



Thank you for participating in a unified worship of First Congregational United Church of Christ and Christ United Methodist Church. We hope your participation in the service is meaningful in the ways you need it to be.

Prelude

“Advent Medley”
Duet with Melissa Gilbert and Barb Swaby

arr. Ethel Tench Rogers

Advent Greeting & Preparation to Worship

Song of Preparation

“Good Christian Friends Rejoice”

NCH #129

Descant

3 Good Chris - tian friends, re-joyce with heart and soul and voice;

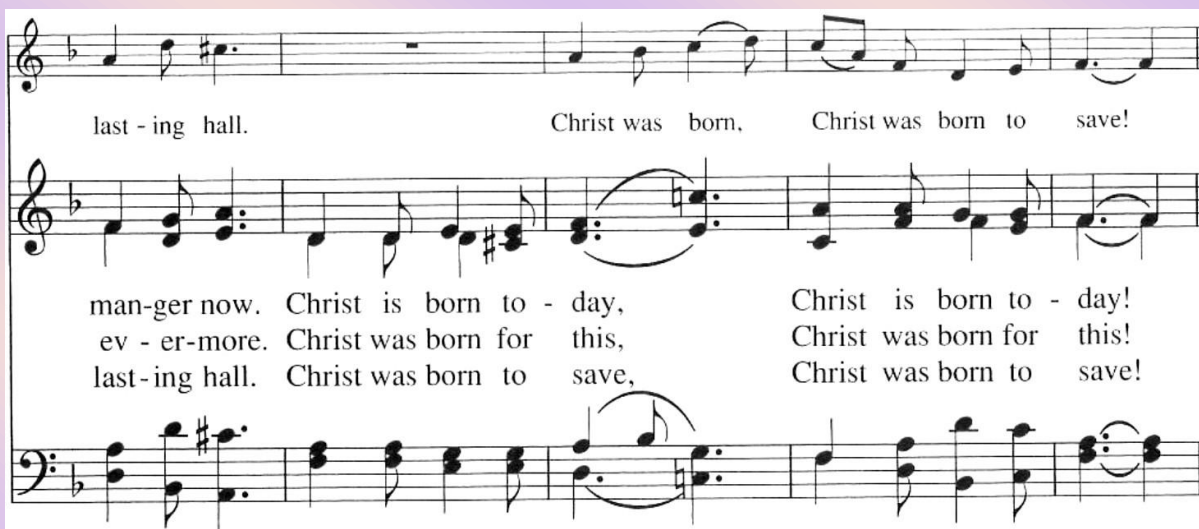
1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

now you need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

now give heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now you know of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now you need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er -

Ox and ass be - fore him bow, a - sleep with - in the
 God has o - pened heav - en's door, and you are blessed for -
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er -



This carol is very old. Heinrich Suso, a German mystic who died in 1366, related a vision in which angels, singing this carol, drew him into a dance. The words were originally macaronic, combining Latin phrases with the vernacular.

Tune: IN DULCI JUBILO 6.6.7.7.7.8.5.5.
German melody, 14th century
Harm. adapt. from John Stainer, 1871
Descant, H. A. Chambers, 1931

Processional

“Advent’s Holy Light”

Chancel Choir

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Dennis Dell & Sue Skees

Leader: Today the candle representing Joy joins the candles of Hope and Peace. As we light this third candle, let the joy of the season fill our hearts. May we find the joy in simple moments, and may that joy bring a sense of peace and well-being into our lives, when we think of the countless blessings that fill our lives.

Leader: When we think of the countless blessings that fill our lives.

Many: Our hearts are filled with joy

Leader: For the warmth of relationships and the bonds we share with family and friends.

Many: Our hearts are filled with joy

Leader: When we pause to appreciate the beauty and wonder of nature.

Many: Our hearts are filled with joy

Leader: For the giving and receiving of simple acts of kindness.

Many: Our hearts are filled with joy

Leader: Gracious Creator, teach us to find joy not only in triumphs but also in the simple moments of everyday grace. Fill us with joy that surpasses circumstances, anchored in the unchangeable truth of your love. Help us share this joy with others and may joy and laughter be a constant companion on our journey through life. Amen

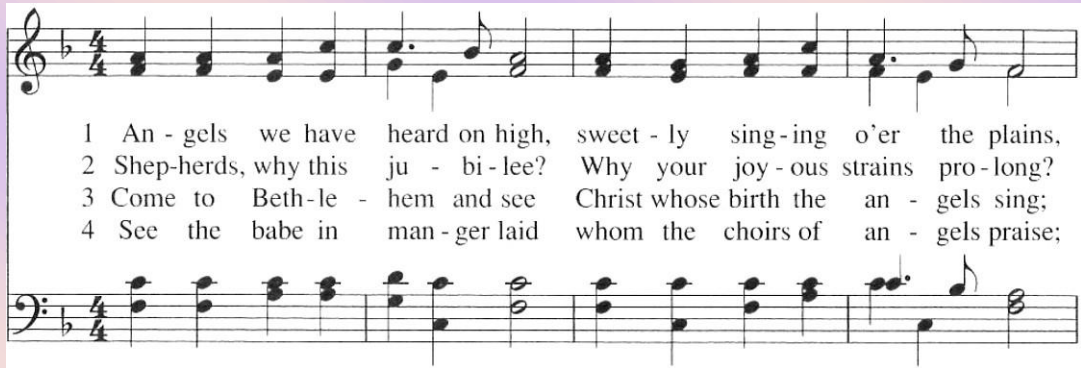
Musical Interlude

“Advent’s Holy Light”

Choir & Congregation

“Nativity” A Christmas Pageant

Introduction	“Christmas Medley”	<i>Christmas Belles</i>
Scene 1	Waiting “Veni, Veni Emmanuel”	<i>Chancel Choir</i>
Scene 2	Birth “No Room, No Room”	<i>Chancel Choir</i>
Scene 3	Shepherd and Angels “Do You Hear What I Hear?”	<i>Pageant Cast</i>
Congregational Hymn	“Angels We Have Heard on High”	<i>NCH #125</i>



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Christ whose birth the an - gels sing;
 4 See the babe in man - ger laid whom the choirs of an - gels praise;

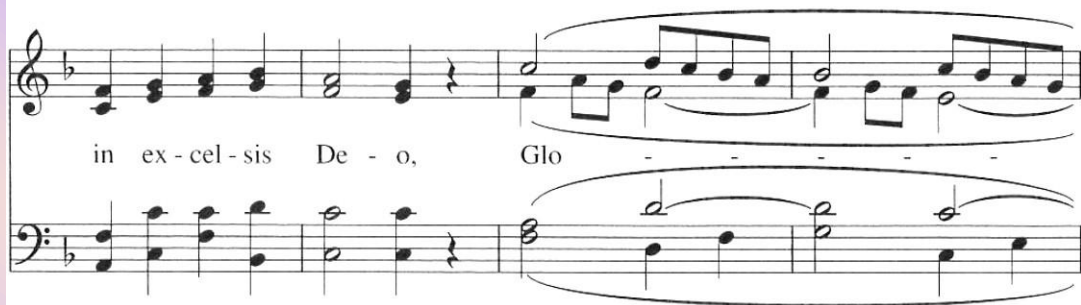


And the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
 Say what may the tid - ings be, which in - spire your heav - en - ly song.
 Come a - dore on bend - ed knee, God, our world now en - ter - ing.
 Mar - y, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.

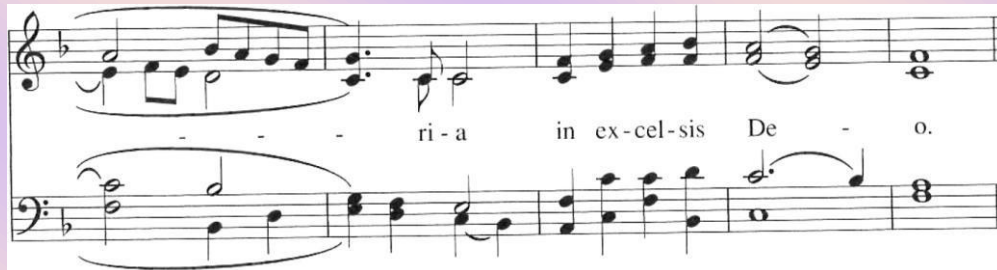
Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - - - - -



The earliest version of this anonymous French carol was first published in 1855. There have been numerous English translations since the 1860s, but the carol did not gain widespread ecumenical usage until the first half of the twentieth century.

Tune: GLORIA 7.7.7.7. with refrain
(LES ANGES DANS NOS CAMPAGNES)
French carol melody

Scene 4

The Wise Ones

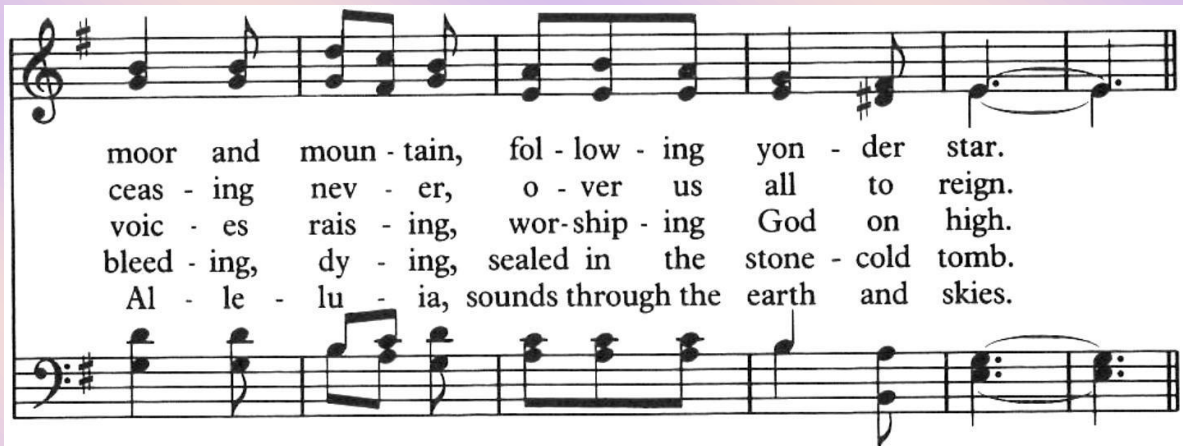
Congregational Hymn

“We Three Kings” vs. 1 and 5

UMH #254

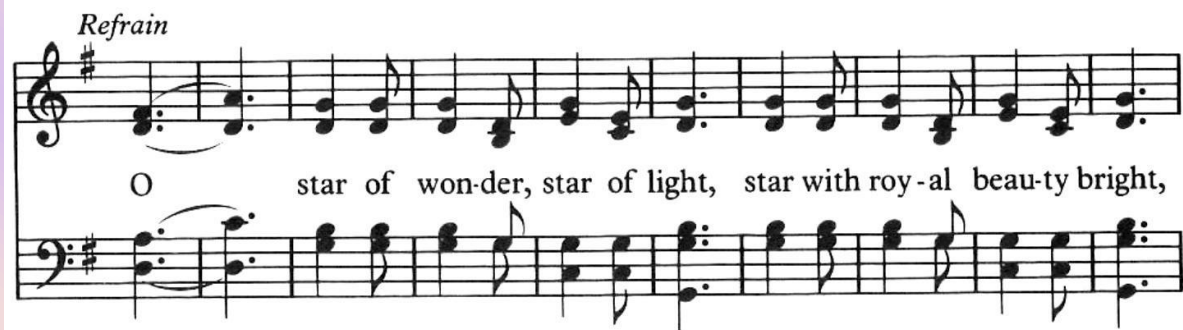
1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing
 2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
 3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense
 4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
 5. Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise; King and

gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
 bring to crown him a - gain, King for - ev - er,
 owns a De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
 God and sac - ri - fice: Al - le - lu - ia,

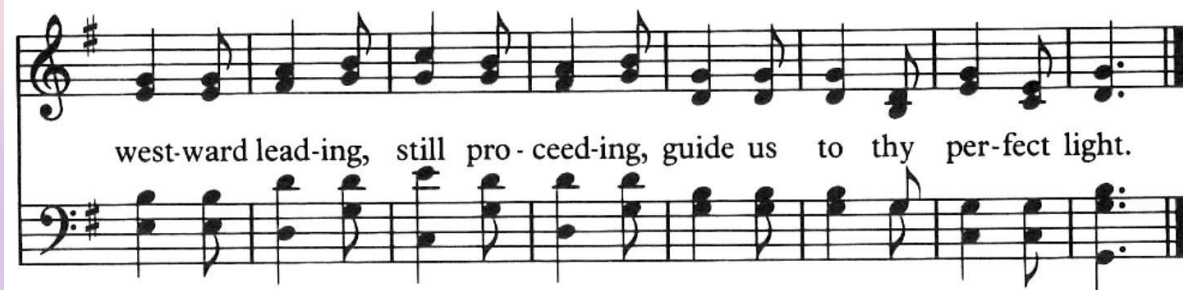


moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
 voic - es rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God on high.
 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 Al - le - lu - ia, sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain



O star of won - der, star of light, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light.

WORDS: John H. Hopkins, Jr., 1857 (Mt. 2:1-12)
 MUSIC: John H. Hopkins, Jr., 1857

KINGS OF ORIENT
 88.446 with Refrain

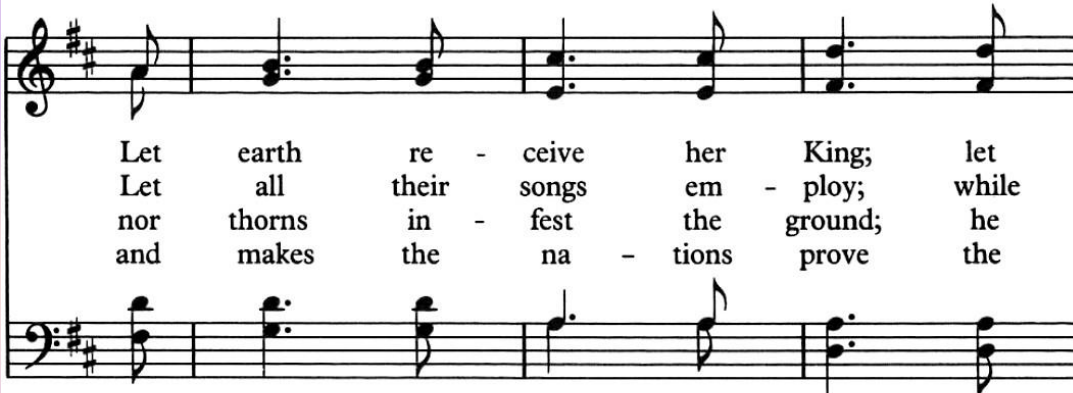
Congregational Hymn

“Christmastime”
 “Joy to The World”

Chancel Choir and Pageant Cast
UMH #246



1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
 2. Joy to the world, the Sav - ior reigns!
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow,
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace,



Let earth re - ceive her King; let
 Let all their songs em - ploy; while
 nor thorns in - fest the ground; he
 and makes the na - tions prove the



ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 comes to make his bless - ings flow
 glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness,

and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 far as the curse is found, far
 and won - ders of his love, and

and re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his

heaven and na - ture sing, and
 peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 as the curse is found, far
 won - ders of his love, and

sing,
 joy,
 found,
 love,

and re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his

heaven, and heaven, and na - ture sing.
 peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 as, far as the curse is found.
 won - ders, won - ders of his love.

WORDS: Issac Watts, 1719 (Ps. 98:4-9)
 MUSIC: Arr. from G. F. Handel, 1741, by Lowell Mason, 1848

ANTIOCH
 CM with Repeat

Time of Prayer & 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

We Offer Our Gifts

Offertory

Our ministries rely on the generosity of our members and friends. If you would like to make a financial contribution to support our work in Great Falls and beyond, you can send checks to P.O. Box 6303, Great Falls, MT 59406 or use the corresponding QR codes.

First Congregational UCC Donations:



Christ UMC Donations:



Doxology and Presentation

NCH #776

**Praise God from who all blessings flow
Praise Christ all creatures here below
Comforter, One God Triune,
whom we adore.
Amen, Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

Precious God, take these gifts in the spirit they were given, with joy and love for our siblings around the world. Let us remember that we all have times of trouble. Use what we have here to bring relief where it is needed most. Amen

Closing Hymn

“What Christmas is About”

Pageant Cast

Benediction

Postlude

**“The Joy of Christmas Medley”
Duet with Melissa Gilbert and Barb Swaby**

arr. Ethel Tench Rogers

(please be seated for the postlude)

Pageant Participants

Narrator	Cara Dunn
Prophet Isaiah	Kelly Quick
Mary	Erika Greene
Joseph	Echo Greene
Innkeeper	Kaeden Dunn
Shepherd 1	Aalayah Dunn
Shepherd 2	Jaycee Storle
Shepherd 3	Anna Storle
Herald Angel	Lily Borland
Heavenly Host	Bailey Schrader, Chase Schrader, Hudson Zimmer, Lito Dunn Saint Dunn, Rose Storle, Lacelyn Storle, Riker Borland Erika Greene, Echo Greene
Wise Woman 1	Bailey Schrader
Wise Woman 2	Lily Borland
Wise Woman 3	Aalayah Dunn
King Herod	Chase Schrader
Chief Priest	Jaycee Storle
Junior Chief Priests	Saint Dunn, Lito Dunn
Star	Kaeden Dunn
Dream Angel	Chase Schrader
Director	Janet Koostra
Music Director	Melissa Gilbert
Accompanists	Melissa Gilbert, Barb Swaby
Tech	Eric Dunn, Jullian Valley, Hank Branom, Scott Schrader
Stage Crew	Melissa Zimmer, Erin Borland, Janet Koostra, Betsy Rogstad Kaeden Dunn, Keith Storle