

# ***LUTHERAN CHAPEL***



**REVELATION 20:1-3, 11-15, 21:1-8 AND LUKE 2:41-52**

***"INCREASING IN WISDOM AND STATURE"***

*"From a babe to a youth, Jesus grows in wisdom for us. Listen to His Word today!"*

**ANTECOMMUNION  
1ST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS  
DECEMBER 29, 2024**

**[lutheranchapelchurch.org](http://lutheranchapelchurch.org)  
(704) 864-6491**

**LUTHERAN CHAPEL  
SERVICE OF ANTE COMMUNION**

***BOLD** indicates congregational responses - \* Indicates that all who are able should stand to honor God.*

**GATHER**

**PRELUDE**

*“Prelude on Silent Night”*

Anonymous

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*Matthew 28:19b*

**C: Amen.**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

*1 John 1:8-9*

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us recite the gift of the Ten Commandments and the Great Commandment and use these teachings to examine our lives.

**THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**

*Exodus 20:1-17*

- 1. You shall have no other gods.**
- 2. You shall not make wrongful use of the Name of the LORD your God.**
- 3. Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.**
- 4. Honor your father and mother.**
- 5. You shall not murder.**
- 6. You shall not commit adultery.**
- 7. You shall not steal.**
- 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**
- 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**
- 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife or (husband).**

**THE GREAT COMMANDMENT**

*Mark 12:28-31*

**You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength...you shall love your neighbor as yourself.**

P: Let us kneel or sit for a time of silent confession and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority. I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN**     *"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

**ELW #289**

**\*THE APOSTOLIC GREETING**

*2 Corinthians 13:13*

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

**\*THE KYRIE**

**ELW pg. 147**

**\*GLORY TO GOD**

**ELW pg. 148**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**                      *(In Unison)*

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

**C: Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **MESSAGE FOR ALL OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

*All who want to come forward for the Message are welcome to do so.*

### **FIRST LESSON**

**1 SAMUEL 2:18-20, 26**

<sup>18</sup> Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. <sup>19</sup> His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. <sup>20</sup> Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord"; and then they would return to their home. <sup>26</sup> Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord and with the people.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 148**



Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalm Settings for the Church Year: Revised Common Lectionary*  
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Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens;  
praise God in the heights.  
Praise the Lord, all you angels;  
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.  
Praise the Lord, sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you shining stars.

Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens.  
Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
who commanded, and they were created,  
Who made them stand fast forever and ever,  
giving them a law that shall not pass away.

*Refrain*

Praise the Lord from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps;  
Fire and hail, snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;  
Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars;  
Wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and flying birds;

*Refrain*

Sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;  
Young men and maidens,  
old and young together.  
Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

**STORY OF SALVATION LESSON**

**REVELATION 20:1-3, 11-15, 21:1-8**

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. <sup>2</sup>He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, <sup>3</sup>and threw him into the pit, and locked and sealed it over him, so that he would deceive the nations no more, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be let out for a little while.

<sup>11</sup>Then I saw a great white throne and the one who sat on it; the earth and the heaven fled from his presence, and no place was found for them. <sup>12</sup>And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Also another book was opened, the book of life. And the dead were judged according to their works, as recorded in the books. <sup>13</sup>And the sea gave up the dead that were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and all were judged according to what they had done. <sup>14</sup>Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire; <sup>15</sup>and anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.  
He will dwell with them;  
they will be his peoples,  
and God himself will be with them;  
<sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, "**See, I am making all things new.**" Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup>Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. <sup>7</sup>Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children. <sup>8</sup>But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the polluted, the murderers, the fornicators, the sorcerers, the idolaters, and all liars, their place will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### STORY OF SALVATION TIMELINE

*The timeline below offers an overview of the Story of Salvation lesson from Genesis to Revelation. The + marks where we are now. Memory verse is in bold.*

*Creation : Fall : Promise : Exodus : Conquest : Judges: Kings and Prophets : Exile :  
Restoration : 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple : **JESUS** : +Apostles : Last Day : **New Creation***

### **\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*John 6:68*

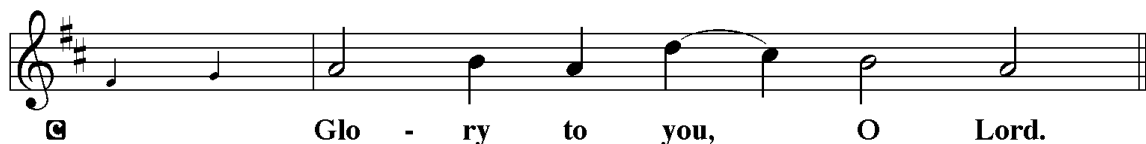
**Alleluia. Lord to who shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

### **\*GOSPEL**

**LUKE 2:41-52**

*Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel.*

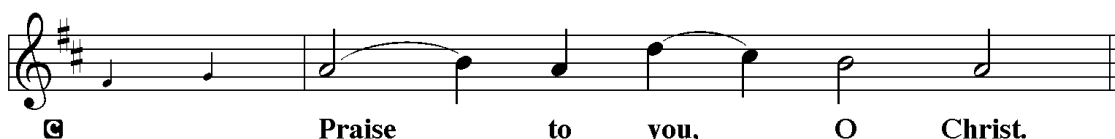
Response after the announcement:



<sup>41</sup>Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. <sup>43</sup>When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." <sup>49</sup>He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand what he said to them. <sup>51</sup>Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

<sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



**The Promise Given—Our Future Hope  
Jesus the Youth**

*The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus' saving power: I've got it all figured out. I know all the things. I don't need to grow anymore, right? Wrong.*

*The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus' ultimate saving power: Jesus' example is to grow in wisdom through the journey. Wisdom let us attend!*

*So What?* Don't miss church – don't miss the gift to grow in the Wisdom of Jesus. Continue to celebrate these 12 Days of Christmas.

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**

*"Go Tell it One the Mountain"*

ELW #290

**\*THE NICENE CREED**

*All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate on the attendance registry and talk to an usher or the pastor.*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven;**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**

**in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

**\*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

*Philippians 4:7*

P: The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

**TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

*Malachi 3:10, Matthew 23:23, 2 Corinthians 9:7-8*

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

*“Jubilate! Bells are Ringing”*

Arr. by Ellen Foncannon

**\*OFFERTORY**

*“Create in Me a Clean Heart”*

*Psalms 51:10-11*

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

**\*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

*(In Unison)*

**C: Blessed are You, O God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered in feeding the world with Your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*1 Timothy 2:1-4*

AM: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*A brief silence may be kept. Each prayer will conclude: Lord in Your mercy, and the congregation may respond* **Hear our prayers.**

*Prayers are commended in Jesus' Name.*

AM: All these prayers and whatever else You see that we need we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Matthew 6:9-13*

AM: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.

## SENDING

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*RECESSIONAL HYMN

*"Hark! The Herald Angels"*

**ELW #270**

### \*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

### POSTLUDE

*"Sing We Now of Christmas"*

*Arr. by Douglas E. Wagner*

† † † † † † † †

### THOSE SERVING AT LUTHERAN CHAPEL TODAY

Ministers.....	People of Lutheran Chapel
Pastor.....	Michael Comer
Administrative Assistant.....	Susan Hibsich
Director of Music Ministries.....	Kathie Riebe
Choir Accompanist.....	Anna Gilreath
Assistant Minister.....	Sylvia Fogle
Lector.....	Norman Overcash
Acolyte.....	Hunter Clark
Crucifer.....	Christian Mull
Head Ushers.....	Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman
First Aid/AED/CPR.....	Ervin Hoffman
Council Members of the Month.....	Crown Hoffman and Jason Sanders





# Upcoming EVENTS



**GENERAL INFORMATION:** If your family is in need of a **nursery** attendant during the 10:00 service, please let our ushers know and they will contact one of our attendants. **Restrooms** are located on the bottom floor of the Sanctuary. Additional restrooms are located in the Educational Building and *do not require the use of stairs*. If needed, please see an usher for assistance in locating them.

**TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS ONLINE:** This QR code goes straight to the “Easy Tithe” page on the website that accepts tithes and offerings electronically.



**ESTHER CIRCLE:** Esther Circle will meet in the Fellowship Hall on **Monday, January 6th** at 10 am.

**REBECCA CIRCLE:** Rebecca Circle will gather for dinner at Tino’s in Lincolnton **Monday, January 6th** at 6 pm.

**CLOTHING CLOSET GIVEAWAY:** There will be a clothing closet giveaway on **Saturday, January 11th** from 9-12 pm.

**OWLS:** Our next *OWL-standing* time of fellowship will be held at BBQ King in Lincolnton on **Thursday, January 16th** at 11:00 am. For those wanting a ride, the bus will leave at 10:30 am from the church

**LOVE OFFERING:** The love offering for January will be given to Cancer Services of Gaston County. This agency has an active presence in our community for 47 years. Cancer Services provides education about cancer prevention and detection, assists cancer patients, and funds cancer research. The mission of Cancer Services is to serve the community by actively promoting healthy lifestyles and providing support and services needed by people living with cancer. They provide cancer patients with limited financial and medication assistance and medical equipment is loaned free of charge. Also, they provide transportation assistance, nutritional supplements, wigs, diapers, bed pads, etc. to cancer patients. Educational programs and free cancer screening clinics are provided to promote public awareness of cancer. Everyone is personally affected by cancer at some time in their life. By supporting agencies such as Cancer Services, you are helping people who are suffering from this disease. Your donation can help make a difference in their battle against cancer. Thank you, the Social Ministry.

# *Weekly* **CALENDAR**



## **Sunday, Dec. 29**

8:30 am Fellowship  
9:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)  
11:30 am Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)  
8:00 pm Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)

## **Monday, Dec. 30**

## **Tuesday, Dec. 31**

New Years Eve  
Office Closed

## **Wednesday, Jan. 1**

New Years Day  
Office Closed

## **Thursday, Jan. 2**

## **Friday, Jan. 3**

## **Saturday, Jan. 4**

9:30 am Hungry Peeps in (Fellowship Hall)



**DAILY PRAYER - A HOME ALTAR ALTERS THE HOME!:** Sunrise, noon, sunset and at meals are times for daily prayer (*Psalm 1 55:17*). *May God bless you as you turn to Him day by day.*

**THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - Week 46 December 29 to January 5, 2024**

12/29 Morning Reading: Revelation 20—Evening Reading: Zechariah 9, 10, 11, 12

12/30 Morning Reading: Revelation 21—Evening Reading: Zechariah 13, 14

12/31 Morning Reading: Revelation 22—Evening Reading: Malachi

01/01 Morning Reading: Matthew 1—Evening Reading: Genesis 1, 2, 3

01/02 Morning Reading: Matthew 2—Evening Reading: Genesis 4, 5, 6

01/03 Morning Reading: Matthew 3—Evening Reading: Genesis 7, 8, 9

01/04 Morning Reading: Matthew 4—Evening Reading: Genesis 10, 11, 12

01/05 Morning Reading: Matthew 5:1-26—Evening Reading: Genesis 13, 14, 15



**This QR** code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that lists the commemorations and Psalms appointments for the week.

**PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP:** Wanda Anthony, Braylon Beam, Ron Behringer, Steve Bell, Pauline Bradley, Shirley Bradley, Buddy Carothers, Miles Carpenter, George Cashion, Renee Dockery, Kathy Finch, Baker Hampton, Barbara Peacock, Doug Rhyne, Kay Robinson, Pat Robinson, Barbara Robinson, Joe Veale, and Gene & Myra Weaver.

**FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP:** John Austin, Kyle Banes, Rick Belton, Kathy Bradley, Peggy Button, Deborah Carpenter, Jeff Cobb, Doris Coggins, Tucker Doyne, Jameson Franklin, Jennifer Hart, Bob Hice, Mary Jordan, Taylor Jordan, Vesta Lankford, Bobby Myers, Paul Nordberg, Rita Pasour, Josie Putnam, Joye Rankin, Randy Reel, Morgan Rosser, Doris Sellers, Dorothy Slessman, Christy Carpenter Smith, Charlene Sorenson, Judy Turner, Becky Van Dyke, Jimmy Watlington, and Anthony Wynn

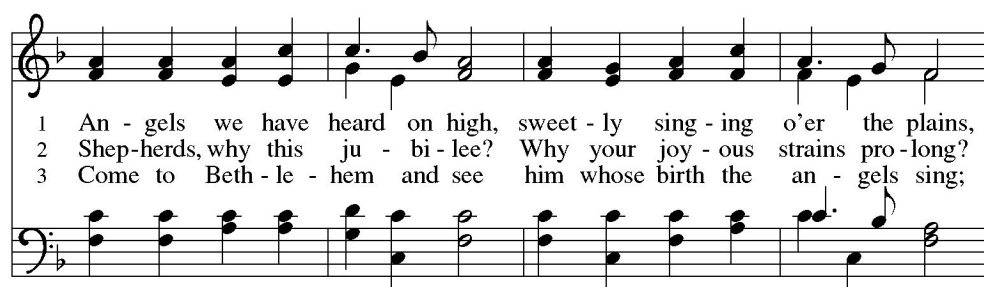
*To share concerns and updates for the prayer list contact: the church office (704-864-6491) or call/text Pastor Comer (704-787-6439).*

**NEXT WEEK'S LESSONS**

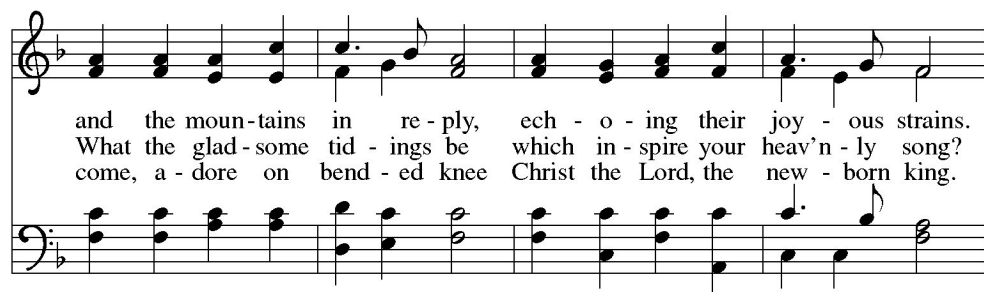
**Sunday, January 5 ~ Holy Communion**

Genesis 1:2-4 and Matthew 2:1-12 “Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh, So What?”

# Angels We Have Heard on High



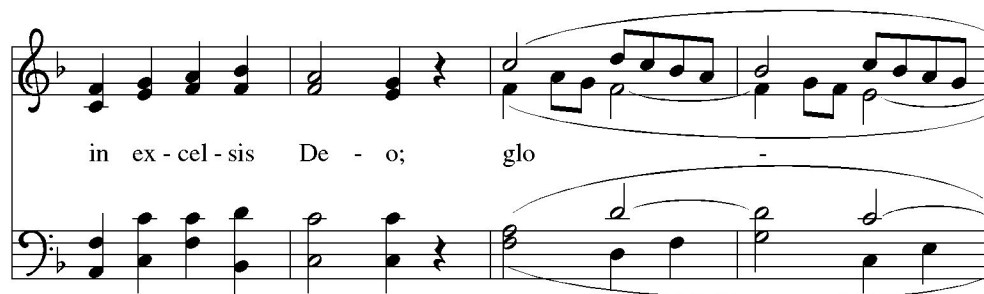
1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



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.



*Refrain*  
Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o.

# Go Tell It on the Mountain

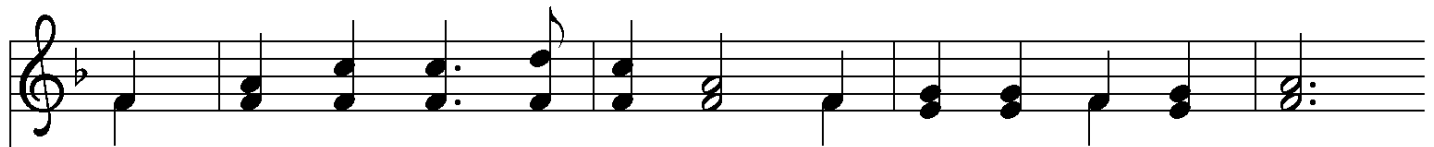
*Refrain*



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - 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 lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;



*Refrain*



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.

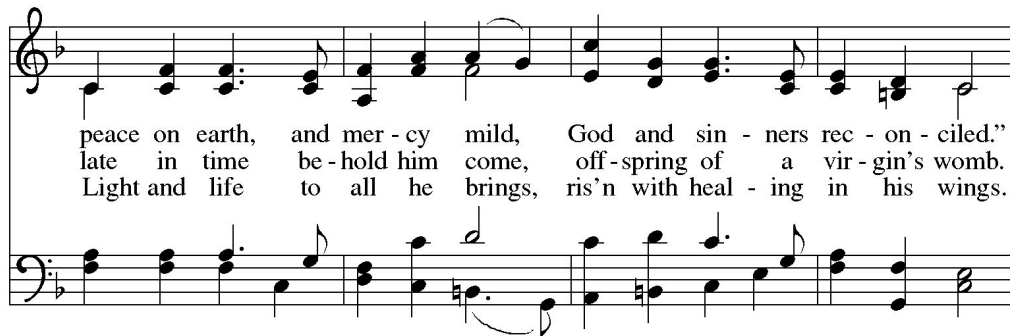


Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.  
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

# Hark! The Herald Angels Sing




1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;  
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
 born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

*Refrain*



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"