, to live unto him.

Songs of Praise*

Emmanuel (Hallowed Manger Ground)

What hope we hold this starlit night, a King is born in Bethlehem.
Our journey long, we seek the light that leads to the hallowed manger ground.

What fear we felt in the silent age, four hundred years can He be found?
But broken by a baby's cry, rejoice in the hallowed manger ground.

Chorus *Emmanuel, Emmanuel, God incarnate here to dwell,
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Praise His name Emmanuel*

The son of God, here, born to bleed, a crown of thorns would pierce His brow.
And we beheld this offering, exalted now, the King of kings.
Praise God for the hallowed manger ground. (*chorus*)

What Child Is This?

What child is this who laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping.
This, this is Christ the King whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste to bring Him laude the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding.
Good Christian fear for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through the cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh. Come peasant King to own Him.
The King of Kings salvation brings. Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe the son of Mary.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Let the Little Children Come

(Children PreK-2nd grade may exit for Ambassador Kids afterwards)

Offering Our Gifts to God*

Christmas Offering

Over the skies of Bethlehem appeared a star
While angels sang to lowly shepherds
Three Wiseman seeking truth they traveled from afar
Hoping to find the child from heaven
Falling on their knees they bow before the humble Prince of Peace.

Chorus: *We bring an offering of worship to our King
No one on earth deserves the praises that we sing
Jesus may You receive the honor that You're due
O Lord, we bring an offering to You*

The sun cannot compare to the glory of Your love
There is no shadow in Your presence
No mortal man would dare to stand before Your throne
Before the Holy One of heaven, it's only by Your blood
It's only through Your mercy, Lord, we come. (*chorus*)

Pastoral Prayer

Message from God's Word

John 3:16
The Greatest Gift in the World

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

(The outer ring of cups contain juice for those who prefer it to wine; gluten free option on left side)

Responding in Song*

Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come, let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world the Savior reigns: let men their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

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.

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.

Benediction*

Christmas Eve Service 5 p.m.

Merry Christmas!