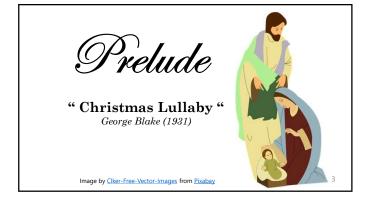






Come, Child of peace,
come to a world that is longing for peace.
come, Child of peace,
come to a world that is lost in despair,
lost in its darkness and hopelessness;
Where is the child who will come,
come to lead, child of peace?

5



The lion will lie with the lamb;
together their young will be feeding.

No harm will come on the Lord's holy mountain
while he is leading

Come, Child of peace,
Promise of ages and Ruler of all;
Light of eternity, You will be that little Child
who will come, come to lead,
Child of peace.

You made your witness, not with devices of intimidation and coercion, but through an instrument of suffering and scorn.

10

Welcoming Prayer (in unison)

Loving God,
you have come to us,
not with great signs and wonders,
but with a babe who became
a humble carpenter.

For your foolishness is wiser than human thought, and your weakness is stronger than all human powers.

Grant that we may hear and respond to your wisdom. Amen.

11

You took on human form,
not with trappings of power and might,
but among folk who fasted and
prayed, and gave thanks
in the midst of their poverty.

The Rord's Brayer

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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power
and the glory forever. Amen. [CHIMES]







Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

CAROL UMIE No. 234 WV. 1 & 3

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

THE PROPHECY

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

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15

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,

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens 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.

L: Tonight we gather to remember with the prophet Isaiah:

For 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. Great will be his authority, 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 (Isaiah 9:6-7)

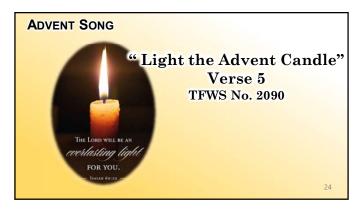
19



All: We gather to once again back in the glory that visited a stable and a manger, shepherds watching their flocks, and a young couple cradling the newborn Messiah.

L: We light the Christ candle as a sign of the glory that came among us in unexpected places and to unexpected people, that we may be people who seek and follow the glory of the Christ child here and now.





Light the Advent candles, now: sing of donkey, sheep, and cow; birthday candles for the King, let the alleluias ring.

Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night; candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.









"Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by mignest neaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"



Han the heaven born Frince of Feace:

Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth,
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,"
From heaven's all gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing.

35

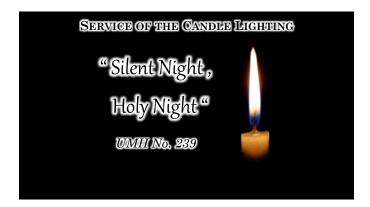
THE SHERHERDS

Luke 2:15-20
The Shepherds
go to the manger

Read by Barbara Fleming

Still through the cloven skies they came with peaceful wings unfurled, and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world; above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing, and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And ye, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road,
and hear the angels sing!



For lo! The days are hastening on,
by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever circling years
shall come the time foretold
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song
which now the angels sing.

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.

41

THE WISE MEN

Matthew 2:1-11

The Wise Men follow the star

Read by Jerry Orton

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.

CAROL (Please stand as you are able)

"Joy to the World " UMH No. 246

Let Earth receive her King



46

Silent night, holy night,
wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing,
Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born!

44

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.

47

## **Unison Prayer**

Holy God, we thank you for the light of your Son, Jesus Christ. On this Christmas night, we rejoice in Christ our Savior. Help us to keep that light alive in our hearts and to spread HIS joy to all we meet this Christmas season. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen. Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!

Let all 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.

49

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.

