



Merry
Christmas



Christmas Eve

December 24, 2023 at 5:00PM

Prelude

Carol: “The First Noel”

Trad. English Carol ©Public Domain

The first Noel the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.

REFRAIN

**Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.**

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night. (**REFRAIN**)

And by the light of that same star
The wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went. (**REFRAIN**)

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
Who hath made heav’n and earth of naught,
And with His blood mankind hath bought. (**REFRAIN**)

Welcome and Prayer Rev. Mark Randle

Christ Candle Lighting and Reading

Call to Worship from Isaiah 9

LEADER: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned

**PEOPLE: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the
government will be on His shoulders.**

LEADER: And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

(continue on next page)



ALL: Of the greatness of His government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever

Carol: "O Come O Come Emmanuel"

Text: Latin Carol, Tr. John Neale

Music: Veni Emmanuel

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O come O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

O come Thou Dayspring from on high
And cause Thy light on us to rise
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadow put to flight

REFRAIN:

**Rejoice Rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel**

O come Thou Wisdom from on high
And order all things far and nigh
To us the path of knowledge show
And cause us in her ways to go (**REFRAIN**)

O come Desire of nations bind
All peoples in one heart and mind
Bid envy strife and quarrels cease
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace (**REFRAIN**)

Choir Anthem: "Still, Still, Still"

Traditional Austrian Carol

Arr. Robert Hobby

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Still, still still, one can hear the falling snow. For all is hushed, the world is sleeping, Holy Star its vigil keeping. Still, still still, one can hear the falling snow. Gloria in excelsis Deo. Sleep, sleep, sleep 'tis the eve of our Savior's birth. The night is peaceful all around you, close your eyes, let sleep surround you. Sleep, sleep, sleep 'tis the eve of our Savior's birth. Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come. While guardian angels without number watch you as you sweetly slumber. Dream, dream, dream of the joyous day to come. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38 (Pew Bible p. 855)



Carol: “Of The Father’s Love Begotten” (Music on Next Page)

Words: Prudential, 4th century; trans. John M. Neale & Henry W. Baker

Music: Plainsong, 13th century;

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Verse 1 Solo

*Of the Father’s love begotten
E’er the worlds began to be
He is Alpha and Omega
He the Source the Ending He
Of the things that are that have been
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore*

He is found in human fashion
Death and sorrow here to know
That the race of Adam’s children
Doomed by law to endless woe
May not henceforth die and perish
In the dreadful gulf below
Evermore and evermore

O ye heights of heav’n adore Him
Angel hosts His praises sing
Pow’rs dominions bow before Him
And extol our God and King
Let no tongue on earth be silent
Every voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore

Christ to Thee with God the Father
And O Holy Ghost to Thee
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
And unwearied praises be
Honor glory and dominion
And eternal victory
Evermore and evermore
Evermore and evermore
Evermore and evermore



“Of The Father’s Love Begotten”

Words: Prudential, 4th century; trans. John M. Neale & Henry W. Baker

Music: Plainsong, 13th century;

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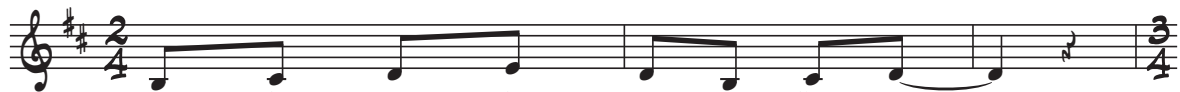
Verse 1 Solo



1. Of the Fath - er's love be - got - ten, e'er the worlds be -
2. He is found in hu - man fa - shion, death and sor - row
3. O ye heights of heav'n a - dore Him; an - gel hosts, His
4. Christ, to Thee with God the Fa - ther, and O Ho - ly



4 gan — to be, — He is Alph - a and O - me - ga,
here — to know, — that the race of Ad - am's chil - dren
prai - ses sing; — Pow'rs do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him,
Ghost to Thee, — hymn and chant with high thanks - giv - ing,



8 He the source, the en - ding He. —
doomed by law to end - les woe, —
and ex - tol our God — and King! —
and un - wear - ied prai - ses be: —



11 of the things that are, that have — been, —
may not hence - forth die and per - ish —
Let no tongue on earth be si - lent, —
hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - ion, —



14 and that fu - ture years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more. —
in the dread - ful gulf be - low ev - er - more and ev - er - more. —
ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more. —
and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more. —

Carol: “Angels We Have Heard On High”

Edward Shippen Barnes | James Chadwick ©Public Domain

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o’er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

REFRAIN

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 heav’nly song (**REFRAIN**)

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King (**REFRAIN**)

Lesson: Luke 2:1-20 (Pew Bible p. 857)

Carol: “Away in a Manger”

John Thomas McFarland | Martin Luther | William James Kirkpatrick
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Verse 1 Solo

*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 Thee Lord Jesus look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle ‘til morning is nigh**

**Be near me Lord Jesus I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there**



Offertory Solo *O Holy Night*

Placide Cappeau | Translator: John S. Dwight
Tune: CANTIQUE DE NOEL, Adolphe Charles Adam

Christmas Reflection Rev. Mark Randle

Carol and Candle Lighting: “Silent Night”

Franz Xaver Gruber | John Freeman Young | Joseph Mohr
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**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
Heav’nly 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**

**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**



