

**St Paul's
UCC**

**Henderson
MN**

**December
24th,
2022**

The background of the right side of the image is a dark, starry night sky. A prominent, bright star with a cross-like pattern of light rays is positioned at the top center. Below it, the words "MERRY CHRISTMAS" are written in a large, white, serif font. At the bottom of the image, there is a silhouette of a landscape with rolling hills. In the center of the landscape, a manger scene is depicted, with a bright light emanating from the manger, casting a glow on the surrounding hills and sky.

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

***Call to Worship**

Come away, come away, come tonight
to Bethlehem.

**Come adore on bended knee, one
whose birth the angels sing.**

Come away, come away, from your
noisy celebration, to a
place of quietness and peace.

Come with wonder, come with awe.

**Take your place among sheep
and cattle.**

**Sing with joy, praise God who keeps
his promise.**

**Sing the good news that Jesus
Christ Child is born! Amen.**

O Come, All Ye Faithful #89

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.

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n
above!

Glory to God, all glory in the
highest

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord!

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

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord!

***Prayer of Invocation (in unison)**

Lord God we pray: Touch us this night with unearthly joy, like the singing of angels. Fill us with wonder, like the eyes of children. Inspire our worship, like the wandering Wise Men. May our journey to the manger this night renew our faith in Jesus our newborn king.

Gloria Patri

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.***

*Welcome
&
Announcements*



Last Day Of Advent

Hope

Peace

Christ

Joy

Love



Away in a Manger #93

Away in a manger

No crib for a 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

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

Luke 2: 1 - 20

About that time Emperor Augustus gave orders for the names of all the people to be listed in record books. These first records were made when Quirinius was governor of Syria. Everyone had to go to their own hometown to be listed. So Joseph had to leave Nazareth in Galilee and go to Bethlehem in Judea. Long ago Bethlehem had been King David's hometown, and Joseph went there because he was from David's family. Mary was engaged to Joseph and traveled with him to Bethlehem . She was soon going to have a baby, and while they were there, she gave birth to her first-born son. She dressed him in baby clothes and laid him on a bed of hay, because there was no room for them in the inn. That night in the fields near Bethlehem some shepherds were guarding their sheep.

All at once an angel came down to them from the Lord, and the brightness of the Lord's glory flashed around them. The shepherds were frightened. But the angel said, "Don't be afraid! I have good news for you, which will make everyone happy. This very day in King David's hometown a Savior was born for you. He is the Christ of the Lord. You will know who he is, because you will find him dressed in baby clothes and lying on a bed of hay."

Suddenly many of the other angels came down from heaven and joined in praising God. They said, "Praise God in heaven! Peace on earth to everyone who pleases God." After the angels had left and gone back to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see what the Lord has told us about." They hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying on a bed of hay.

When the shepherds saw Jesus, they told his parents what the angel had said about him. Everyone listened and was surprised. But Mary kept thinking about all this and wondering what it meant. As the shepherds returned to their sheep, they were praising God and saying wonderful things about him. Everything they had seen and heard was just as the angel has said.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing #94

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 the angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King"

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the Virgin's womb:
veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King"

Matthew 2: 1 – 12

When Jesus was born in the village of Bethlehem in Judea, Herod was king. During this time some wise men from the east came to Jerusalem and said, “Where is the child born to be the king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.” When King Herod heard about this, he was so worried, and so was everyone else in Jerusalem. Herod brought together the chief priests and the teachers of the Law of Moses and asked them, “Where will the Messiah be born?” They told him, “He will be born in Bethlehem, just as the prophet wrote, ‘Bethlehem, in the land of Judea, you are very important among the towns of Judea. From your town will come a leader], who will be like a shepherd for my people Israel.’ ” Herod secretly called in the wise men and asked them when they had first seen the star. He told them, “Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, let me know.

I want to go and worship him to.” The wise men listened to what the king had said and then left. And the star they had seen in the east went on ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. They were thrilled and excited to see the star. When the men went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they knelt down and worshipped him. They took out their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh and gave them to him. Later they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, and they went back home by another road.

O Little Town of Bethlehem #99

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.

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 all the earth.

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.

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!

THE SERMON



The First Nowell #100

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay:

In fields where they lay
a keeping their sheep

On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel Noel Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
That hath made heaven
and earth of nought,
And with his blood
mankind has bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.

Pastoral Prayer - Silent Prayer

The 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 debts as we forgive our debtors; 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.

Cares Chorus

*I cast all of my cares upon you.
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet.
And any time I don't know what to do,
I will cast all of my cares upon you.*



Let us Break Bread Together #210

Let us break bread together on our knees.
Let us break bread together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees.
Let us drink wine together on our knees
When I fall on my knees with my
face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees.
Let us praise God together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.

The Lord's Supper

Invitation

Prayer of

Consecration

Words of Institution

Sharing of the

Bread and Cup



Invitation

Offertory Music

OFFERING
WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD



Doxology

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.***

***Prayer of Dedication**

Lord God, as we exchange gifts this Christmas Eve, let us receive the greatest gift of all, you son Jesus Christ. Let these gifts be blessed in Your name. Amen.



*Sharing The
Light Of Christ*

Silent Night #95

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

Silent night, holy night

Shepherds quake at the sight

Glories stream from heaven afar

Heavenly hosts sing, "Alleluia"

Christ the Savior is born

Christ the Savior is born

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

A lit candle with a bright flame is positioned in the center of the frame. To its right, a large, glowing bokeh light source creates a warm, golden glow. The background is dark with several other bokeh light spots. The text "Benediction & Blessing" is written in a white, elegant cursive font across the middle of the image, partially overlapping the candle's flame.

Benediction & Blessing