

9:00am

**This service will be livestreamed to our Facebook page and posted on our website. **

This Week:

Sunday, December 28th

9:00am Worship (Sanctuary) 11:00am Love Fellowship (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, December 31st

Office Closed

Thursday, January 1st

Office Closed

Saturday, January 3rd

10:00am Love Fellowship Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Sunday, January 4th

8:00am Worship (Sanctuary)

9:15am Sunday School (Fellowship Hall)

9:15am Coffee Fellowship (Fireside Room)

10:00am Worship (Sanctuary)

11:00am Love Fellowship (Sanctuary)

12:30pm Love Fellowship Meal (Fellowship Hall)



St. Peter Lutheran Church

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St. Peter Lutheran Church is a faith community where: We glorify God by building healthy relationships with God, with one another, and with our community following the example of Jesus Christ.

** The Pastor will read the italicized parts of the service. **

**If you would like to participate, please join in reading the bold

font in unison. **

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship! Masks are available on the table by the main doors if you would like one. All are invited to participate in the sacrament of communion. Pastor will give more instructions during the communion portion of the service. You can find more information about this service by reading the announcement insert. The service will be livestreamed to our Facebook page and posted to our website and YouTube page.

(Please stand)

DIALOGUE

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world. By day and night Jesus shines for all to see.

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus, so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Jesus is the light of the world. Jesus is the light of our lives.

Sing to God a new song! A song of hope, joy and peace around the world.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus. Forgive our lack of faith and trust.

Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable. Forgive our neglect of the poor.

The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem. Forgive our selfishness and complacency.

With great joy the angels proclaimed, "Do not fear. For I bring you good news of great joy. Today is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." In + Jesus, who is Savior, Christ, and Lord, our sins are forgiven. May you know the peace which the angels sang from the heavens. Indeed, God's forgiveness is good news of great joy! Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

See page 11 or ELW # 289

GREETING AND PRAYER

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.

Let us pray. O God, you have been our help in ages past, our hope for years to come. As we welcome this new year, bless us with peace. Fill our days with the light of Christ and lead us on the path of life until we see you in our heavenly home. You live and reign forever and ever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING Genesis 1: 1-5

Nancy

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

SECOND READING

Isaiah 9: 2-7

Aimee

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

SECOND CAROL

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

or ELW # 282

See page 13

THIRD READING

Micah 5: 2-5a

Paul

²But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; ⁵and he shall be the one of peace.

THIRD CAROL

O Little Town of Bethlehem

See page 14 or ELW # 279

FOURTH READING

Luke 1: 26-38

Jov

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and

said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him 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 ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to 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 holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

FOURTH CAROL

What Child Is This

See page 15 or ELW # 296

FIFTH READING

Luke 2: 1-7

Barb A

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

FIFTH CAROL

Away in a Manger

See page 16 or ELW # 277

SIXTH READING

Luke 2: 8-16

Ginny

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel

said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

SIXTH CAROL

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

See page 16 or ELW # 275

SEVENTH READING

Luke 2: 21-38

Joan

- ²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.
- ²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."
- ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,
- ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."
- ³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This

child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed 35 so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

SEVENTH CAROL

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

See page 17 or ELW # 276

EIGHTH READING

John 1: 1-14

Dawn B

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

EIGHTH CAROL

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

See page 18 or ELW # 288

(Please stand)

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice. Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity. Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.

Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh. Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.

OFFERING PRAYER

Please place your offering in the plates at the end of the main aisle, scan the QR code on the right to go directly to St. Peter's secure donation page, or visit the church website to give online.



We offer praise and thanks to God for what we have been given and what we share with others.

Let us pray. God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

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 Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.

Holy God, come among us. Bless this meal. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy God, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Love has come: God's love for all people. Come to the table. There is a place for you.

(Please be seated)

All are welcome to receive the sacrament. Please follow instructions given by Pastor.

Grownups are always welcome to bless non-communing children with the words "You are a loved child of God" and the sign of the cross on their

forehead, hand, or in front of them. If you use individual cups, please place the used cups in the baggie and leave the baggie in the large glass bowl as you depart worship. Gluten free wafers are available.

COMMUNION HYMN

The First Noel

See page 19

or ELW # 300

(Please stand)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. Amen.

Let us pray. Emmanuel, God with us, you grace us with life and breath and give us bread for the journey. Send us out in service to this world that you love, telling the amazing news of your coming to be Savior and Lord of all. Amen.

BLESSING

God the Creator who delights in you, Jesus the Savior who is born for you, and the lifegiving Spirit who shines on you, + bless you and keep you in hope and peace. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Go Tell It on the Mountain

See page 20 or ELW # 290

DISMISSAL

Glory to God in the highest! And peace to God's people on earth!

Christ is born! Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Presider: Pastor Kristin

Readers: Nancy, Aimee, Paul, Joy, Barb, Ginny, Joan, Dawn

Communion: Ginny, Maddy Jo, Dawn

Usher: Dick & Nancy Altar Guild: Ginny

Music: Lori Tech: Aimee

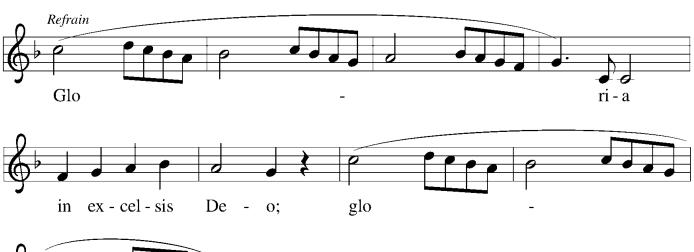
Angels We Have Heard on High



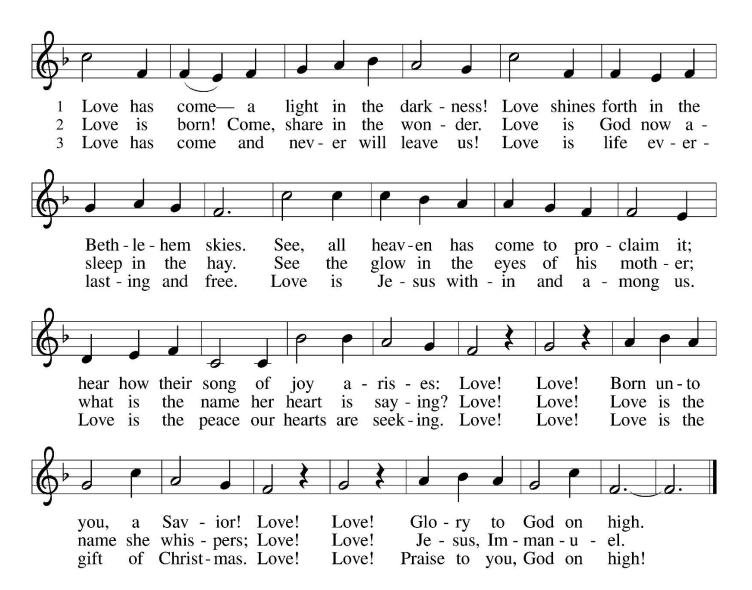
- 1 An gels we have heard on high, sweet ly sing ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep-herds, why this ju bi-lee? Why your joy ous strains pro-long?
- 3 Come to Beth le hem and see him whose birth the an gels sing;



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.



Love Has Come



It Came Upon the Midnight Clear



- 1 It came up on the mid night clear, that glo rious song of old,
- 2 Still through the clo ven skies they come with peace-ful wings un furled,
- 3 And you, be neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend-ing low,
- 4 For lo! The days are has-t'ning on, by proph-ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold: and still their heav'n-ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world. who toil a - long the climb-ing way with pain - ful steps and slow: when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all-gra-cious king."

A - bove its sad and low-ly plains they bend on hov-'ring wing, look now, for glad and gold-en hours come swift - ly on the wing; when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen-dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still-ness lay to hear the an - gels sing. and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless-ed an gels sing. be - side the wea-ry road and hear the an - gels oh, rest sing! the world give back the song which now the an - gels and all sing.

O Little Town of Bethlehem



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie! For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all bove a -How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift giv'n! is ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by; while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love. hu - man hearts the bless - ings So God im-parts to of his out our sin, and cast en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



shin - eth the thy dark streets ev - er - last - ing light. yet O morn-ing stars, to geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth, No ear may hear his com - ing; but, this world of in sin. We hear the Christ-mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night. God the king, and and prais - es sing to peace to all the earth! where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in. a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el! oh, come to us.

What Child Is This



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es tate where ox and ass are feed ing?
- 3 So bring him in cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing? Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing. The King of kings sal - va-tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing; Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you; Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



bring him laud, haste, haste the babe, the son of Mar - y! to Word made flesh, babe, the son of Mar - y! hail, hail the the joy, Christ is Mar - y! for born, the babe, the son of joy,

Away in a Manger



- A way in crib for his bed. the lit - tle Lord a man - ger, no
- The cat tle are low ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
- Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



down his sweet head: Je - sus laid the stars in the bright sky looked you, Lord Je - sus; look cry - ing he makes. love Je - sus, no Ι ev - er and love me, pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in I



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn-ing is nigh. your ten - der care and fit us for heav-en, to live with you there.

Angels, from the Realms of Glory



- An gels, from the realms of glo ry, wing your flight o'er all
- Shep-herds, in the fields 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:
- All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth: in - fant light. God with us re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the is now of na-tions, you have seen his seek the great de - sire na - tal star. ev - er-more your voic - es rais-ing to the e-ter - nal Three in Refrain



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

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



- 1 In fant ho ly, in fant low ly, for his bed a cat tle stall;
- 2 Flocks were sleep-ing, shep-herds keep-ing vig il till the morn-ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know-ing Christ the child is Lord of all. saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.

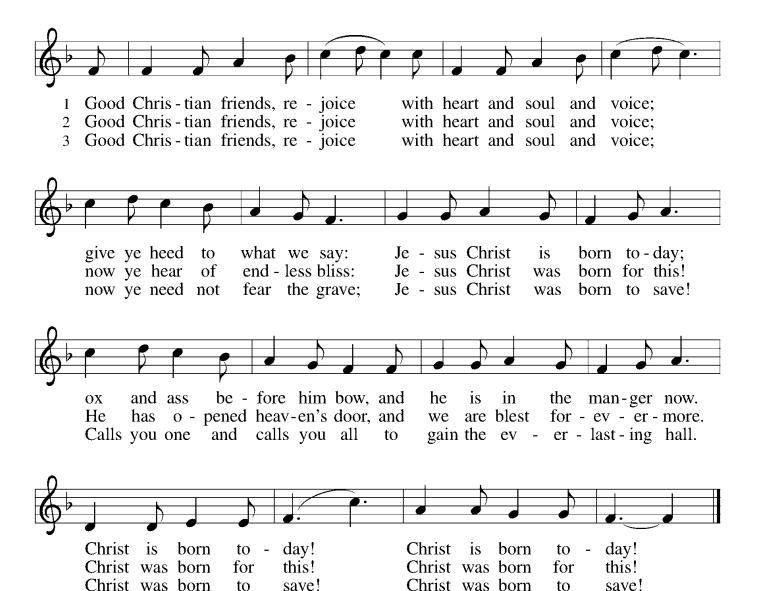


Swift-ly wing-ing, an - gels sing-ing, bells are ring-ing, tid - ings bring-ing: Thus re-joic-ing, free from sor-row, prais-es voic-ing, greet the mor-row:

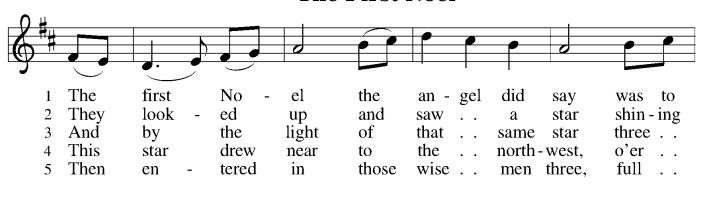


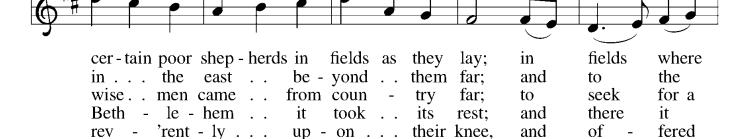
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

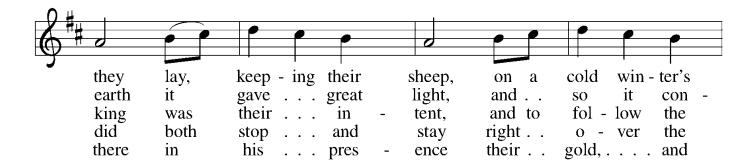
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

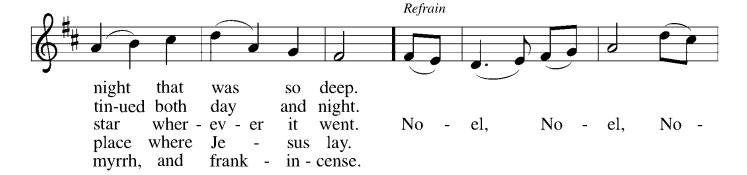


The First Noel



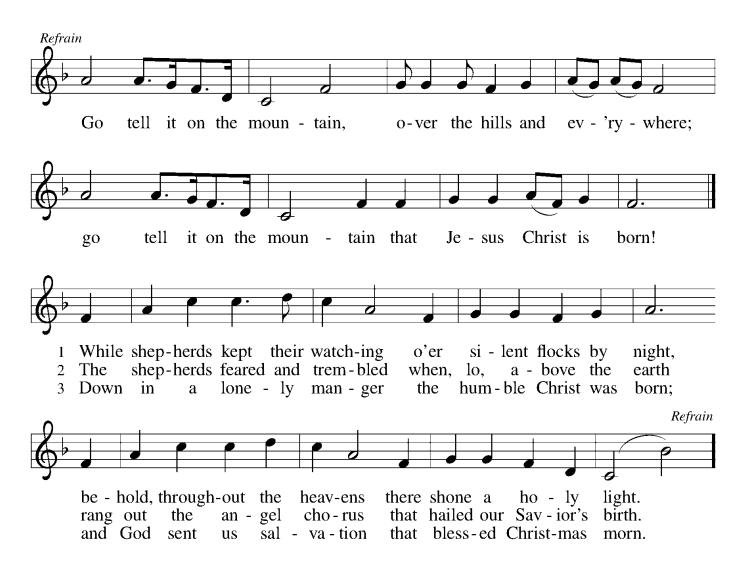








Go Tell It on the Mountain



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