

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 21, 2025

**WE ARE ONE CHRISTIAN FAMILY LED BY GOD'S WORD AND THE
HOLY SPIRIT INTO LOVING SERVICE.**

**Bible Based Preaching, Spiritual Growth, Great Commission
(Go, Make Disciples...)**

+ + + RECONNECTING WITH GOD + + +

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC "Hope Has A Name"

**Breaking through the silence With glory in the highest,
The hope of all creation Resting in His mother's arms.**

**A song on the horizon Ringing through the heavens.
The long-awaited Savior Come to set the captives free.
Come to set the captives free. Come set us free.**

(Chorus)

**Hope has a name: Emmanuel, The Light of the World
Who broke through the darkness.
All hail the King, Emmanuel, The Light of the World,
The Glory of Heaven.**

**We didn't see it coming, The story of redemption.
What started in a manger Ended in an empty grave.
Oh, I know that:**

Chorus

**Come if you're broken, Come if you're searching.
If you need healing, He's where you find it.
Lay down your burdens And breathe in forgiveness.
If you need freedom, Yeah, He's where you find it.
Oh, if you need freedom, Yeah, He's where you find it,
Yeah, He's where you find it, oh.**

Chorus x2

**Hope Has a Name Words and music by Kristian Stanfill, Sean Curran and Jacob Sooter
© 2020 CCLI Song #7163645**

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

OPENING "We Have A Savior"

**A child has been given, The King of our freedom.
Sing for the light has come, This is Christmas.**

**Come and adore Him And bring gifts before Him.
Joy to the world, Worship the Son, this is Christmas.**

(Chorus)

**This is Jesus, Emmanuel Here with us. Tell all the world,
We have a Saviour, we have a Saviour.
We are no longer lost 'Cause He has come down for us.
We have a Saviour, we have a Saviour.**

**Sing with the angels And lift up your voices.
Join in the song of hope, This is Christmas.**

Chorus

**His love will reign forever, His love will reign forever,
His love we reign forever. (Repeat)**

Chorus

**We Have a Saviour Words and Music by Reuben Morgan and Ben Glover
© 2012 9t One Songs/Ariose Music/Hillsong Music Publishing CCLI Song #6336811**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may truly love you and rightly honor your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God.

**C: Gracious God, have mercy on me. In your compassion forgive my sins,
Known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold me by your
Holy Spirit so that I may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor
and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

READING FROM THE PSALMS Psalm 111:2-5

P: Great are the works of the LORD;

C: They are pondered by all who delight in them.

P: Glorious and majestic are his deeds,

C: His righteousness endures forever.

P: He has caused his wonders to be remembered;

C: The Lord is gracious and compassionate.

P: He provides for those who trust and fear him;

C: He remembers his covenant forever.

P: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

C: As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen

SONG OF PRAISE "He Has Come For Us (God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen)"

God rest ye merry gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay.

Remember Christ, our Savior Was born on Christmas day

To save us all from Satan's pow'r When we were gone astray.

(Pre-Chorus)

O, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy.

O, tidings of comfort and joy.

(Chorus)

He has come for us, this Jesus. He's the hope for all mankind.

He has come for us, the Messiah. Born to give us life.

From God, our heav'nly Father, A blessed angel came.

And unto certain shepherds Brought tidings of the same.

How that in Bethlehem was born, The Son of God by name.

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

**All the angels sing, "Hallelujah! Jesus Christ is born!"
All the children sing, "Hallelujah! He is Christ the Lord!"**

Chorus

He is born to give us life.

**Angels sing, "Hallelujah! Jesus Christ is Lord!"
All the children sing, "Hallelujah! He is Christ the Lord!"**

**He Has Come For Us (God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen) Original Words and Music: Trad. 18th century carol
Addt'l Words and Music by Jason Ingram and Meredith Andrews @2009 CCLI Song #5683022**

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 7:10-14

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹"Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights." ¹²But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test." ¹³Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the LORD himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON Hebrews 1:1-3

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. ³The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 1:18-25

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"— which means, "God with us." ²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WE SING: "Angels We Have Heard On High"

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

(Chorus)

Glory to God in the highest! Our Savior has come for the world.
Glory to God in the highest! The honor and glory are Yours.

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing.
Come adore on bended knee. Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Chorus

Saints and angels singing, All creation shouts.
Hallelujahs ringing; Can you hear the sound? *(Repeat)*

Chorus

Angels We Have Heard on High Verses translated from the French carol by James Chadwick
Words and music by Danny Gokey and Hank Bentley © 2019 CCLI Song #7138373

SERMON

CONFESSION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

+ + + WE OFFER OUR PRAISE AND PRAYER + + +

PRAYERS concluding with

P: Lord in your mercy...

C: Hear our prayer.

OFFERING (Please place your offering in offering plates located on pedestals at the back of the church.)

OFFERING SONG "Glory (Let There Be Peace)"

**One star burns in the darkness, Shines with the promise,
Emmanuel.**

**One child born in the stillness, Living within us,
Emmanuel.**

(Chorus)

We're singing: Glory, Glory.

Let there be peace. Let there be peace.

Singing: Glory, Glory.

Let there be peace. Let it start in me.

**One voice speaks the voiceless, Hope for the hopeless,
Emmanuel.**

**One loved brings us together, Now and forever,
Emmanuel.**

Chorus

**Do not be afraid. His love is strong enough to save us.
Nothing stands in the way. His love is strong enough to lead us. (Repeat)**

Chorus

**Singing: Glory, Glory.
Let there be peace. Let there be peace.
Singing: Glory, Glory.
Let there be peace. Let it start in me.
Let there be peace. Let it start in me.**

Glory (Let There Be Peace) Words and music by Chris Stevens, Matt Maher and Rachel Popadic
CCLI Song #7071972

+ + + COMMUNING WITH GOD AND EACH OTHER + + +

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift your hearts and hands in praise

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

COMMUNION PRAYER

P: It is truly good, right and beneficial ... evermore praising you and singing:

***C:* Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabaoth, adored: Heaven and earth with full
acclaim shout the glory of your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing
hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord!***

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

ALL: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord on the night he was betrayed . . .

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

DISTRIBUTION SONG "Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah)"

**Light of the World, Treasure from Heaven,
Brilliant like the stars In the wintery sky.
Joy of the Father, Reach through the darkness,
Shine across the earth, Send the shadows to flight.**

**Light of the World, From the beginning
The tragedies of time Were no match for Your love.
From great heights of glory, You saw my story.
God, You entered in And became one of us.**

(Chorus)

**Sing hallelujah, Sing hallelujah.
Sing hallelujah for the things He has done!
Come and adore Him, Bow down before Him.
Sing hallelujah to the Light of the World.**

**Light of the World, Crown in a manger,
Born for the cross, To suffer, to save.
High King of Heaven, Death is the poorer.
We are the richer by the price that He paid.**

Chorus

**Light of the World Soon will be coming.
With fire in His eyes, He will ransom His own.
Through clouds He will lead us Straight into glory.
And there He shall reign forevermore,
Forevermore.**

Chorus

Light of the World (Hallelujah) Words and music by Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash and Scott Cash © 2020 CCLI Song #7163734

"Behold the Savior"

**Oh, what innocence Sleeping in a manger under dreamless skies.
See the newborn King Trading ev'ry glory for a silent night**

(Pre-Chorus)

**Here is the promise we have waited for.
He will not leave us in the dark.**

(Chorus)

**He will bear our weight. He will wear our shame.
Come lift Him high, behold the Savior.
Jesus Christ, law of love and light.
Come lift Him high, behold the Savior.**

**Veiled deity, Praise of ev'ry angel, shepherds bowing low.
Sweet humility, Mercy as a baby, God in flesh and bone.**

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Behold the Savior. Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

**Here is the promise we have waited for.
He will not leave us in the dark.
He is the promise we have waited for,
The cry of ev'ry searching heart.**

Chorus

**Come lift Him high, behold the Savior.
Come lift Him high, behold the Savior.
Behold the Savior.**

Behold the Savior Words and music by Meredith Andrews and Mia Fieldes @2013 CCLI Song #7023089

POST-DISTRIBUTION PRAYER

+ + + WE GO WITH GOD'S BLESSING + + +

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen

CLOSING SONG "Joy To The World (Unspeakable Joy)"

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come; Let earth receive her King.
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the world! 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.**

(Chorus)

**Joy, unspeakable joy! An overflowing well; No tongue can tell!
Joy, unspeakable joy! It rises in my soul, Never lets me go!**

**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!**

Chorus

Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy) Words by Isaac Watts, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash and Matt Gilder Music by George Frederic Handel, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash and Matt Gilder © 2016 CCLI Song #5607039

ANNOUNCEMENTS