

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP SUPPLEMENT FOR DECEMBER 22, 2024

Prelude

New Prospect
Arr. Richard McNaughton

Angels We Have Heard on High

VERSE 1

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply
echo back their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
gloria in excelsis Deo.

VERSE 2

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
which inspire your heav'nly song?

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
gloria in excelsis Deo.

VERSE 3

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.

VERSE 4

See within a manger laid
Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
with us sing our Savior's birth.

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
gloria in excelsis Deo.

"Angels We Have Heard on High"
Text: Traditional French carol
Music: Traditional French melody (GLORIA)
Public Domain

O Little Town of Bethlehem

VERSE 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.

VERSE 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 men on earth.

VERSE 3

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

VERSE 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;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"
Text: Phillips Brooks, 1868
Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1868 (ST. LOUIS)
Public Domain

He Came Down

He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah forevermore.

"He Came Down"
Cameroon traditional, tr. and arr. by John L. Bell;
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Music: 2001 WGRG, co Iona Community, Glasgow, Scotland
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Angels, from the Realms of Glory

VERSE 1

Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

VERSE 2

Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
yonder shines the infant Light:

Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

VERSE 3

Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star:

Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

VERSE 4

Saints before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear:

Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"
Text: James Montgomery, 1816, 1825
Music: Henry Smart, 1867 (REGENT SQUARE)
Public Domain

Joy to the World

VERSE 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.

VERSE 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.

VERSE 3

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.

"Joy to the World"
Text: Isaac Watts, 1719, based on Psalm 98
Music: George Frederick Handel, 1742; arr. by Lowell Mason, 1836 (ANTIOCH)
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Postlude

Scripture to Cross-reference

Angels We Have Heard on High | Angels from the Realms of Glory

Luke 2:13-14

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,
"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" (ESV)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Micah 5:2

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days. (ESV)

He Came Down

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. (ESV)

Joy to the World

Psalm 98

Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.
The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody!
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who dwell in it!
Let the rivers clap their hands;
let the hills sing for joy together
before the LORD, for he comes
to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity. (ESV)