

Epiphany of Our Lord

January 2, 2021

Emanuel Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

324 College Avenue, Modesto, California 95350

(209) 523-4531 www.emanuellutheran.org

Welcome to Emanuel

WELCOME GUESTS AND VISITORS!

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ. We are glad that you have come to worship with us. Please help us to know you by introducing yourself to those you encounter and please be sure to sign our guest book (located on the stand in the Narthex).

- **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS** are available. •

(Please ask an usher)

Children/Youth & Family/ELDC:

Council member – Pat Smith

Spiritual Life:

Council member – Suzanne Wilke

Worship:

Council member – Martha Strand

Outreach:

Council member — Elaine Ixcot

Resource:

Bob Reuter, Treasurer

Stewardship —

Property — Dennis Strand

Fellowship:

Council member—Janice Watkins

Social Media:

Council member – Suzanne Wilke

Endowment Team

Bob Reuter, Chairman

Team members: Pastor Lyn, Dennis Strand, Pat Smith

Staff

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Barbara Vukich

Administrative Assistant

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Council Officers

President

Dennis Strand

Vice President

Pat Smith

Treasurer

Bob Reuter

Secretary

Janice Watkins

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday - 8 am to 3 pm

Friday - 8 am to 2 pm

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 2, 2022

PRELUDE

Three for Epiphany

Paul Manz

WELCOME

Pastor Lyn Crase

OPENING HYMN

As with Gladness Men of Old

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who sends the word with angels,
who is made flesh among all peoples,
and who breathes peace on all the earth.

Amen

A: In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Holy God,

we confess our sin before you.

We replace compassion with competition.

We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek.

We are quick to anger but slow to forgive.

We have not put on love in harmony with you.

Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word.

Swaddle our hearts with your peace,

that all we do, in word or deed,

may reflect your love born among us.

Amen

A: I bring you good news of great joy for all people:

God has come among us

in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord.

✝ In Christ your sins are forgiven

and you are clothed in peace.

Amen

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together....

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

Barbara Crawford

Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst; God's glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ.

- ¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
- ²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
- ³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
- ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
- ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
- ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (Read Responsively)

Barbara Crawford

The perfect king. In this Psalm, a king asks God to help his son rule the nation justly and wisely. It looks forward to the endless reign of the Messiah, who alone can rule with perfect justice and whose citizens will enjoy perfect peace.

- ¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
- ²**that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**

³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.

⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**

⁷In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁰**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute,
and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.**

¹¹May all kings bow down before him,
and all the nations do him service.

¹²**For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress,
the oppressed, and those who have no helper.**

¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor,
and preserves the lives of the needy.

¹⁴**From oppression and violence he redeems their lives,
and precious is their blood in his sight.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:1-13 (MSG)

Barbara Crawford

What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

¹⁻³This is why I, Paul, am in jail for Christ, having taken up the cause of you outsiders, so-called. I take it that you're familiar with the part I was given in God's plan for including everybody. I got the inside story on this from God himself, as I just wrote you in brief.

⁴⁻⁶As you read over what I have written to you, you'll be able to see for yourselves into the mystery of Christ. None of our ancestors understood this. Only in our time has it been made clear by God's Spirit through his holy apostles and prophets of this new order. The mystery is that people who have never heard of God and those who have heard of him all their lives (what I've been calling outsiders and insiders) stand on the same ground before God. They get the same offer, same help, same promises in Christ Jesus. The Message is accessible and welcoming to everyone, across the board.

⁷⁻⁸This is my life work: helping people understand and respond to this Message. It came as a sheer gift to me, a real surprise, God handling all the details. When it came to presenting the Message to people who had no background in God's way, I was the least qualified of any of the available Christians. God saw to it that I was equipped, but you can be sure that it had

the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (REPEATED) *Please be seated.*

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Let Our Gladness Have No End

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APOSTLE'S CREED

A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Please sit or kneel as able)

A: 1) Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

2) God of wanderers, you sent the magi from afar to witness the mystery and majesty of your birth. Send us into the world with your will in our hearts and on our lips. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

3) You created heaven and earth. Through your Spirit send your all-encompassing love over the cosmos. Bless the stars that guide our way and the night sky that invites the earth into slumber. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

- 4) You sent the magi to follow the star into an uncertain future. May all leaders and peoples seek your face, especially when paths are not clear, conflicts rage, tyrants oppress, and fear abounds. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- 5) You sent your Spirit to dwell with Paul in prison. Send your Spirit to those who are imprisoned and enslaved. Give courage and wisdom for building roads that lead to justice and freedom. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- 6) You sent the holy family to seek safety in a new land. Protect all who make similar journeys. Send your guiding Spirit to asylum seekers, refugees, and all who journey toward safety. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- 7) Your glory is shown to the saints. We give thanks for those whose earthly journey has ended and now dwell with you forever. Give us signs of your continual presence until that day when we arise in you. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
- 8) Silent prayer.
- 9) Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen

SHARING THE PEACE

The sharing of peace is an individual and communal act of forgiveness.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY

The offering is our response to God's grace and mercy.

OFFERING HYMN

The First Noel

Wilbur Held

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Gracious God,
 your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth.
 As we offer ourselves and these your gifts,
 prepare us to receive the grace and truth
 you offer at this table
 and renew in us the song of your salvation,
 in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: In recognition of God's forgiveness, mercy and grace let us continue with the Great Thanksgiving.

P: The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

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

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

P: All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

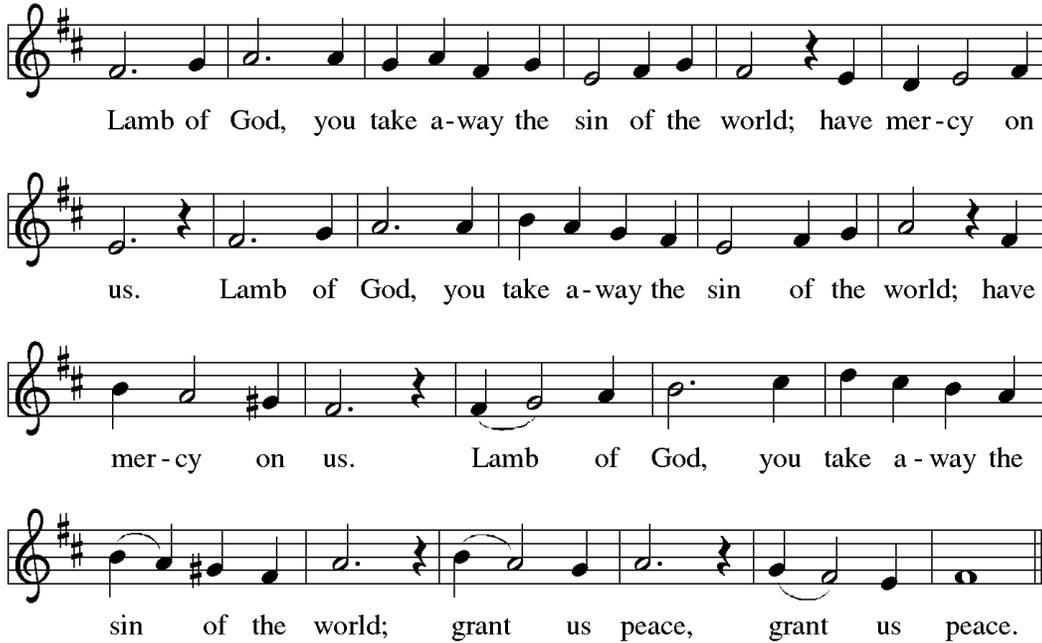
**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.

We practice continuous communion. All are welcome. White grape juice is available for those who prefer that instead of wine. Gluten free wafers available.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

The First Noel

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COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus,
God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine.
As we have shared this feast of love,
strengthen us to share your love with all the world.
In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen

BLESSING

P: The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit,
through Christ Jesus for whom we wait. **Amen**

SENDING HYMN

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Michael Burkhardt



Our Mission

To share Christ's unconditional love with everyone.

Our Vision

Emanuel's vision is to be loving, supportive, and welcoming, as we reach out in service and in witness to our neighborhood and the city beyond.

We share a passion to nurture people in all stages and circumstances of life.

We, as disciples of Christ, minister to our changing community in challenging cultural times.

God is calling us to joyfully follow the Holy Spirit in ministry to others.



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Announcements: Week of January 2, 2022

TODAY is Food for Faith Sunday — Mary Dieterich will be the trunk master, so be sure to drop off non-perishable food items to her car in the parking lot. The Food Initiative of Greater Stanislaus appreciates your generous donations.

Emanuel Lutheran Day Care — Fresh fruits and healthy veggies are needed: zucchini, oranges, and cucumbers. Please sign up on the list in the Narthex. Items can be left in the kitchen or office. *ELDC staff & children appreciate your donations!*

Eagle Scout Landscape Project—The project is underway. Some of the costs are being covered anonymously but some funding is needed for the plants and shrubs. Any amount would be greatly appreciated and be sure to designate it for the Landscaping Project.

Council Meeting — Sunday, January 9th at 11:00 am.

ELC Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 16th at 11:00 am.

Ongoing Announcements

TEXT STUDY: Every Tuesday, year-round, in Luther Hall at noon. We discuss the lessons for the next Sunday. Come anytime you are available, leave early if you need to, bring your lunch. Generally, this lasts about an hour and 15 minutes....give or take.

Adult Bible Study — Wednesdays at 1:00 pm in Luther Hall. Please join anytime.

Hosts are needed for Coffee Hour. Please see the sign-up sheet in Luther Hall.

Choir rehearsals — Sundays, downstairs at about 11 o'clock.

Coin Jar -- Your spare change makes a difference! Proceeds go to Outreach.

Quilting Bee -- January 10th, 10:00 am. All are welcome & all skill levels as well. If you can use scissors and/or tie a knot, there will be a job for you!

Lydia Circle meets the 2nd Monday of each month in Luther Hall at 1 pm. We use the GATHER magazine as our Bible Study. All women of Emanuel are invited to join us.

Leah Circle meets on the third Monday of the month at 1:00 pm.

Rebecca Circle meets every 3rd Thursday at 1:30 pm in member's homes. All are welcome!

The Shower Shuttle and Laundry Shuttle are actively taking care of our homeless communities, and the needs remain the same. Many items are available at the Dollar Stores. *Thank you all for your contributions to this Ministry, Marilyn and Chuck Rowland*

- Toiletries—all sizes
- Men's and women's underwear in small and medium sizes
- Plain white vinegar and bleach
- Extra-strength laundry detergent
- Bath towels, any size and color

Supporting Modesto Lions Club

RECYCLE BEYOND THE BAG

Recycle your household bags & wrap into Trex's Earth-friendly composite decking and railing!



FROM THE STORE



✓ Produce bags

✓ Store bags

✓ Ice bags



FROM YOUR PANTRY



✓ Ziploc® & other reclosable bags

✓ Cereal box liners

✓ Case overwrap

✓ Bread bags



FROM YOUR FRONT DOOR



✓ Newspaper sleeves

✓ Dry cleaning bags

✓ Bubble wrap

✓ Plastic e-commerce mailers

Plastics must be clean, dry and free of food and organic residue



NexTrex

trex.com/recycling 1-800-Buy-Trex

Place in bin in the Narthex

Entrance Hymn

As with Gladness Men of Old



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;

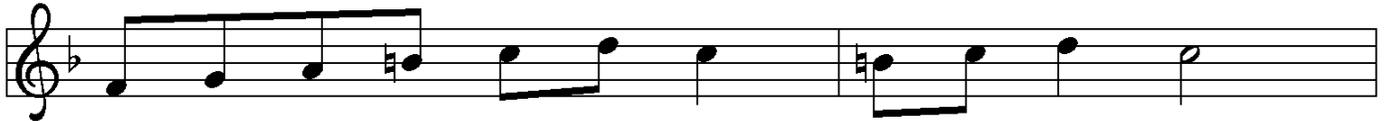


so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

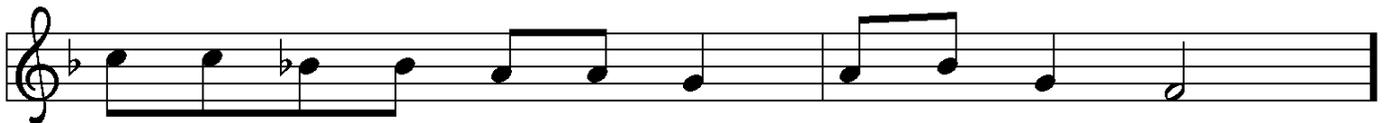
Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

Sermon Hymn

Let Our Gladness Have No End



1 Let our glad - ness have no end, Hal - le - lu - jah!
2 Proph - e - sied in days of old, Hal - le - lu - jah!
3 See the love - liest bloom - ing rose, Hal - le - lu - jah!
4 In - to flesh is made the Word, Hal - le - lu - jah!



for to earth did Christ de - scend. Hal - le - lu - jah!
God has sent the one fore - told. Hal - le - lu - jah!
from the branch of Jes - se grows. Hal - le - lu - jah!
our true ref - uge and our Lord. Hal - le - lu - jah!

Refrain



On this day God gave us Christ, the Son, to



save us; Christ, the Son, to save us.

Text: Bohemian carol, 15th cent.; tr. unknown
Music: NARODIL SE KRISTUS PÁN, Bohemian carol, 15th cent.

Communion Hymn

The First Noel



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . . .
4 This star drew near to the . . . north-west, o'er . . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

Refrain



night that was so deep.
tin-ued both day and night.
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
place where Je - sus lay.
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English traditional
Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

Sending Hymn

Angels, from the Realms of Glory



- 1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
- 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
- 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
- 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you 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, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



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

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

Prayer Requests: January 2, 2022

✝ Prayers of healing for Michelle & Doug Peters

On-going Prayers: Chuck Rowland—healing & well-being; William Teaney—healing and well-being; Eddie Polillio—healing and recovery (Silva); Jesus Ojeda—continued healing & well-being

Pray for the church, the world and all those in need:

Doctors, nurses, technicians and all hospital personnel who care for patients & their needs.

For scientists, researchers, medical equipment manufacturers, corporations & employees who have stepped up to help during this crisis.

For those who are awaiting diagnostic tests results; for those already diagnosed with COVID-19 that healing will be complete.

For those who are dying and for those who grieve that they may be comforted with a sure and certain knowledge of Resurrection hope.

For all others who suffer from physical, emotional, mental or spiritual distress during this time we pray they may be sustained in love and grace.

For all this, and for whatever else you see that we need – we pray to you, O Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen

The Prayer List has been reset. Please contact the office by phone or email with any updates for names to keep on the list.