

GATHERING MUSIC

OPENING SONG Messigh Francesca Battistelli

PROCESSION OF LIGHT

SCRIPTURE READING...ISAIAH 52:7-10 (NRSV)

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.

Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR #290 vv 1 & 2 Go Tell It on the Mountain

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

PRAYER

SONG #283 vv 1 & 3 O Come, All Ye Faithful

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!

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

WELCOME

SHARING THE CHRISTMAS STORY

BASED ON LUKE 2:1-7

SONG OF RESPONSE #277 v 1 **Away in a Manger**

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.

BASED ON LUKE 2:8-14

SONG OF RESPONSE

#289 vs 1 & 3 Angels We Have Heard on High

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.

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

BASED ON LUKE 2:15-20

SONG OF RESPONSE vv 1 & 4 **Joy to the World** *Ring your Jingle Bells!*

- 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.
- 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.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE Pr. Tom Grevlos What Child Is This?

MESSAGE SONG #296 v 1 What Child Is This?

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!

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Our Christmas Eve offering will go to support our ministry partner Upbring, specifically the care of children. Upbring is a changemaking organization whose mission is to create a world where all children are cherished. 100% of your generosity will go to New Life Center in Canyon Lake and BeReal Program in Austin/San Marcos.

To learn more go to Upbring.org

Thank you for creating a neighborhood for these children through your special offering!

- To make a gift online, use this link: https://bit.ly/ChristmasEveGiving
- By mail, send to 3525 Bee Caves Rd, Austin, TX 78746
- Scan the QR Code with your camera phone to give now.
- Drop offering envelope in box located by main door.



Song #296 v 3

What Child Is This?

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.

This, this is Christ the King,

Whom shepherds guard and the angels sing; Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

PRAYER OF THANKS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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; 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.

COMMUNION INVITATION

As we celebrate this sacrament, all are invited to receive the Risen presence of Jesus.

God is really present—in bread and wine—forgiving sins and promising new life.

Bread/wafer— "The body of Christ given for you"; Wine— "The blood of Christ shed for you."

BLESSING OF THE LIGHT...John 1:3b-5

What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

(Please lift your light)

*Song #281

Silent Night, Holy Night!

1 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.

2 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!

3 Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Merry Christmas!

Connie Astrachan; Ron and Charlyn Bacon, in memory of Carla Faulk and Kelly Bacon; Earl and Amy Bishop, in honor of our boys - Cole and Clay Bishop; Rick and Jan Burnight, in honor of our children and grandchildren; Don and Ruby Cadenhead; Carlos and Christine Stern Calvo in memory of Uncle Dave and our grandparents; Bill and Sara Dawson in memory of Patricia Reed & Janet/Lee Dawson; Bril and Karen Flint, in memory of our parents; Pr. Tom and Jeanne Grevlos, in memory of Charles Lauth and Carl Grevlos; Barb Hampton, in memory of Eric and Hal Hampton; Judy and Bob Haugen, in memory of Luther and Qunita Koepke, Eileen Morgan, Harold and Betty Haugen, Jim and Rhonda Burkett; Bill and Yolanda Heine; Anita Knight, in memory of Don Knight;

Beverly Lauth, in memory of Charles Lauth; Tom and Betty Lueders, in memory of Judy and Mrs. Thro Lueders, Rex and Mrs. Leslie Ezell; Dan and Audrey Lunecki, in memory of John Perkunas; Bobby and Margaret McQuiston, in memory of the Morgan and McQuiston families; Alan Miller, in memory of Gloria Miller; David and Cindy Nelson, in memory of Joe Pyle; Charlie and Alana Oehler, in memory of our parents; Kathy and Herb Palmer, To the Glory of God; Diane Peterson, in memory of Larry Lommel and Tommi Femrite; Pam and Jeff Petrik, in memory of Vernon and Pearl Lee; Jeri Porter, in memory of Charlene Fischer; Glenn and Kitt Richter, in honor of our grandchildren; Linda Roesle, in memory of LaVerne and Arthur Kalhow; Kathie Smith and family, in memory of Rev. Thomas C. Smith; Jane Tackett, in memory of Ray, Ray, Paul, Debbie and Jude.

PRAYERS

We pray for Rodney Varner and Callie Ray Bell.

We pray for family and friends of Shepherd members: Adryana Aldeen, Director of Advancement at Mariposa.

We pray for the people of Ukraine caught in the middle of war and violence. Our hearts break when women and children are displaced and families torn apart by the evil actions of others. May you break open hearts so that swords may be beat into plowshares, spears into pruning hooks.

We pray for our global ministry partners: Rev. Karen Castillo in Guatemala; Iglesia Luterana Augustina Virgen del Rosario, Aurora 8 de Octubre, Guatemala. We pray for Malcolm and Joy Henderson and the ministry of CHARIS in Haiti.

We pray for our local ministries: Mariposa Family Learning Center, Bread For All and Upbring Ministries.

We pray for our faith community, that we may be a church without walls and live out loud...faithfully!

*Prayers for family and friends are listed for 2 weeks, unless we are notified otherwise.

WORSHIP TEAM

Pr. Tom Grevlos, Pr. Lauren Dow Wegner

Director of Worship/Arts Kevin McClure

Musicians Charlie and Laura Hills

Vocalist Rachel Hills

AV Dave Wegner and Jamie Nichols

Hospitality Hosts Julie Hudnall, Dertien Family, Terrie Thomas

and Rebecca Guengerich and family

Luminaria's NextGen and Bishop family

Admin Ministry Coordinator Amanda Forsberg

Campus OperationsDave WegnerCommunications DirectorDabney GomesStudent Ministry CoordinatorJoel TimmonsExecutive DirectorBill DawsonFinance ControllerKevin Marlow

Special thanks to <u>Land of Legends Coffee</u> for supplying coffee and cocoa!

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran 3525 Bee Caves Rd, Austin TX www.shephills.org



C **CELEBRATE!** May all who gather in churches all over the world to celebrate Christ's birth find a way to celebrate the unifying language of Love.

H **HOPE!** May the children who surround us infuse our lives with joy, bringing smiles to our faces, feelings of happiness, and renewed hope for the future.

R **REMEMBER!** May all the ornaments on the tree and decorations in your home touch your life with the blessing of memories.

- I **INCARNATION!** May the gift of love of "God with us" promised at Christmas ignite a fire of love, removing all the resentments and hostility that exists in the world and in our lives.
- S **SING!** May the powerful and moving songs of this season inspire your hearts to sing with full voice this Christmas season, "Joy to the World, the Lord has Come"!

T **TELL!** May the witness of the Shepherds who told everyone what they had seen and heard compel us to share and live the Good News that Jesus is born.

M **MESSINESS!** May the imperfection and all the unmet expectations of this holy season remind us of Jesus coming into the messiness of our lives to save us and the world from ourselves.

A **ANSWER!** May the Truth that "God so loved the world that he gave us his Son..." give us hope in the challenges of life inspiring us to put our love into action. Jesus is the answer to the season!

S **SENSATIONAL!** May you experience the sensation of hearing the greatest of all stories told at worship on Christmas Eve and may your senses come alive with the awesome sights and beautiful sounds of a child born in Bethlehem.

Peace,

Pr. Tom and Pr. Lauren