



WALLINGFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CHRISTMAS EVE
7:30 PM SERVICE
DECEMBER 24, 2022

Welcome to Wallingford Presbyterian Church

Members and friends gather here each Sunday morning (and lots of times during the week!) to celebrate and serve. We rejoice that you are here with us, and hope that you'll feel right at home.

Face Masks for personal protection are optional for all activities on our campus

Visitors are encouraged to reach out about activities they may be interested in attending.

Visual Worship Schedules are available upon request.

If you need a little help hearing, portable listening devices are available.

If a fidget toy would be helpful for you, they are available at the Narthex entrance.

An All Gender Restroom is located in the Narthex.

An infant changing station and Quiet Room for parents with little ones is located off the Narthex.

A Parents' room is available downstairs for those with small children,

Activity packets are available for children to use during worship.

Please ask an usher if you need help; we are here to assist you!

Sunday, December 25	Thursday, December 29
Christmas Day	7:30 pm- BSA 277/2019
10:00 am- Worship	Friday, December 30
Come as You Are - Pajamas Welcome!	Saturday, December 31
11:00 am- Fellowship Time	Sunday, January 1
Monday, December 26	New Years Day
Christmas Monday- Office Closed	9:30 am- Chancel Choir
Tuesday, December 27	10:00 am- Worship
7:00 pm- Ballroom Dancing	11:00 am- Fellowship Time
Wednesday, December 28	11:00 am- Kids Café
9:00 am-Breakfast Group-Court Diner	

A community where all who seek God are Welcome...



A STEPHEN SERIES CONGREGATION

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GATHERING BEFORE THE WORD

WORDS OF MEDITATION

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and the princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the sick,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among others
To make music in the heart. – *Howard Thurmon*

WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES-- YOUNG PEOPLE OF OUR CONGREGATION
(The primary symbolism of the Advent Candles has to do with light growing in darkness – leading up to the coming of Jesus Christ, the light of the world. The pink candle is lighted on the Third Sunday of Advent, traditionally thought to be a respite of joy in an otherwise penitential season.)

We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.
As the Lord has promised, in the days to come...
The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;
Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.
The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
The calf and the lion and the fatling will lie down together, and a little child shall lead them.
The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
Like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.
The Lord will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child.
She shall bear a son, and name him Emmanuel: "God is with us."
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.
Let us walk in the light of the Lord. **Amen.**

OPENING PRAYER

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE

CAROL 133

O Come, All Ye Faithful
(verses 1 and 4)

ADESTE FIDELES

TELLING THE STORY

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 11:1-9

CAROL 92

While We Are Waiting Come

WAITING (CASON)

TELLING THE STORY

ANTHEM

Masters in This Hall
Vocal Ensemble and Hand Bells

arr. J Epstein

*Masters in this hall, hear ye news today, brought from over sea, and ever I you pray. (Refrain):
Nowell, nowell, nowell sing we clear! Holpen are all folk on earth, born is God's son so dear! Now-
ell, nowell, nowell sing we loud! God today hath poor folk raised and cast a-down the proud! Then
to Bethlehem town we went two and two, and in a sorry place heard the oxen low. (Refrain)
Therein did we see a sweet and goodly may and a fair old man; upon the straw she lay.
(Refrain). This is Christ the Lord, masters be ye glad! Christmas is come in, and no folk should be
sad. (Refrain).*

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

TELLING THE STORY

MUSICAL OFFERING

The First Noel
Lisa Tolomeo-Higgins and Lise Meloy, Flute

arr. B. Holcombe

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-7

TELLING THE STORY

CAROL 121

O Little Town of Bethlehem
(verses 1 and 2)

ST. LOUIS

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:8-12

TELLING THE STORY

ANTHEM

The Babe of Bethlehem
Vocal Ensemble and Trumpet

Traditional

Ye nations all, on you I call, come hear this declaration, and don't refuse this glorious news of Jesus and salvation. To royal Jews came first the news of Christ the great Messiah, as was foretold by prophets old, Isaiah, Jeremiah. His parents poor in earthly store, to entertain the stranger, they found no bed to lay his head but in the ox's manger. No royal things, as used by kings, were seen by those that found him, but in the hay the stranger lay, with swaddling bands around him. On that same night a glorious light to shepherds there appeared, bright angels came in shining flame, they saw and greatly feared. The angels said, "Be not afraid, although we much alarm you, we do appear good news to bear, as now we will inform you." When this was said, straightway was made a glorious sound from heaven. Each flaming tongue an anthem sung, "to us a savior's given." In Jesus' name, the glorious theme, we elevate our voices; at Jesus' birth be peace on earth, meanwhile all heaven rejoices.

TELLING THE STORY

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

If you wish to give electronically from your smartphone or tablet, please scan the box at the right to go to the website where you can give to WPC via credit card, or give via the Church Center app.



OFFERTORY

What Child Is This

arr. Patricia Lou Harris

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of every good and perfect gift, we thank you for your greatest gift, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. In this season when so many gifts are given and received, we pray that you will receive the gifts we offer now. Use them according to your purposes and plans, bringing your good news of great joy to all people; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:1-5

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

Our lights have been dimmed to symbolize the darkness of the world without Christ. The burning candles represent the divine source of light in that darkness. Please stand as the usher comes to your pew. To light your candle tilt it to the candle already lighted. Don't tip the lighted candle or the hot wax will drip onto you or the floor. We ask parents to supervise your children as they light and hold their candles. The candles will be extinguished following the Benediction.

*CAROL 122

Silent Night

STILLE NACHT

TELLING THE STORY

*CAROL 136

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

TIME OF GREETING AND SHARING THE GRACE AND PEACE WE RECEIVED

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

(Please exchange with one another, by words and gestures, signs of peace and reconciliation.)

POSTLUDE

Angels We Have Heard on High

arr. Mary MacDonald

***Those who are able, please stand.**

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Thank you to all who assisted with the worship service this evening.

This week's flowers were given to the Glory of God, as printed in the back of the bulletin.

WORSHIP Just a reminder: If you aren't feeling your best (headache, fever, body ache), please consider staying at home until you feel like your old self again.

MASK OPTIONAL Mask wearing is optional for worship and all activities and groups using WPC's buildings or grounds. If you would like to wear one, we have KN-95 masks available for your use when you come to worship.

OFFERING ENVELOPES 2023 If you requested weekly offering envelopes for 2023, they are available for pick up in Fellowship Hall

IN-PERSON STAFF AND OFFICE HOURS

The Office is closed and the staff is taking a much needed break this week. We are, however, checking messages and emails.

Feel free to call the church office (610-566-1644) or email staff members as needed this week.

THE GIVING TREE & ANGEL TREE COMMITTEE would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the church community for your incredible generosity. This year you donated over 100 total gifts and gift cards, brightening the Christmas celebrations of so many children in our area. Because of your generosity, ten children of incarcerated parents will receive a gift from their parent this Christmas season. Families served by Chester Eastside and City Team will receive gifts and gift cards, and needy families identified by the WSSD social worker will be receiving gift cards.

FLUTE LESSONS WITH ELISA MUZZILLO AVAILABLE

Tuesday & Wednesday nights at WPC. Experienced teacher to students of all skill levels ages 8-18+. 30 or 60 minute lesson durations. contact Elisa at elisamuzzflute@gmail.com for lesson rates and availability!

CHAIRS FOR THE SANCTUARY

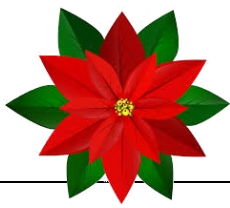
Friends, WPCers and countrymen – lend me your “rears” !

As some of you know, the Sanctuary, Worship and Disabilities Committees have discussed replacing the pews in our church with chairs, as has been done in several area churches as well as churches in Europe. The thought is that the use of chairs will give us greater flexibility in the use of our church space as well as giving us accessibility for all disabilities. Our initial plan is to replace 4 or 5 rows of pews with chairs – we would alternate chairs with arms and chairs without arms for additional flexibility. The chairs with arms would enable those who have difficulty getting up to have added support for standing.

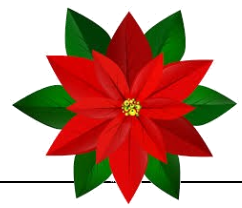
So, with no “ifs” “ands” just “butts” we would like you to “try on” the two new chairs we have on display in Fellowship Hall. Members of the committees will be available to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for keeping your minds open to these proposed changes.

~Chris Dearnaley, Michelle George, Kristine Mulhorn, Jim Oetinger, Shirley Rudd, and Gwyn Vernon



Christmas Poinsettias

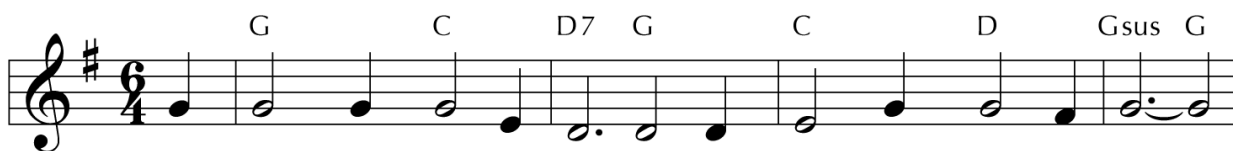


Given By	Dedication
Jon Bauer	In Memory of Belle and Pete Bauer
Bruce and Gail Clark	Suzanne Denninger, Ray Ortiz
Sally Clyde	In Memory of Bill Clyde, Family, and Friends
Scott and Diane Corbett	Jane and John R. Corbett Joanne McQuillic
Mary Lou Day	In Memory of Jim Day and Loved Ones
Chris Dearnaley and Joe Benvenuto	In honor of family and friends
Deb Dunbar and Jeff Draine	Alan Barman & Ed Reed
Walter Dunham	In memory of E. Ernest and Elizabeth T. Dunham
Steve, Tyler, and Lyla Eckman	In loving memory of our wife and mom, Emily Gayle Eckman
Roger and Carol Freidinger	In honor of Our Family
Helene Furlong	In memory of John R. and Helene M. Furlong
Bud and Edna Fury	In memory of Our Parents
Fred and Mary Ann German	Loved ones
Tom and Donna Halley	In loving memory of our daughter, Emily Gayle Eckman
Alva Hayes	In loving memory of Donald Hayes and family
Reg Jones	Bill and Rhoda Jones

Given By	Dedication
Cathy Kilpatrick	In memory of Harry
Henry and Leslie Krowchenko	In memory of Sam and Caroline Keys
The Montague Family	In memory of Mary Paul
Jim and Nancy Oetinger	In memory of Our Parents
Mary Rose	In Memory of Ken, our parents and our grandson
Lloyd Smith	In memory of Bernice Smith, Georgia Grab
Earl Varney	In memory of Mina Hale Varney
Carter and Morgan	In Memory of Pop-pop

Prepare the Way, O Zion

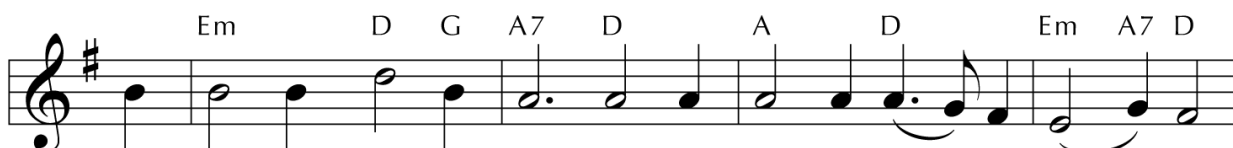
106



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw-ing near!
 2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sav - ior's rule em - brace,

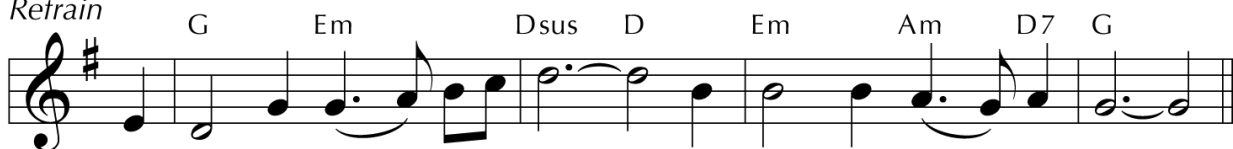


Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
 His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
 and ti - dings of sal - va - tion pro-claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore-told in sa - cred sto - ry.
 Lift high your praise re-sound-ing, for grace and joy a - bound-ing.
 All lands will bow re - joic - ing, their ad - o - ra - tion voic - ing.

Refrain



O blest is Christ who came in God's most ho - ly name.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

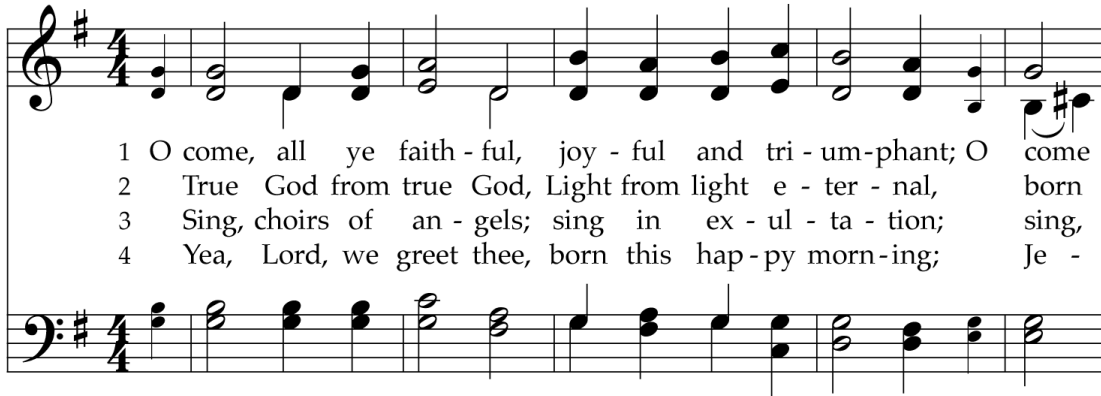
This engaging Advent text based on Isaiah 40:3–5 and Psalm 24:7–10 has been in use in the Church of Sweden for almost two hundred years. It is set to a version of an even older Swedish tune, which in turn seems to be derived from a German folktune that spread to Scandinavia.

TEXT: Frans Mikael Franzen, 1812, rev. 1819; trans. Augustus Nelson, 1958;
 adapt. Charles P. Price, 1980, alt.
 MUSIC: *Then Swenska Psalmboken*, 1697; arr. *American Lutheran Hymnal*, 1930
 Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN
 7.6.7.6.7.7 with refrain

O Come, All Ye Faithful

133

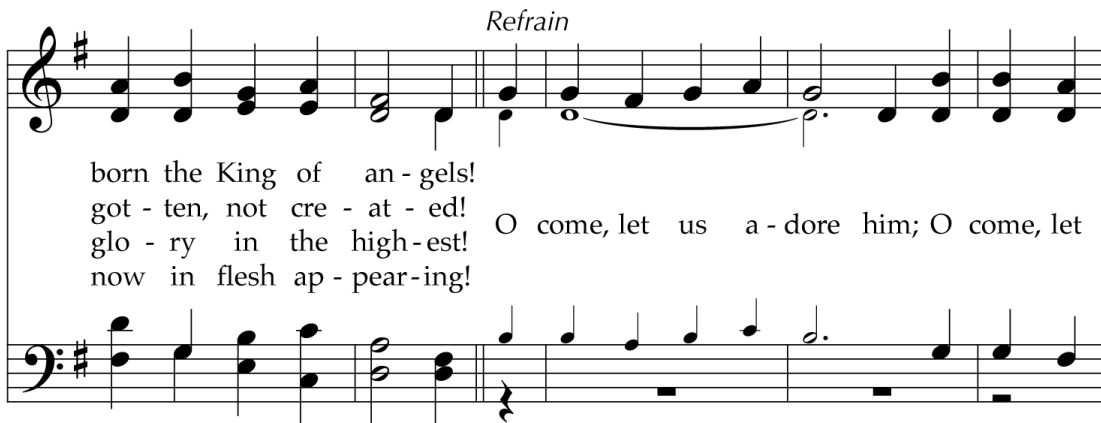


1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -



ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain



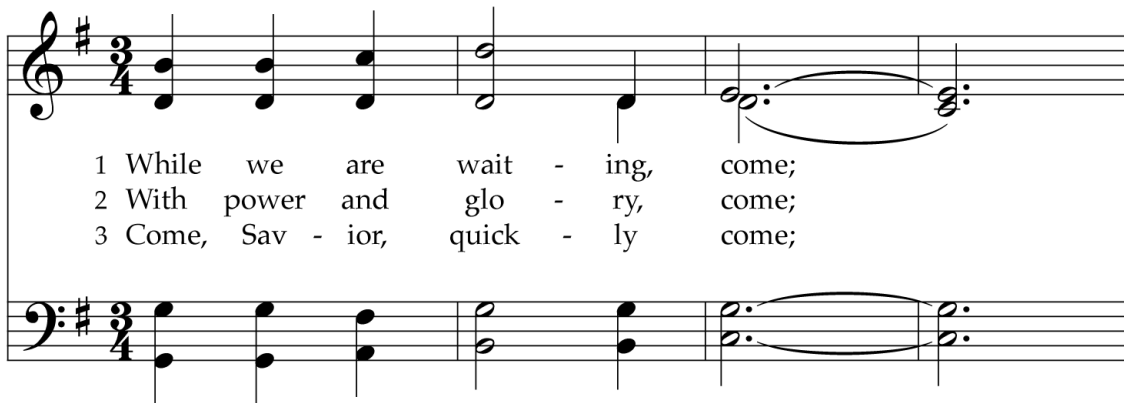
born the King of an - gels!
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed!
 glo - ry in the high - est! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!



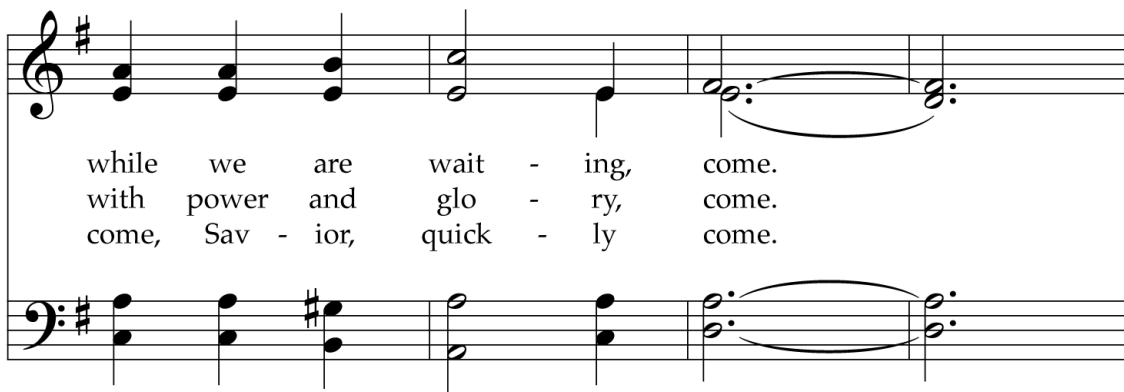
us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

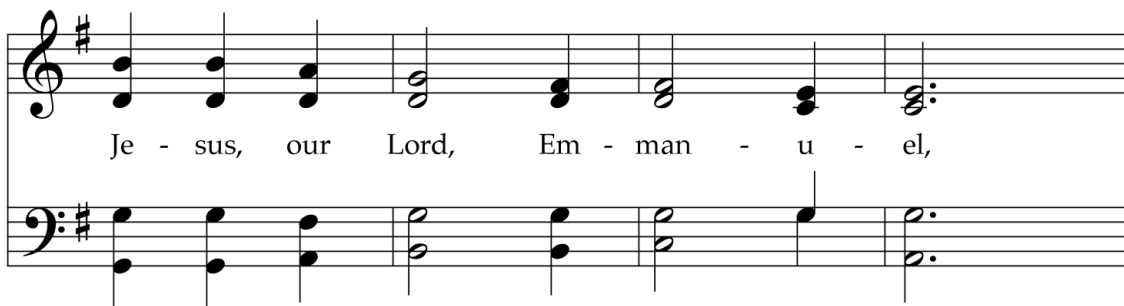
92 While We Are Waiting, Come



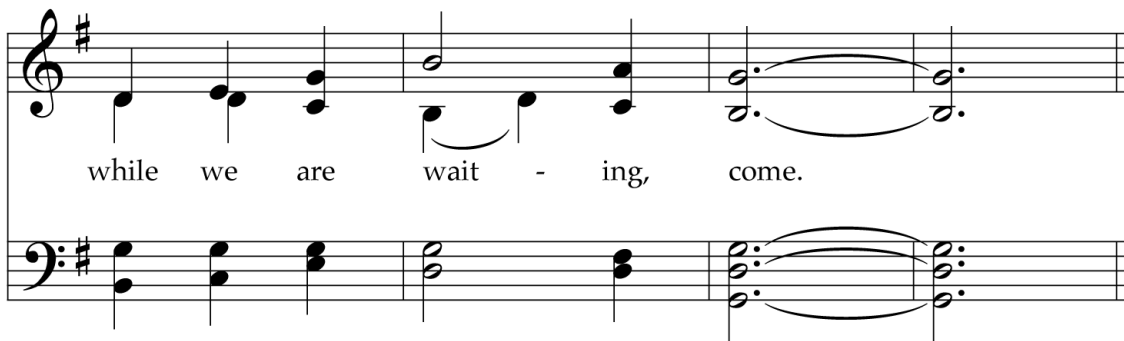
1 While we are wait - ing, come;
2 With power and glo - ry, come;
3 Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come;



while we are wait - ing, come.
with power and glo - ry, come.
come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come.



Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el,



while we are wait - ing, come.

This simple and meditative Advent hymn is so uncomplicated in both text and tune that it can be learned quickly and sung without reference to a book, which might make it effective as a prayer response. It would also lend itself to improvised stanzas on appropriate occasions.

121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y and, gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we 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 - dering love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

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

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

Though he was famed during his lifetime as a great preacher, no sermon Phillips Brooks ever preached has been heard or read by as many people as have sung this carol he wrote in December 1868 for the Sunday School children of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Philadelphia.

Silent Night, Holy Night! 122

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light
 4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and
 glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu -
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing
 with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"
 grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
 King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

GERMAN

1 *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!*
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

KOREAN


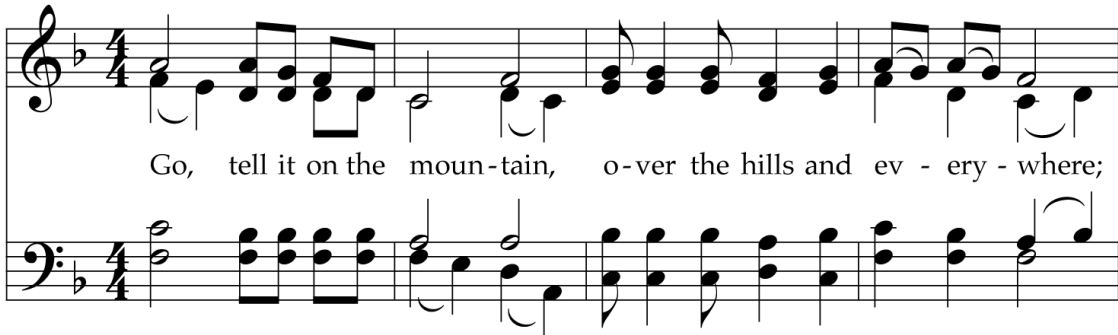
1 고요한밤 거룩한밤
 어둠에 묻힌밤
 주의부모 앉아서
 감사기도 드릴때
 아기잘도 잔다
 아기잘도 잔다

SPANISH

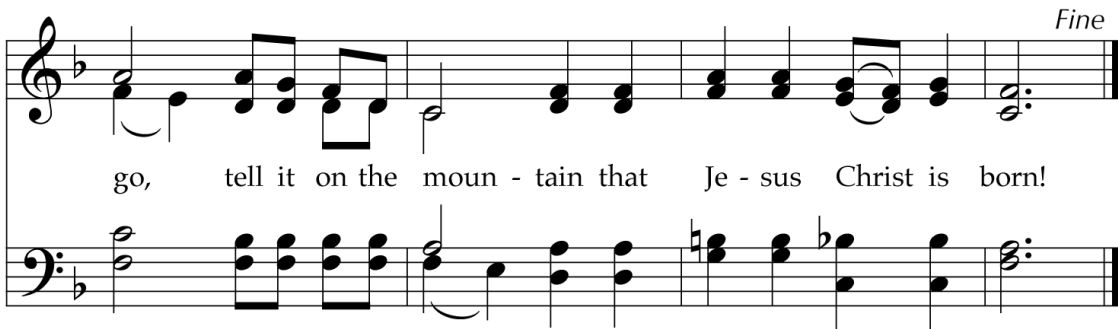
1 *¡Noche de paz, noche de amor!*
Todo duerme en derredor,
entre los astros que esparcen su luz,
bella, anunciando al niño Jesús,
brilla la estrella de paz,
brilla la estrella de paz.

The tradition that this carol's tune was created for guitar accompaniment at its first singing on Christmas Eve 1818 seems reliable, though a recent find shows that the text was about two years old. But there is no question that this is now a favorite Christmas carol worldwide.

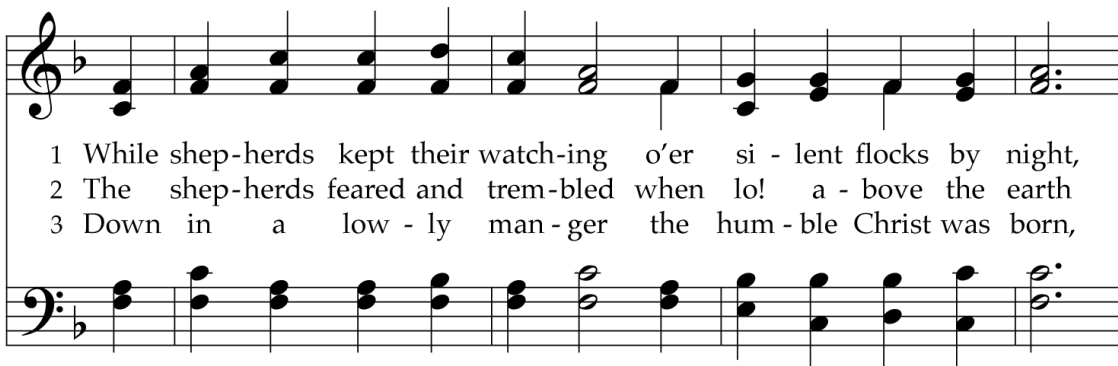
136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain 


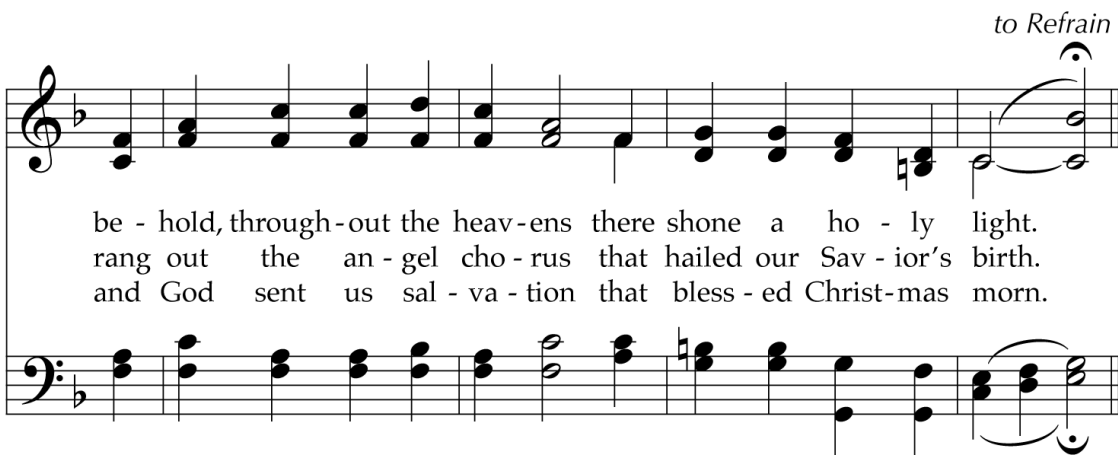
Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;



go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.

STAFF

Rev. François Lacroix, Pastor
Rev. Taylor Cornelius, Associate Pastor
Lee Hagon-Kerr, Director of Music
Kate Callahan, Church Administrator
Leslie Krowchenko, Communications Coordinator
Christine Darr, Clerk of Session
Ed Mattote and Todd Darr, Co-Treasurers
Michelle Hall, Financial Secretary

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