Christmas Family Service

Opening Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, we are joyful to gather together on this special occasion to commemorate your birth; Please bless our gathering tonight that each and every one who comes before you may be filled with joy and thanksgiving because of the marvelous deeds which you have done for us. May your name be exalted high among us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen!

Call to Worship Psalms 100:1-3

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Hymn Singing

O Come, All Ye Faithful (P26)

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 O come, let us adore Him O come, let us adore Him O come, let us adore Him Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation Sing, all ye bright host of heaven above! Glory to God All glory in the highest O come, let us adore Him O come, let us adore Him O come, let us adore Him Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning Jesus, to Thee be all glory given Word of the Father Now in flesh appearing O come, let us adore Him O come, let us adore Him O come, let us adore Him Christ the Lord!

The Angle Appeared to Mary

Luke 1:26-38

Scripture Recitation (Individually or Take turns)

²⁶ In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

²⁹Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

³⁴"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"
³⁵The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the

power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷For no word from God will ever fail."

³⁸"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Prayer

Dear heavenly Father , thank you for choosing humble Mary to accomplish Your will. The Holy one, the Son of God is coming, He is Jesus Christ, the eternal King; He is the true light which shines in our darkness. We rejoice for his birth.

Hymn Singing

In Our Darkness Light Has Shone (P12)

In our darkness light has shone, Alleluia. Still today the light shines on, Alleluia Word made flesh in human birth, Alleluia; Light and life of all the earth Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Christ the Son incarnate see, Alleluia; by whom all things came to be, Alleluia Through the world His splendors shine, Alleluia; full of grace and truth divine Alleluia,Alleluia,Alleluia

All who now in Him believe, Alleluia; everlasting life receive, Alleluia Born of God and in His care, Alleluia; we His Name and nature share Alleluia, Alleluia,Alleluia

Christ a child on earth appears, Alleluia; crown of all creation's years, Alleluia God's eternal Word has come, Alleluia; He shall lead His people home

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

The Angel Appeared to Joseph Matthew 1:18b-25a

Scripture Recitation (Individually or Take turns)

^{18b} (Jesus the Messiah)'s mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ^{25a}But he did not consummate their marriage.

Hymn Singing

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (P14)

O come, O come, Emmanuel And ransom captive Israel That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny From depths of hell Thy people save And give them victory o'er the grave Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by Thine advent here And drive away the shades of night, Pierce the clouds and bring us light! Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, Thou Key of David, come And open wide our heavenly home Make safe the way that leads on high And close the path to misery Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel

Prayer

Dear God, You are a faithful God, You do marvelous deeds. No matter how many years have passed, Your promise never fails. Emmanuel, God lives among men. How unbelievable that God lives with us! You are our Lord, you will never forsake your people, but will guide and lead them according to your good purpose. Dear Lord, now please be with each one of us, humble and cleanse our hearts that we may all have a pure and truthful heart towards You!

Jesus Born in Bethlehem Luke 2:1-7

Scripture Recitation (Individually or Take turns)

¹In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ²(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Meditation and Saints' Thanksgiving Prayer (Please feel free to pray)

Dear Lord Jesus, You are the Most High, the son of God. Yet You are willing to be born in a lowly manger in the small town of Bethlehem; We thank you for your wonderful and sacrificial love for us.

Hymn Singing (can choose one)

Silent Night (P16)

Silent night, holy night All is calm, all is bright Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child holy infant so tender and mild Sleep in heavenly peace Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night Shepherds quake at the sight Glories stream from heaven afar Heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluia Christ the Savior is born Christ the Savior is born

Silent night, holy night Son of God, love's pure light Radiant beams from Thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace Jesus Lord, at Thy birth Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

O Little Town of Bethlehem (P18) / Once in a Royal David' s City (P20)

Angles Proclaim Good News to the Shepherds

Luke 2:8-16

Scripture Recitation (Individually or Take turns)

⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.

¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." ¹⁶So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

Hymn Singing (can choose one)

Angels We Have Heard on High (P22)

Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o'er the plains And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains Gloria In Excelsis Deo Gloria In Excelsis Deo

Shepherds why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? what the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heavenly song? Gloria In Excelsis Deo Gloria In Excelsis Deo

Come to Bethlehem and see Him Whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King Gloria In Excelsis Deo Gloria In Excelsis Deo

It came upon the Midnight Clear (P24)/ Angels, from the Realms of Glory (P27)/Hark! the Herald Angels Sing (P30)

Thanksgiving Prayer (Please feel free to pray) or a Short Message

Jesus Christ, the savior, the one who will deliver us from our sins has been born; such good news that all the people should know. Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for sending the angels to these humble shepherds to proclaim such great news. Thank you for sending your angels to proclaim this good news to us that we may hear and believe. We really hope that in this Christmas season, all the world can hear this good news and believe. Many people are living in misery and fear, hence they need this good news and they need you. May you move the hearts of your children, that they may join the angels to proclaim this marvelous news to the people around them.

Magi from the East Worship Jesus Matthew 2:1-2, 7-11

Scripture Recitation (Individually or Take turns)

¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then

they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

<u>Hymn Singing</u> (can choose one)

Joy to the World (P28)

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 earth, 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.

Angels, from the Realms of Glory (P27) /

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing (P30)

Prayer

Dear Lord, you are the king of the Jews, you are the king of the Magi from the east, you are even more the king of our lives. We give you thanks that we have this privilege and blessing to hear this good news; If not through you, we would die in our sins and transgressions. You came down from your heavenly throne to be born as a man and died for our sins so that we can be delivered from the penalty of eternal death thus we should sing aloud with the heavenly host "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests" may the whole world know you as their Lord and King! Our dear Lord Jesus, in this joyful and festive season, move our hearts that we may grasp this opportunity, this blessing to share the good news that you came to the world to save sinners; may more people praise your holy name. Thank you for watching over our gathering tonight. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of our heavenly Father, the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us always, from now till forever. Amen!

Silent Meditation and Dismiss









WORDS : Latin hymn, 12th C.: Eng. tr. John M. Neale, 1851 MUSIC : Based on plainsong; arr. Thomas Helmone, 1854 Is, 7:14; Jn. 1:23 平安夜 Silent Night







小伯利恒 O Little Town of Bethlehem





在大卫城里 Once in Royal David's City 7 1. 1 1 7 1 2 2 5 5 . <u>3</u> <u>3</u> <u>2</u> <u>1</u> <u>7</u> <u>1</u> -1 3 1 之能 1. 昔 大神 卫子 Ξ 城 里 卑 贱小 马 棚, 在 有 2 奇 3.主 |哉耶 全 恩 主, 竟 然 离 天 降 方, 下 「样爱 好与 榜慈 也渐 稣 是 最 他 像 我 渐 长. 亲 4.藉 È 救 着 赎 我 将 见祂 圣 面. 1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's low - ly cat - tle cit - y stood a shed, 2. He came down to earth from heav-en, who is God and Lord of all, 3. For He is our child-hood's pat-tern, day by day like us He grew; 4. And our eyes at last shall see Him, thro' His own re-deem-ing love: 5 7 | 1 · 1 2 3 1 -T. 2 5 . 3 3 2 子, 霜, 槽 中, 内 母 亲生 将 裹放 有 儿 其 包 已马哀天 只 草 只 有 槽当 棚遮 凤 床 有 蔽 卧 泣并 像 我 身 小像 我 カ 弱, 知 道 喜 欢 孩 仁厚 今 王。 昔 是 童温 柔 在 上为 我 where a moth-er laid man - ger for her ba - by in a His bed; and His shel-ter was a sta-ble, and His cra - dle was a stall; He was lit - tle, weak and help-less, tears and smiles like us He knew: for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a bove;



天使歌唱在高天 Angels We Have Heard on High

French carol, 18th century

French melody, 18th century? Arr. by John W. Peterson, 1921-





夜半歌声 It came upon the Midnight Clear



and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world; when, with the ev - er - cir-cling years, shall come the time fore-told,





荣耀天军 Angels,from the Realms of Glory

HENRY SMART, 1813-1879

JAMES MONTGOMERY, 1771-1854



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







