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**Worship – Bell Ringing Service**

**Sat, Dec 30th, 2023 - 4pm**

**Pianist: MarJean Damerval**

**Celebrating the Twelve Days of Christmas**

***INTRODUCTION***

*During the twelve days of Christmas the people of God gather to celebrate the birth of the Word made flesh, Christ our Lord. Luke recounts the familiar story of shepherds and angels; John’s gospel tells of the Word that dwells among us, full of grace and truth. The meaning of Christmas is made clear: the light shines in the darkness. It is in the liturgy that we encounter the Word made flesh—in the people of God gathered together as the body of Christ. We go forth to be bearers of light as we proclaim this good news of the Incarnation to all the ends of the earth.*

*\*Opening Carol :* ***The Twelve Days of Christmas***

**On the 1st Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me**

* **A Partridge in a Pear Tree.**

**On the 2nd Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me**

* **Two Turtle Doves**
* **And a Partridge in a Pear Tree.**

**On the 3rd Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me**

* **Three French Hens,**
* **Two Turtle Doves**
* **And a Partridge in a Pear Tree.**

**On the 4th Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me**

* **Four Calling Birds,**
* **Three French Hens,**
* **Two Turtle Doves**
* **And a Partridge in a Pear Tree. 🡺**

**On the 5th Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me**

* **Five Golden Rings,** *(breathe)*
* **Four Calling Birds,**
* **Three French Hens,**
* **Two Turtle Doves**
* **And a Partridge in a Pear Tree.**

**On the 6th Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me**

* **Six Geese a Laying,**
* **Five Golden Rings,** *(breathe)*
* **Four Calling Birds,**
* **Three French Hens,**
* **Two Turtle Doves**
* **And a Partridge in a Pear Tree.**

**On the 7th Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me**

* **Seven Swans a Swimming,**
* **Six Geese a Laying,**
* **Five Golden Rings,** *(breathe)*
* **Four Calling Birds,**
* **Three French Hens,**
* **Two Turtle Doves**
* **And a Partridge in a Pear Tree.**

**On the 8th Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me**

* **Eight Maids a Milking,**
* **Seven Swans a Swimming,**
* **Six Geese a Laying,**
* **Five Golden Rings,** *(breathe)*
* **Four Calling Birds,**
* **Three French Hens,**
* **Two Turtle Doves**
* **And a Partridge in a Pear Tree.**

**On the 9th Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me**

* **Nine Ladies Dancing,**
* **Eight Maids a Milking,**
* **Seven Swans a Swimming,**
* **Six Geese a Laying,**
* **Five Golden Rings,** *(breathe)*
* **Four Calling Birds,**
* **Three French Hens, 🡺**

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* **Two Turtle Doves**
* **And a Partridge in a Pear Tree.**

**On the 10th Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me**

* **Ten Lords a Leaping,**
* **Nine Ladies Dancing,**
* **Eight Maids a Milking,**
* **Seven Swans a Swimming,**
* **Six Geese a Laying,**
* **Five Golden Rings,** *(breathe)*
* **Four Calling Birds,**
* **Three French Hens,**
* **Two Turtle Doves**
* **And a Partridge in a Pear Tree.**

**On the 11th Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me**

* **Eleven Pipers Piping,**
* **Ten Lords a Leaping,**
* **Nine Ladies Dancing,**
* **Eight Maids a Milking,**
* **Seven Swans a Swimming,**
* **Six Geese a Laying,**
* **Five Golden Rings,** *(breathe)*
* **Four Calling Birds,**
* **Three French Hens,**
* **Two Turtle Doves**
* **And a Partridge in a Pear Tree.**

**On the 12th Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me**

* **Twelve Drummers Drumming,**
* **Eleven Pipers Piping,**
* **Ten Lords a Leaping,**
* **Nine Ladies Dancing,**
* **Eight Maids a Milking,**
* **Seven Swans a Swimming,**
* **Six Geese a Laying,**
* **Five Golden Rings,** *(breathe)*
* **Four Calling Birds,**
* **Three French Hens,**
* **Two Turtle Doves**
* **And a Partridge in a Pear Tree.**

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***Prayer of the Day:*** *Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature and be born of the Virgin Mary. Grant that we, having been redeemed and made your children by grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.* **C: Amen.**

***\*Call To Worship***

*L: We will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,*

 *The praiseworthy acts of the Lord,*

**C: Because of all that the Lord Has done for us,**

 **According to the abundance of His steadfast love.**

*L: He will become our Savior,*

*His presence will save us in our distress.*

**C: In His love and in His pity He will redeem us,**

**And we will sing His praises.**

***The Twelve Days of Christmas***

***Day 1: Christmas Day Luke 2:7***

**1***And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.*

*L: The Word of the Lord.* **C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Ring Bells)*

*Carol:* ***Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*** *LBW #55 (V.1,3)*

*Verse 1*

**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice, With Heart and Soul and Voice.**

**Give Ye Heed to What We Say. Jesus Christ Was Born Today.**

**Ox and Ass Before Him Bow, And He is in the Manger Now.**

**Christ is Born Today. Christ is Born Today.**

*Verse 3*

**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice, With Heart and Soul and Voice.**

**Now Ye Need Not Fear the Grave. Jesus Christ Was Born to Save. Calls You One and Calls You All, To Gain His Everlasting Hall.Christ Was Born to Save. Christ Was Born to Save.**

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***Day 2: Saint Stephen’s Day* *Acts 6:1-15, 7:54-60***

**1***Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution.* **2***And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables.* **3***Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.* **4***But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”* **5***And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch.* **6***These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.* **7***And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.* **8***And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people.* **9***Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen as it was called, and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen.* **10***But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking.* **11***Then they secretly instigated men who said, “We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God.”* **12***And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council,* **13***and they set up false witnesses who said, “This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law,* **14***for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses delivered to us.”* **15***And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel.* **7:54***Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him.***🡺**

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**55***But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.* **56***And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”* **57***But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him.* **58***Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul.* **59***And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”* **60***And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.*

*L: This is the Word of the Lord.* **C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Ring Bells)*

***Duet: Good King Wenceslas Jenna & Don***

***Day 3: St John, Apostle & Evangelist John 1:1-5, 21:20-25***

**1***In the beginning was the Word, the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* **2***He was in the beginning with God.* **3***All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.* **4***In him was life, and the life was the light of men.* **5***The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.* **21:20** *Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper and had said, “Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?”* **21***When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, “Lord, what about this man?”* ***22****Jesus said to him, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me.”* **23***So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?”* **24***This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true.* **25***Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.*

*L: This is the Word of the Lord.* **C: Thanks be to God.**

 *(Ring Bells)* ***Page 6 of 20***

*Carol:* ***Hark the Herald Angels Sing*** *LBW #60*

*Verse 1*

**Hark, the Herald Angels Sing, "Glory to the Newborn King.**

**Peace on Earth and Mercy Mild, God and Sinners Reconciled."**

**Joyful, All You Nations, Rise, Join the Triumph of the Skies.**

**With Angelic Hosts Proclaim, "Christ is Born in Bethlehem."**

**Hark, the Herald Angels Sing, "Glory to the Newborn King."**

*Verse 2*

**Christ, by Highest Heav'n Adored, Christ, the Everlasting Lord,**

**Late in Time Behold Him Come, Offspring of a Virgin's Womb.**

**Veiled in Flesh the Godhead See, Hail Incarnate Deity.**

**Pleased as Man With us to Dwell,Jesus, Our Immanuel.**

**Hark, the Herald Angels Sing, "Glory to the Newborn King."**

*Verse 3*

**Hail, the Heav'n-Born Prince of Peace. Hail, the Sun of Righteousness**

**Light and Life to All He Brings, Ris'n With Healing in His Wings.**

**Mild He Lays His Glory by, Born That We No More May Die,**

**Born to Raise Each Child of Earth, Born to Give Us Second Birth.**

**Hark, the Herald Angels Sing, "Glory to the Newborn King."**

***Day 4: The Holy Innocents Matthew 2:13-18***

**13***Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.”* **14***And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt* **15***and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”* **16***Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.* **17***Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:* **18***“A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”*

*L: This is the Word of the Lord.* **C: Thanks be to God.**

 *(Ring Bells)* ***Page 7 of 20***

*Solo:* ***Oh, Sleep Now, Holy Baby Jenna***

***Day 5: Nativity Luke 2:8-16***

**8***And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.* **9***And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.* **10***And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.* **11***For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.* **12***And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”* **13***And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,* **14***“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased.”* **15***When the angels went away from them into heaven, the Shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”* **16***And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.*

*L: This is the Word of the Lord.* **C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Ring Bells)*

***Carol: Angels We Have Heard on High LBW #71 (V.1,3)***

*V1*  **Angels We Have Heard on High**

**Sweetly Singing O'er the Plains**

 **And the Mountains in Reply**

**Echoing Their Joyous Strains**

**Gloria, in Excelsis Deo**

**Gloria, in Excelsis Deo**

*V3* **Come to Bethlehem and See**

**Him Whose Birth the Angels Sing,**

**Come, Adore on Bended Knee,**

**Christ the Lord, the Newborn King.**

**Gloria, in Excelsis Deo**

**Gloria, in Excelsis Deo**

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***Day 6: The Holy Family Luke 2:25-40***

**25***Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him.* **26***And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.* **27***And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law,* **28***he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,* **29***“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;* **30***for my eyes have seen your salvation* **31***that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,* **32***a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”* **33***And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.* **34***And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed* **35***and a sword will pierce through your own soul also, so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”* **36***And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin,* **37***and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day.* **38***And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.* **39***And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.* **40***And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.*

*L: This is the Word of the Lord.* **C: Thanks be to God.**

***(****Ring Bells)*

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*Carol:* ***Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*** *LBW #44 (V.1,2)*

*Verse 1*

**Infant Holy, Infant Lowly,**

**For His Bed a Cattle Stall.**

**Oxen Lowing, Little Knowing**

**Christ the Babe is Lord of All.**

**Swiftly Winging Angels Singing,**

**Bells Are Ringing, Tidings Bringing,**

**Christ the Child is Lord of All.**

**Christ the Child is Lord of All.**

*Verse 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 Child Was Born for You.**

**Christ the Child Was Born for You.**

***Day 7: Watch Night Matthew 25:31-46***

**31***“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne.* **32***Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.* **33***And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left.* **34***Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.* **35***For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,* **36***I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’* **37***Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?*

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**38***And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you?* **39***And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’* **40***And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’* **41***“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.* **42***For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,* **43***I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’* **44***Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’* **45***Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’* **46***And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”*

*L: This is the Word of the Lord.* **C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Ring Bells)*

*Carol:* ***The Bells of Christmas*** *LBW #62 (V.1,5)*

*V1***The Bells of Christmas Chime Once More**

**The Heavenly Guest is at the Door**

**He Comes to Earthly Dwellings Still**

**With New Year Gifts of Peace, Good Will**

*V5* **O Patriarchs' Joy, O Prophets' Song**

**O Dayspring Bright, Awaited Long**

**O Son of Man Incarnate Word**

**Great David's Son, Great David's Lord**

***Day 8: Mary, Mother of Our Lord Luke 2:16-21***

**16***And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.* **17***And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.* **18***And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.* **19***But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.*

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**20***And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.*

**21***And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.*

*L: This is the Word of the Lord.* **C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Ring Bells)*

*Carol:* ***What Child Is This*** *LBW #40 (V.1)*

*V1* **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.**

***Day 9: Incarnation John 1:14***

**14***And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

*L: This is the Word of the Lord.* **C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Ring Bells)*

*Carol:* ***O Little Town of Bethlehem*** *LBW #41 (V.1)*

*V1* **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.**

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***\*Lord’s Prayer:*** *Traditional Version*

**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.**

***Day 10: Baptism John 1:29-36***

**29***The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.* **30***This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’* **31***I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.”* **32***And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him.* **33***I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’* **34***And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”* **35***The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples,* **36***and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God.” This is the Word of the Lord.* **C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Ring Bells)*

*Hymn:* ***On Jordan’s Banks the Baptists Cry*** *LBW #36 (v.1,2)*

*V1* **On Jor-dan’s Banks the Bap-tist’s Cry**

**An-noun-ces That the Lord is Nigh.**

**A-wake and Hear-ken, For He Brings**

**Glad Tid-ings of the King of Kings.**

*V2* **Then Cleansed Be Ev-'ry Life From Sin.**

**Make Straight the Way for God With-in,**

**And Let Us All Our Hearts Pre-pare**

**For Christ to Come and En-ter There.**

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***Day 11: Peace***

*L: Arise, shine; for your light has come,*

**C: And the glory of the Lord Has risen upon you.** *Isaiah 60:1*

*L: Nations shall come to your light*

**C: And sovereigns to the Brightness of your rising.** *Isaiah 60:3*

*L: This is the Word of the Lord.* **C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Ring Bells)*

*Carol:* ***It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*** *LBW #54 (V.1)*

*V1* **It Came Upon a Midnight Clear**

**That Glorious Song of Old**

**From Angels Bending Near the Earth**

**To Touch Their Harps of Gold**

**Peace on the Earth, Good Will to All**

**From Heaven's All Gracious King**

**The World in Solemn Stillness Lay**

**To Hear the Angels Sing.**

***Day 12: Eve of Epiphany Matthew 2:1***

**1***Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem,*

*L: This is the Word of the Lord.* **C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Ring Bells)*

*Carol:****We Three Kings of Orient Are*** *WOV #646 (V.1,5)*

*Verse 1*

**We Three Kings of Orient Are Bearing Gifts, We Traverse Afar,**

**Field and Fountain, Moor and Mountain, Following Yonder Star.**

**O Star of Wonder, Star of Night, Star with Royal Beauty Bright,**

**Westward Leading, Still Proceeding, Guide us to Thy Perfect Light.**

*Verse 5*

**Glorious Now Behold Him Arise. King and God and Sacrifice.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Sounds Through the Earth and Skies.**

**O Star of Wonder, Star of Night, Star with Royal Beauty Bright,**

**Westward Leading, Still Proceeding, Guide us to Thy Perfect Light.**

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***Day 13: Epiphany Matthew 2:1-12***

**1***Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem,* **2***saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”* **3***When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;* **4***and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.* **5***They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:* **6***“‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’”* **7***Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared.* **8***And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.”* **9***After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was.* **10***When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.* **11***And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.* **12***And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.*

*L: This is the Word of the Lord.* **C: Thanks be to God.**

*(Ring Bells)*

*Solo:* ***Welcome to Our World MarJean***

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***Prayers of the Church***

*L: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. (A brief silence)*

*L: Gracious God, give to your church a sacred awe for your presence with us in word and sacrament. Strengthen and nourish us to proclaim your Good News through preaching and teaching, daily living and compassionate service to our neighbors.*

*Lord, in your mercy,* **C: Hear our prayer.**

*L: Lord of time, as this calendar year draws to a close help us to reflect on the year and recognize the abundance of blessing that you pour out upon us and challenge us to trust in your provision more fully in the year ahead.*

*`Lord, in your mercy,* **C: Hear our prayer.**

*L: God our sovereign, we ask your protection for those who must work outdoors in the cold winter months. Help us to appreciate the ways in which our lives are enriched by their work.*

*Lord, in your mercy,* **C: Hear our prayer.**

*L: God of compassion, you call us to care for all in need. We thank you for entrusting to us the resources and skill to serve others around us. Hear our prayers for the unemployed, or underemployed, orphans, widows, and all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. We pray especially for those we name aloud and silently in our hearts: [NAMES] Use us to be ministers of your grace for the benefit of our neighbors.*

*Lord, in your mercy*, **C: Hear our prayer.**

*L: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through you Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.* **C: Amen.**

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***Closing Carol: The Twelve Days of Christmas*** *(V.12)*

**On the 12th Day of Christmas My True Love Gave to Me**

* **Twelve Drummers Drumming,**
* **Eleven Pipers Piping,**
* **Ten Lords a Leaping,**
* **Nine Ladies Dancing,**
* **Eight Maids a Milking,**
* **Seven Swans a Swimming,**
* **Six Geese a Laying,**
* **Five Golden Rings,** *(breathe)*
* **Four Calling Birds,**
* **Three French Hens,**
* **Two Turtle Doves**
* **And a Partridge in a Pear Tree.**

***\*Benediction***

*May Jesus, the Miracle of Christmas,*

*Fill you with all joy and peace in believing,*

*So that by the power of the Holy Spirit*

*You may celebrate the birth of Christ,*

*And share His saving love with all the world.*

*In the Name of the Father, And of the Son,*

*And of the Holy Spirit.* **C: Amen.**

***\*Dismissal***

*L: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.*

*Celebrate the miracle of Christmas.*

**C: Jesus is my miracle. Thanks be to God.**

*(Ring Bells)*

***Merry Christmas and a Happy & Blessed 2024***

***Prelude***

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***Welcome To Emmanuel Lutheran – N.A.L.C.***

Thanks for worshiping with us this evening. Your presence is your gift to us. We pray that our Service of Worship is a blessing to you. Sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever we are -- praising, proclaiming and practicing -- Emmanuel, God with us, in daily life!

Emmanuel Lutheran Church *Emmanuel North*

3819 - 18th Avenue NW *1965 Emmanuel Dr NW*

Rochester, MN 55901 *(7601 - 18th Ave NW)*

Phone: 507-206-3048

Website: [www.emmanuelofrochester.org](http://www.emmanuelofrochester.org/)

Email Address: EmmanuelRochesterNALC@gmail.com

Facebook page: Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Rochester, MN

***Men’s Bible Study***

***Men meet at Oasis Church each Wednesday at 11am, Jan 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st to study the Scriptures.***

***Women’s Bible Study***

***Women meet at Oasis Church every other Wednesday at 1pm, Jan 10th and 24th to study “Chasing Vines” by Beth Moore.***

***Discipleship Covenant for 2024***

***Emmanuel uses annual Discipleship Covenants which are renewable each year as a means of membership. We cordially invite each of you to become a voting member of our church family in 2024. Applications are available in the church foyer. Return your signed covenant to the offering basket or to a council member. C’mon in, the “water” is fine.***

***2024 Emmanuel Annual Meeting***

***Our Annual Meeting Will Be Here in the Oasis Sanctuary Immediately Following Our Sat, Jan 27th Worship Service.***

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| ***Calendar Items***Wed, Jan 3 Men’s Bible Study - 11am at OasisSat, Jan 6 Epiphany Feast Service w/Communion - 4pm Mon, Jan 8 Council Meeting at Julie’s - 4pmWed, Jan 10 Men’s Bible Study - 11am at Oasis -and- Women’s Bible Study – 1pm at Oasis Sat, Jan 13 Eve of Epiphany 2 Worship Service - 4pm Wed, Jan 17 Men’s Bible Study - 11am at OasisSat, Jan 20 Eve of Epiphany 3 Service w/Communion 4pm Wed, Jan 24 Men’s Bible Study - 11am at Oasis -and- Women’s Bible Study – 1pm at Oasis Sat, Jan 27 Eve of Epiphany 4 Worship Service - 4pm  -and- Followed by Annual Congregational Meeting Wed, Jan 31 Men’s Bible Study - 11am at OasisSat, Feb 3 Eve of Epiphany 5 Worship Service - 4pmWed, Feb 7 Men’s Bible Study - 11am at Oasis -and- Women’s Bible Study – 1pm at Oasis Sat, Feb 10 Transfiguration of our Lord Service - 4pmWed, Feb 14 Men’s Bible Study - 11am at Oasis -and- Ash Wednesday Service |



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