



We Sing of His Glory

A Children's Christmas Service

by
Beth Nolte
and
Lisa Reckzin

Processional Hymn: Congregation

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice CW 34

Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies;
Not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies.
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!

Come from on high to me; I cannot rise to thee.
Cheer my wearied spirit, O pure and holy Child;
Through thy grace and merit, Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
Draw me unto thee! Draw me unto thee!

Now through his Son doth shine The Father's grace divine.
Death o'er us had reigned Through sin and vanity;
He for us obtained Eternal joy on high.
May we praise him there! May we praise him there!

Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'nly ground?
Where the angels singing With all his saints unite,
Sweetest praises bringing In heav'nly joy and light.
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

Text: Latin hymn, 14th century; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt.

Invocation

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Prayer

M: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his

glory in the life to come; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Psalm of the day: Grades 7 & 8

Psalm 96

refrain: Sing to the Lord; O sing a new song. Sing to the Lord; O Sing a new song.

Sing to the Lord, sing God's praise, all you peoples;
New be your song and new honors you pay.
Sing of God's majesty, praise God forever,
Show God's salvation from day to day *refrain*

Tell of God's wondrous works: tell of God's glory
Till through the nations God's name is revealed.
Praise and exalt the Lord, God the Almighty,
God over all, let the Lord be feared. *refrain*

Vain are the idols and gods of the nations;
God made the heav'ns and God's glory they tell.
Splendor and majesty shine in God's presence;
Glory and strength in God's temple dwell. *refrain*

Give to the Lord Most High glory and honor;
Come with your off'rings and humbly draw near.
Worship the Lord in all beauty and splendor;
Tremble before God with godly fear. *refrain*

Say to the nations, "The Lord reigns forever."
Earth is established by God's mighty hand.
Righteous and just is the King of the nations,
Peace and goodwill comes to all the land. *refrain*

Let heav'n and earth be glad, oceans be joyful;
Forest and field, now exult in your praise.
God now is coming, the judge of the nations,
Coming to rule, salvation to raise *refrain*

Sermon

Children vs. 1 & 2 Congregation vs. 3 & 4

Your Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We CW 46

1. Your little ones, dear Lord, are we
And come your lowly bed to see;

Enlighten ev'ry soul and mind
That we the way to you may find.

2. With songs we hasten you to greet
And humbly fall before your feet.
Oh, blessed hour, oh, sweetest night
That gave you birth, our souls' delight.
3. Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord,
And to us all your grace accord;
True faith and love to us impart
That we may hold you in our heart,
4. Until at last we, too, proclaim,
With all your saints, your glorious name;
In paradise our songs renew
And praise you as the angels do.

Part 1: Jesus Is Born

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

Grade 4: So 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. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

Grades 3- 4: While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. (Luke 2:1-7)

Grades 3- 4:

Theme Song: *Sing Glory, Glory!*

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1. In a manger on the hay,
Jesus lay on Christmas Day.
Born as our Immanuel,
He is God with us to dwell.

Sing glory, glory!
Sing glory, glory! Sing glory, glory!
God's Son has come to us.

Nathan Beining: Jacob prophesied that the time would come when the Jews would be governed

by a foreign power and taxed. In Genesis 49:10 he says, “The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom [tribute] belongs and the obedience of the nations is his.” When the Jews came under Roman rule, the emperor planned a taxation based on an empire-wide census.

Joshua Ihlenfeldt: God used this time to bring Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem, the home of their forefather David, to fulfill what Micah had prophesied: “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times” (Micah 5:2).

Grades 3-4:

Away in a Manger CW 68

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with you there.

Part 2: His Birth Is Announced to the Shepherds

Grades 5-6 Boys: There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.
An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.
But the angel said to them,

Grades 5-6 Girls: “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” (Luke 2:8-12)

Grades 5-6

Theme Song: *Sing Glory, Glory!*

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2. Shepherds with their flocks that night

Saw an angel's glory bright.
"Do not fear," he said to them.
"A Savior's born in Bethlehem."

Sing glory, glory!
Sing glory, glory! Sing glory, glory!
God's Son has come to us.

Brandon Leiterman: The birth of a child is reason to celebrate. Parents send out birth announcements. Friends and family eagerly look forward to getting a glimpse of the baby. And so it was with the birth of our Savior. God sent out a glorious birth announcement to shepherds who were guarding their sheep out in the countryside near the small town of Bethlehem.

Jenna Lemke: As with others who saw angels, these lowly shepherds were afraid when the angel appeared to them. But the angel assured them that what they were about to hear was good news. These faithful Jewish shepherds were the ones to whom God decided to proudly announce the birth of his one and only Son. But this message was not only for them. It was for all people of all times.

Anna Nushart: The shepherds were to follow the directions of the angel so that they might have a glimpse of their newborn King. He was to be found in a manger, a feeding trough for animals. Certainly this was an unusual place for a child. But it was part of God's plan to help the shepherds know that they had found the Messiah. Yet how much more unusual and humble was this bed for the newborn King of all creation!

Grades 5-6:

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come CW 38:1-5

"From heav'n above to earth I come
To bear good news to ev'ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
Whereof I now will say and sing:

"To you this night is born a child
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth
Shall be the joy of all the earth.

"This is the Christ, our God most high,
Who hears your sad and bitter cry;
He will himself your Savior be
From all your sins to set you free.

"He will on you the gifts bestow

Prepared by God for all below,
That in his kingdom, bright and fair,
You may with us his glory share.

“These are the signs which you shall mark:
The swaddling clothes and manger dark.
There you will find the infant laid
By whom the heav’ns and earth were made.”

Part 3: The Angels Sing of Jesus’ Glory

Preschool and Kindergarten: Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.” (Luke 2:13,14)

Preschool and Kindergarten

Theme Song: *Sing Glory, Glory!*

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3. Then a heav’nly host appeared
Praising God for all to hear!
With this news the shepherds fled
Quickly to the manger bed.

Sing glory, glory!
Sing glory, glory! Sing glory, glory!
God’s Son has come to us.

Shane Nushart: What a joy it must have been to hear the multitude of angels praising God! It must have been truly awesome. Someday believers will join the angels around the throne of God, singing his praises. Let us use our lives of worship here on this earth to practice for our perfect praise in heaven! To God be all glory!

Preschool and Kindergarten Song

Bells Are Gaily Ringing

Bells are gaily ringing On this Christmas morn;
Angel voices singing, Jesus Christ is born.
To our God Be Glory, Peace to men good will.
May the sacred story, ev’ry longing still.

Part 4: The Shepherds See Jesus

Grades 1- 2: When 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.”

Grades 1- 2: So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in

the manger.

Grades 1- 2: When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. (Luke 2:15-20)

Grades 1-2

Theme Song: *Sing Glory, Glory!*

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4. There they saw the holy child
Wrapped in cloths, so meek and mild.
Joyfully the shepherds raced
To spread this news in ev'ry place.

Sing glory, glory!
Sing glory, glory! Sing glory, glory!
God's Son has come to us.

Wes Ott: The Jews had been waiting for the Messiah for thousands of years. So it is not surprising that the shepherds excitedly hurried to Bethlehem to search out the child.

Blake Pahl: After seeing the child, they were so overcome with joy that they told all who would listen that the Messiah had been born. Everything that the angel had said was true, and they were witnesses to the fact.

Megan Schultz: And so these shepherds were given the wonderful task of testifying to the truth that God had come to earth as a child born in Bethlehem.

Grades 1- 2

Go Tell it on the Mountain CW 57

refrain: Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere,
Go tell it on the mountain,
That Jesus Christ is born.

While Shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.

refrain

The shepherds feared and trembled

When lo, above the earth.
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. *refrain*

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn *refrain*

Brandon Van Iten: To everyone else, this night may have seemed just like any other evening. On this calm, silent night, everyone else went about their own business. No one even had the slightest clue of the great importance of the event that had occurred. The Son of God, love's pure light, had been born!

Emily Vaughn: Imagine the incredible feelings the shepherds must have been experiencing as they approached the newborn Christ Child. Imagine the sights they must have witnessed as they viewed the Son of God in a lowly manger stall. Imagine the joy they must have shared in knowing that this small child was and is the fulfillment of God's redeeming grace.

Congregational Hymn

Silent Night! Holy Night CW 60

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 "

Grade 8: Sleep in heavenly peace. What is heavenly peace? Not something we come by

naturally. The Bible tells us in Psalm 51:5: “Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.”

Grades 7-8 Boys: From our very beginnings, our hearts, dark with sin, made us natural enemies of God.

Paul says in Romans 5:8, “God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

Grades 7-8 Girls: Jesus washed us in his blood, which makes us as white as snow. In John’s first letter, chapter 1 verse 7, we hear, “The blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.”

Grade 7: Sin no longer separates us from God. We are at peace with God. Paul tells us in Romans 5:1, “Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” We live knowing our eternal peace awaits us in our heavenly home.

Grades 7 & 8

Theme Song: *Sing Glory, Glory!*

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5. Jesus is God’s own dear Son
Sent from heav’n for ev’ryone.
Lived and died for you and me
So from sin we could be free.

Sing alleluia!
Sing alleluia! Sing alleluia!
The Savior has been born.

Offering

Children Sing

Glory, Glory To The Newborn King!

Come and see the baby in the manger, Come and see the little King.
Come and see the baby in the manger. Glory, glory to the newborn King!

refrain: Glory to the newborn King! Glory to the newborn King!
Glory to the newborn King I’m shoutin glory to the newborn King!

Come and see the shepherds on the hillside. Come and hear the angels sing
Come and see the shepherds on the hillside. Glory, glory to the newborn King! *refrain*

Come and see the wisemen as they travel. Come and see the gifts they bring
Come and see the wisemen as they travel. Glory, glory to the newborn King! *refrain*

Prayer for Peace

M: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn Congregation

Joy to the World CW 62

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.

Recessional

Kindergarten and Preschool:

Kindergarten: Jordan Magley, Andrew Doyen, Owen Scheider, Marcus Humann, Brayden Zirbel, Kate Geib

Preschool: Braidyn Lasee, David Stein, Elizabeth Blauert, Sawyer Diny, Kiara Humann, Beau Salm, Connor Hutjens, Riley Feldkamp

Grades 1 and 2

Back Row: Cody Hassemer, Justin Ossmann, Desiree Koomen, Charlie Sabel, Ethan Diny, Emma Otto, Cole Van Rossum, Carter Salm, Emma Geib, Jacob Gajewske

Front Row: Jordan Van Rossum, Melissa Wotachek, McKenzie Mathies, Peyton Cappelle, Alaina Feldkamp, Marshall Edinger, Hannah Hutjens, Scott Schultz, Isabella Blauert

Grades 3 and 4

Back Row: Trisha Feldkamp, Sydney Salm, Matthew Gajewske, Erin Magley, Aaron Schultz, Terrell Edinger, Samantha Zittlow, Thomas Voster

Front Row: Mitchell Leick, Paige Zirbel, Justin Laabs, Cole Yahanek, Jordyn Ossmann, Anna Voster

Grades 5 and 6

Pulpit Side, Back Row: Jacob Beining, Lauren Griepentrog

Next Row: Anthony Feldkamp, Leah Voster, Zachary Diny

Middle: Natalie Zirbel, Evan Vaughn, Thomas Schultz, Lindsey Doyen, Matthew Krueger, Leah Kuchenbecker

Second from the Front: Hayden Meulemens, Jerod Wiedow, Elaine Blauert, Alexander Laabs, Leah Ihlenfeldt

Front Row: Jerod Voster, Emily Cappelle, Andrew Gajewske, Leah Voster Hailey Witt, Alyssa Laabs

Grades 7 and 8

Back Row: Jonathan Otto, Jesse Doyen, Colin Salm

Second Back: Nathan Beining, Blake Pahl, Brandon Leiterman, Shane Nushart, Brandon Van Iten, Brandon Zittlow

Third Back: Joshua Ihlenfeldt, Emily Vaughn, Jenna Lemke, Anna Nushart, Wes Ott, Megan Schultz

Second from Front: Megan Laabs, Noah Witt, Gloria Blauert, Matthew Wendt, Victoria Wagner, Matthew Sabel

Front Row: Cody Kittell, Erin Krueger, Emmett Kiley, Sawyer Alexander, Bryanna Cappelle, Ashley Leiterman, Marissa Leick, Rachel Ihlenfeldt, Emily Malcore