

Big Grove Crow River Grace Parish

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2023

*Welcome in Jesus' name.
We extend a special welcome to guests and visitors.*



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Parish Secretary – Sue Wiener

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

1st Sunday of Christmas

Prelude/Procession/Bells
Welcome

GATHERING

GATHERING SONG: "Joy to the World" ELW #267

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, 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.

3 No more let sin and sorrow 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,

4 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.

"Joy to the World" Music by: English Melody
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DIALOGUE:

L: Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

C: By day and night he shines for all to see.

L: Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

C: that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

L: God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

C: so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

L: Jesus is the light of the world.

C: Jesus is the light of our lives.

L: Sing to God a new song!

C: A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.

OPENING PRAYER:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Gracious God of heaven and earth,
you have thrown a lifeline to us in our darkness—
a beam of light that shines through Jesus.

Though born in a manger, he is the firstborn of all creation.

Though crucified on a cross, he is the Lord of life.

Fill us with the wonder and joy of his presence in the world
and in our hearts. **Amen.**

WORD

Reading:

Isaiah 9: 2-7

First Carol

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

ELW #289

1 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.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song? [Refrain]

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. [Refrain]

Edward Shippen Barnes | James Chadwick

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Music: Public Domain

Reading:

Titus 2:11-14

Second Carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem" ELW #279 (v.1,2,4)

1 O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary,
and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king,
and peace to all on earth!

4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" Copyright: Public Domain

Reading:

Psalms 98

Third Carol "What Child Is This?" ELW #296 (v. 1-3)

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet
with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary!

"What Child is This?" Copyright: Public Domain

Reading:

Luke 2: 1-20

Fourth Carol:

“Away in a Manger”

ELW #277

1 Away in a manger, no crib for his 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.

2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle til morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

“Away in a Manger” Copyright: Public Domain

Reading:

Matthew 2: 1-11

Fifth Carol:

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

ELW #276

1 Infant holy infant lowly
For His bed a cattle stall
Oxen lowing little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all
Swift are winging angels singing
Noels ringing tidings bringing
Christ the babe is Lord of all

2 Flocks were sleeping
Shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory heard the story
Tidings of a gospel true
Thus rejoicing free from sorrow
Praises voicing greet the morrow
Christ the babe was born for you

Edith Margaret Gellibrand Reed
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Reading:

Luke 2: 22-40

Sixth Carol:

“The First Noel”

ELW #300 (v. 1-3)

1 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.

2 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.

3 And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went.

Text: William C. Dix 1837-1898

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Music: Public Domain

Reading:

John 1: 1-14

Seventh Carol:

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ELW #283

1 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:

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

2 The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! **[Refrain]**

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest: **[Refrain]**

4 Yea, Lord we Greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; **[Refrain]**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” Copyright: Public Domain

RESPONSIVE PRAYER:

L: It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

C: Your Word, Jesus, is truth.

L: In his light, draw all to the manger

C: to gather in wonder with the shepherds.

L: In his light, draw all to the manger

C: to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.

L: In his light, draw all to the manger

C: to sing for joy with the angels.

L: In the brightness of his life

C: cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.

L: It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

C: In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life.

Amen.

OFFERING: (children may bring offerings forward)

OFFERTORY HYMN: "Love Has Come"

ELW #292

1 Love has come - a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem Skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
hear how their song of joy arises;
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on High.

2 Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
what is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers:
Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.

3 Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: F. Seguin, 1856

Text copyright 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the food news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING:

L: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

C: Praise God, all creatures here below!

L: You are the shepherds telling the story.

C: We tell it in the streets and across the land.

L: You are the wise ones worshipping with thanksgiving.

C: We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.

L: You are the angels announcing peace.

C: We live with joy and go now in peace.

L: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN:

“Go Tell It On the Mountain”

ELW #290

Refrain:

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. **[Refrain]**

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. **[Refrain]**

3 Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. **[Refrain]**

“Go Tell it on the Mountain” Copyright: Public Domain

DISMISSAL:

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

Thanks be to God.