

CHRISTMAS EVE
4:00 PM, DECEMBER 24, 2022

PAGEANT & HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

Prelude: *He is Born!*

Arr. Derek Hakes

Bell Choir

Hymns are at the end of the bulletin

THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn 83: *O come, all ye faithful* (vs 1, 2, 3, 6)

Tune: *Adeste fidelis*

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant The people who walk in darkness

People have seen a great light.

Celebrant Behold I bring you good news of great joy to all people

People unto us a Savior is born: Christ the Lord.

Celebrant His name will be called wonderful, counselor

People mighty God, the Prince of Peace.

Celebrant Glory to God in the highest

People and peace to his people on earth.

Hymn 96: *Angels we have heard on high*

Tune: *Gloria*

The Christmas Collect

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Church School Pageant

Narrator 1: Welcome to our telling of the Christmas Story. We will be telling our story with scripture and song and some dance, so we ask that you please keep the aisles clear for traveling families and shooting stars. The words of the pageant are included in your bulletin if you would like to read along. We ask for your help in singing the Christmas Carols. Thank you.

FIRST ACT: THE WORD

Narrator 2: A reading from Isaiah, Chapter 9, verse 2:

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

Narrator 3: A reading from John, Chapter 1, verses 1-5.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

SECOND ACT: THE ANNUNCIATIONS

Narrator 1: The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a young woman who was engaged to a man by the name of Joseph. The woman's name was Mary. The angel came to her.

Gabriel: Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you. Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.

Mary: How can this be, since I am not yet married?

Gabriel : The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

Mary: Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word. My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me.

Hymn 265, "Most Highly Favored Lady" verses 2 & 3 sung by Song Leaders.

Narrator 2: When Mary was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream.

Gabriel: Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

Joseph: Let it be according to your word.

Narrator 3: The Angel Gabriel had told Mary that her cousin, Elizabeth, had conceived a son in her old age, as proof that nothing was impossible with God. So Mary set out to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went to Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth.

Mary: Dear Cousin! I've come to visit!

Elizabeth: Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! Why should I be honored with a visit from the mother of the Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes! Blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.

Narrator 3: Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months, and then went back home.

THIRD ACT: THE BIRTH.

Joseph: I am glad that you are home, for I have heard that there is a decree from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be counted. We must go now to Bethlehem, for my family is of the house of David, where we will register for the census.

Mary: But I am with child, and Bethlehem is so far away. How will we manage?

Joseph: We have a donkey to carry our things and if you tire, you can ride on him. We can travel slowly, and I will help you.

ALL, PLEASE SING: *Hymn 79, O Little Town of Bethlehem, verse 1*

Narrator 1: Because of the census, all of the Inns were full when Mary and Joseph arrived.

Joseph: Excuse me, Innkeeper, we have traveled all day, and the night is coming. Do you have a room for us?

Innkeeper 1: My Inn is full. I'm sorry, but you will have to go somewhere else.

Mary: But we have been to all the other Inns, and no one has a room. Is there no place we can stay?

Innkeeper 2 (to the Innkeeper 1): There is room in the stables, with the animals. It's not much but it *is* shelter...

Innkeeper 1: They wouldn't want to stay in the stable. It's not very clean.

Innkeeper 2: It's something...

Innkeeper 1: [to Joseph] If you would like, you can stay in the stables.

Joseph: Thank you. We will stay there.

Innkeeper 2: Very well, I will lead you to the stables, while my cousin gets you a blanket.

Joseph: I am sorry I could not get us a room in the Inn.

Mary: Don't be sorry. We have shelter, and the animals will help us to stay warm. It is enough.

Innkeeper 2: Come now, for I am busy and have guests to attend to!

Narrator 2: Mary gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night.

Shepherd 1: The stars are so bright tonight, but it is also so cold!

Shepherd 2: Have you noticed that we have more than just sheep in our flock tonight? Can you hear the animals?

Shepherd 3: You mean those animals?

Shepherd 1: Was that a monkey?

Shepherd 2: I signed up to herd sheep, but I can be flexible...

Shepherd 3: Me too! I like the idea of herding...um...is that ...

Shepherd 1: Whatever they are, wherever they are on their journey, I think we should gather them up here next to us.

Shepherd 2: You were right! We have **all** kinds of animals in our flock.

Narrator 3: Then an angel of the Lord, with a multitude of angels, stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

Gabriel: Do not be afraid, for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people!

Gabriel Posse 1: To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

Gabriel Posse 2: This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.

Shepherd 3: Look! A star is rising in the East! No, really, look behind you...a star is shooting across the sky!

FINAL ACT: THE LIGHT

First King: When wise men from the East saw the star rising, they rejoiced, for they had heard of the prophecies of the birth of the Messiah and they set out at once to follow the star.

Second King: For it was said, "The people who walk in darkness will see a great light; Those who live in a dark land, The light will shine on them." They traveled many miles to see him. But that is a story for another day.

Third King: The Christmas story is not about a baby who grows up to be God, but about the God of Israel who enters creation as the helpless child of Mary, becoming like us, so we may become like him, the Beloved Children of God.

ALL, PLEASE SING: *Hymn 99, "Go Tell It On The Mountain," verse 1 sung by ALL*

AMEN.

Sermon

The Rev. Sean Maloney

The Nicene Creed

Spoken by all, standing.

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 Peace

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory: *'Twas in the moon of wintertime*

Une jeune pucelle

French folk tune, 1557; Text from the Huron Nation – the “first Canadian Carol”

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy

S-125



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel.

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Communion

(Whoever you are, wherever you are on your journey of faith,
you are welcome to receive the communion of Christ.)

Non-wheat bread is available at communion for those who are gluten intolerant. Please ask the server for a rice wafer host.)

Communion:

Organ: *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

Choir: *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

The Post Communion Prayer

Roy Brunner (b. 1945)

arr. Robert Leaf (1936-2005)

BCP p.366

The candles will be lit



Lit candle
stays upright

Hymn 111: *Silent night, holy night*

Tune: *Stille nacht*

Christmas Blessing

(respond **“Amen”** after each sentence)

May the radiance of the Father’s splendor shine upon you, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your hearts with the light of divine holiness. **Amen.**

May Christ, the Word made flesh, Jesus the Son, who forever joins heaven to earth and earth to heaven, mold you into his image. **Amen.**

May the Spirit, by whose power Mary submits to be the bearer of God, make us all heralds of the tidings of peace and joy. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Hymn 87: *Hark! The herald angels sing*

Tune: *Mendelssohn*

Dismissal

Postlude: *He is born, the divine Christ child* – Provençal Noël

arr. Achille Philippe (1878-1959)

A Warm Welcome to all visitors worshiping with us this evening. You are invited to fill out a card found at the end of each pew and give it to an usher or clergy after the service.

Our Thanks to all of the Choirs for their gifts of music during this wondrous season. A special thanks to Deb Psilopoulos, and Connie Pawelczak for their direction and assistance throughout this past year.

Hymn 83: *O come, all ye faithful* (vs 1, 2, 3, 6)

Tune: *Adeste fidelis*

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2 God from — God, — Light from Light e - ter - nal, —
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, —
 *4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle, —
 *5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger, —

1 come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;
 2 lo! he ab - hors — not the Vir - gin's womb;
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
 4 leav - ing their flocks, — draw — nigh to gaze;
 5 we would em - brace — thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son — of the Fa - ther;
 3 glo - ry to God, — glo - ry in the high - est;
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain

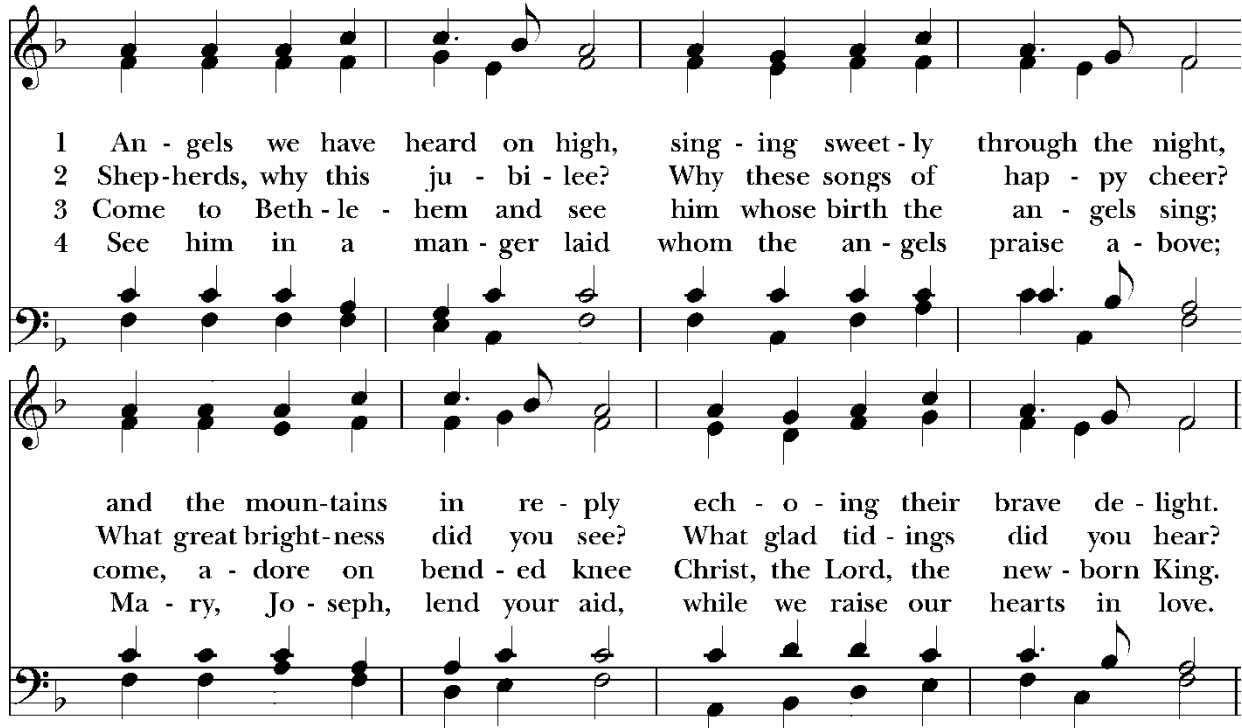
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

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

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father,
 now in flesh appearing;

Hymn 96: Angels we have heard on high

Tune: Gloria



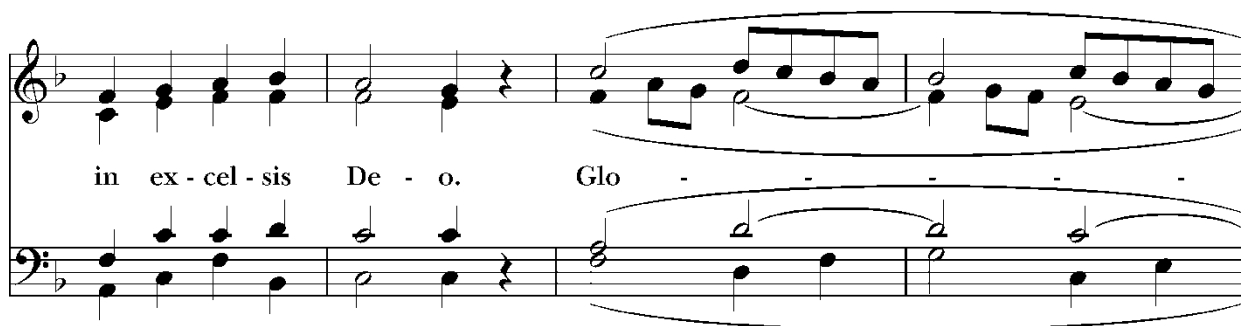
1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

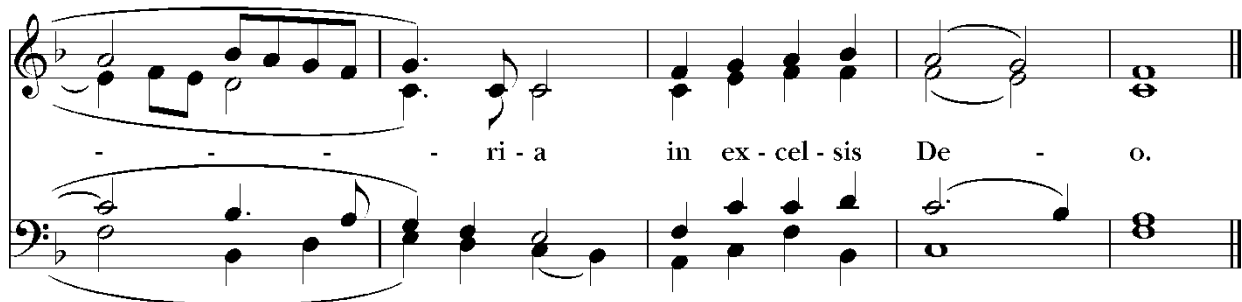
Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Hymn 265, "Most Highly Favored Lady" verses 2 & 3 sung by Song Leaders.

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
 2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
 3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
 in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
 thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
 "my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

Hymn 79 *O Little Town of Bethlehem, verse 1*

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
*4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,
5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;
5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,
5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.
5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Hymn 99 "Go Tell It On The Mountain," verse 1 sung by ALL

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
2 The shep - herds feared and
3 Down in a low - ly

watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang
man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and

Repeat Refrain

hold, through-out the hea - vens there shone a ho - ly light.
out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.
God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Hymn 111: *Silent night, holy night*

Tune: *Stille nacht*

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
 heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
 birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Hymn 87: Hark! The herald angels sing

Tune: Mendelssohn

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!
 2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head sec; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.
 Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleas'd as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!

Refrain

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!