

The Nativity of the Lord

December 24 & 25

Please place yourself in the presence of God at our traditional ringing of the gong.
Light a candle and place the Bible before you.

PRELUDES

1. Hark, The Herald Angels Sing

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King.
Peace on earth, and mercy mild.
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ in born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

2. Away in a Manger

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay;
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

*The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus look down from the sky
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

*Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.*

3. The First Noel

*The First Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
In fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep*

Refrain

*Noel, Noel, Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel.*

*They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.*

Refrain

4. 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.*

Refrain

Gloria in Excelsis Deo!

*Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song*

Refrain

INTRODUCTION

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION (Midnight only)

GATHERING SONG O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. 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;

2. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

Refrain

Refrain
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us
adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy
morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

PENITENTIAL ACT

KYRIE ELEISON

OPENING PRAYER

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 8:00 pm Isaiah 62:1-5
Midnight Isaiah 9:1-6
10:00 am Isaiah 52:7-10

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 8:00 pm Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29
Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord
Midnight Psalm 96
Today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord
10:00 am Psalm 98
All the ends of the earth have seen the power of God

SECOND READING 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 8:00 pm Acts of the Apostles 13:16-17, 22-25
Midnight Titus 3:4-7
10:00 am Hebrews 1:1-6

ALLELUIA

GOSPEL 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 8:00 pm Matthew 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Midnight Luke 2:1-14
10:00 am Luke 2:15-20

HOMILY

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTSWhat 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?*

Refrain

2. *So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come peasant, king, to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.*

Refrain

*This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the
son of Mary.*

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

MYSTERY OF FAITH

GREAT AMEN

THE COMMUNION RITE

LORD'S PRAYER

SIGN OF PEACE Peace I Leave With You

LAMB OF GOD

HOLY COMMUNION

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.*

COMMUNION CHANTSilent 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.*

3. *Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.*

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.*

COMMUNION MEDITATIONOh Holy Night

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

THE CONCLUDING RITES

SENDING FORTHJoy 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 world! the Savior reigns;
Let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

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.

POSTLUDE

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What Child is This?: Text: Refrain and verses 1, 5, William C. Dix. Verses 2-4 text © 2005, 2006, Gerard Chiusano and Mary Hochman. Published by OCP. All rights reserved. Music: English melody

Peace I Leave With You: Text based on John 14:1-2, 27; 15:5. Refrain and verse 1 text from The New American Bible © 1970, 1986, CCD. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music and verses 2 and 3 text © 2015, Barbara Bridge. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Silent Night: Text: Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht; Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885 Tune: STILLE NACHT, 66 89 66; Franz X. Gruber, 1787-1863

Joy to the World: Text: Psalm 98; Isaac Watts, 1674-1748 Tune: ANTIOCH, CM; arr. from George F. Handel, 1685-1759, in T. Hawkes' Collection of Tunes, 1833

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