



**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2023**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Revelation 4:8, 11, 5:9-10, 12, 13**

**Leader:** Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come. Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.

**People:** **Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God and they shall reign on the earth.**

**Leader:** Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!

**People:** **To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!**

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**HYMNS OF PRAISE**

**Joy to the World**

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every 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 men 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 sins and sorrows 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.  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

*Authors: Isaac Watts, George Frederic Handel © Public Domain*

## Angels We Have Heard on High

1. Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply  
Echo back their joyous strains:

### Chorus

Glo . . . ria in excelsis Deo!  
Glo . . . ria in excelsis Deo!

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee,  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heav'nly song?  
Chorus

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

*Authors: Edward Shippen Barnes | James Chadwick ©  
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## OLD TESTAMENT READING

### Hosea 1:2-10

<sup>2</sup>When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, "Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord." <sup>3</sup>So he went and took Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

<sup>4</sup>And the Lord said to him, "Call his name Jezreel, for in just a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. <sup>5</sup>And on that day I will break the bow of Israel in the Valley of Jezreel."

<sup>6</sup>She conceived again and bore a daughter. And the Lord said to him, "Call her name No Mercy, for I will no more have mercy on the house of Israel, to forgive them at all. <sup>7</sup>But I will have mercy on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the Lord their God. I will not save them by bow or by sword or by war or by horses or by horsemen."

<sup>8</sup>When she had weaned No Mercy, she conceived and bore a son. <sup>9</sup>And the Lord said, "Call his name Not My People, for you are not my people, and I am not your God."

<sup>10</sup>Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered. And in the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God." <sup>11</sup>And the children of Judah and the children of Israel shall be gathered together, and they shall appoint for themselves one head. And they shall go up from the land, for great shall be the day of Jezreel.

## CONFESSION OF SIN

### Isaiah 63:16, 19; 64:5-6, 8-9

Leader: You, O Lord, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is your name.

**People: We have become like those over whom you have never ruled, like those who are not called by your name.**

Leader: In our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?

**People: We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.**

Leader: But now, O Lord, you are the Potter; we are the clay; we are all the work of your hand.

**People: Remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## Hebrews 9:14

How much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

## HYMN OF ASSURANCE

## What Child is This?

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.

2. Why lies He in such mean estate  
Where ox and cattle are feeding?  
Good Christian fear, for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you.  
Hail, Hail the Word made flesh,  
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.

Raise, Raise the song on high;  
The virgin sings her lullaby.  
Joy, Joy for Christ is born,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

*Author: William Chatterton Dix © Public Domain*

## MISSIONS MINUTE

## PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

## SCRIPTURE READING

## 1 John 4:7-14

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

## SERMON      “Love & Forgiveness” - Rev. Bryan Rigg

## COLLECTION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

### OFFERING HYMN

1. Come Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free.  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation;  
Hope of all the saints Thou art.  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart!

2. Joy to those who long to see thee,  
Dayspring from on high appear.  
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse;  
Of thy birth we long to hear!  
O'er the hills the angels singing  
News, Glad tidings of a birth.  
“Go to him, your praises bringing;  
Christ the Lord has come to earth.”

3. Come to earth to taste our sadness,  
He whose glories knew no end.  
By His life He brings us gladness,  
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Leaving riches without number,  
Born within a cattle stall.  
This the everlasting wonder,  
Christ was born the Lord of all!

### Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

4. Born Thy people to deliver,  
Born a child and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring!  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone.  
By Thine all-sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne!

*Authors: Words by Charles Wesley; Music by Rowland Hugh Prichard © Public Domain*

## HYMN OF RESPONSE

### The Hymn of Joy (Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee)

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,  
Opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day!

2. All Thy works with joy surround Thee,  
Earth and Heav'n reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee,  
Center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Singing bird and flowing fountain  
Call us to rejoice in Thee!

3. Thou art giving and forgiving,  
Ever blessing, ever blessed,  
Wellspring of the joy of living,  
Ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,  
All who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other,  
Lift us to the joy divine!

4. Mortals join the happy chorus,  
Which the morning stars began;  
Father love is reigning o'er us,  
Brother love binds man to man  
Ever singing, march we onward,  
Victors in the midst of strife,  
Joyful music lifts us Sunward  
In the triumph song of life!

*Authors: Words by Henry van Dyke; Music by Ludwig van Beethoven © Public Domain*

## BENEDICTION & DISMISSAL

Minister: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**People: THANKS BE TO GOD!**

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