

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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THE REV. PEGGY NIEDERER – PASTOR

CAROL WEBER - CANTOR

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
JANUARY 2, 2022
10 AM**



Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

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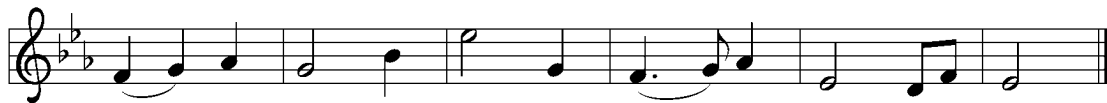
ENTRANCE HYMN *The Bells of Christmas Chime Once More* LBW 62



Det ki - mer nu til ju - le - fest, det ki - mer
 1 The bells of Christ - mas chime once more; the heav'n - ly
 2 This world, though wide and far out - spread, could scarce - ly
 3 Now let us go with qui - et mind, the swad - dled
 4 Oh, join with me, in glad - ness sing, to keep our



for den høj - e gæst, som steg til la - ve
 guest is at the door. He comes to earth - ly
 find for you a bed. Your cra - dle was a
 babe with shep - herds find, to gaze on him who
 Christ - mas with our king, un - til our song, from



hyt - ter ned med nyt - års - ga - ver: fryd og fred.
 dwell - ings still with new year gifts of peace, good will.
 man - ger stall, no pearl nor silk nor king - ly hall.
 glad - dens them, the love - liest flow'r of Jes - se's stem.
 lov - ing souls, like rush - ing might - y wa - ter rolls!

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>5 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:</p> | <p>6 Come, Jesus, glorious heav'nly guest,
 and keep your Christmas in our breast;
 then David's harpstrings, hushed so long,
 shall swell our jubilee of song.</p> |
|---|---|

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Charles Porterfield Krauth, 1823–1883, alt.
 Music: DET RIMER NU TIL JULEFEST, Carl C. N. Balle, 1806–1855

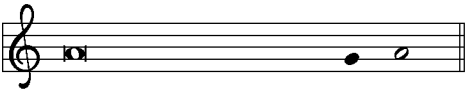
THE GREETING


P To us a child is born, to us a Son is given. Alleluia, alleluia!
 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

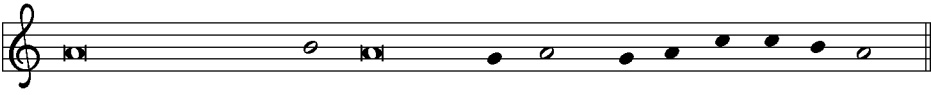
C And also with you.





KYRIE


A 
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.


C 
Lord, have mer - cy.

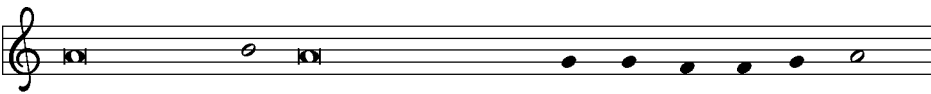
A 
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.


C 
Lord, have mer - cy.


A 
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,


and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C 
Lord, have mer - cy.

A 
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,


let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.

A 
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE***Angels from the Realms of Glory*****LBW 50**

- 1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
- 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
- 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla - tions, bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;
- 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
 seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
 Music: REGENT SQUARE Henry T. Smart 1813–1879

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

A A reading from Jeremiah, the 31st chapter.

God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

⁷ Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
"Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel."

⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹ With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far
away;
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

¹¹ For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the LORD.

A The word of the God. The Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 147:12-20

¹²Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,

¹³**who has strengthened the bars of your gates
and has blessed your children within you.**

¹⁴God has established peace on your borders
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

¹⁵**God sends out a command to the earth,
a word that runs very swiftly.**

¹⁶God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

¹⁷**God scatters hail like bread crumbs.
Who can stand against God's cold?**

¹⁸The LORD sends forth the word and melts them;
the wind blows, and the waters flow.

¹⁹**God declares the word to Jacob,
statutes and judgments to Israel.**

²⁰The LORD has not done so to any other nation;
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

A A reading from Ephesians, the 1st chapter.

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

³**B**lessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

A The word of the God. The Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL HYMN

Let Our Gladness Have No End

ELW 291

Stanzas 1 and 4



1 Let our glad - ness have no end, Hal - le - lu - jah!
2 Proph - e - sied in days of old, Hal - le - lu - jah!
3 See the love - liest bloom - ing rose, Hal - le - lu - jah!
4 In - to flesh is made the Word, Hal - le - lu - jah!



for to earth did Christ de - scend. Hal - le - lu - jah!
God has sent the one fore - told. Hal - le - lu - jah!
from the branch of Jes - se grows. Hal - le - lu - jah!
our true ref - uge and our Lord. Hal - le - lu - jah!

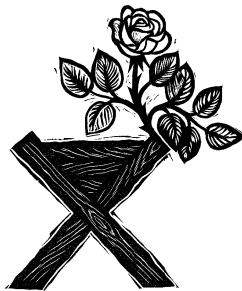
Refrain



On this day God gave us Christ, the Son, to



save us; Christ, the Son, to save us.



THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 1:1-18

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 1st chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

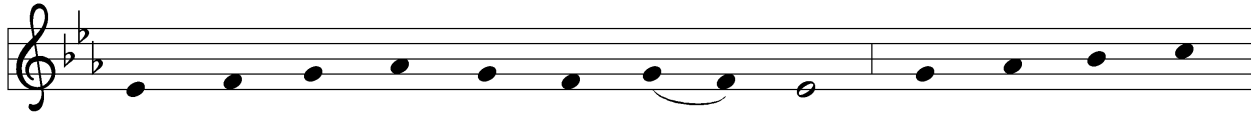
Please be seated

SERMON

Pastor Peggy Niederer

Silence for Meditation

Please stand as you are able.



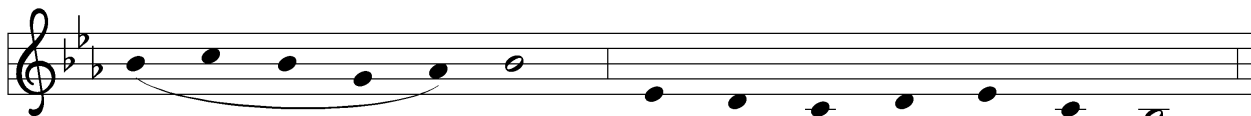
1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
 3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
 bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
 pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.



NICENE CREED

A Let us confess our faith with Christians throughout the world by using the Nicene Creed.

C **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

FRED LEWIS

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need using the response **receive our prayer.**

A brief silence.

You make yourself known in the gift of language in diverse forms. Draw our attention to those who communicate through sign, braille, and technology. Make your church a place where all methods of communication are celebrated. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Creating God, the sun greets us anew each morning. Thank you for waking us up today to witness and share your abundance. Awaken us always to your wisdom and deepen our care for your natural world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Emmanuel, in your name we are assured that you are with us. Train nations and peoples to honor and respect one another, especially those whose names and identities have been mistreated, neglected, or oppressed. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of partnerships, we pray for our sister congregations here in *Teaneck, in the Meadowlands Cluster, the Northern Mission District, Lutheran Social Services of New Jersey, the New Jersey Synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the wider Christian community, our friends from the Light & Peace Mission in Haiti*, and people of faith everywhere. as they live out their callings to serve. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You adopt us as your beloved ones. Accompany parents and children navigating the adoption process, especially those in the foster system. Sustain those struggling with infertility or pregnancy loss. Tenderly embrace all regardless of need especially those we pray for in silence or out loud (*pause*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You journey with us through change. Guide those assuming new roles in this congregation or making transitions in their families, workplaces, or communities. As the seasons and the calendar change, equip us for unexpected challenges. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give you thanks for all who modeled lives of loving service (*especially Wilhelm Loehe, whom we commemorate today*). Lead us in your grace until, with all your saints, we enter the fullness of your glory. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C Amen.**

PEACE *Stay at your seat as you share a sign of peace.*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING *Please place your offering in the plate located on the table at the back of the sanctuary before or after Worship.*

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY Of the Father's Love Begotten Charles Callahan

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.
Gracious God,
your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth.
As we offer ourselves and these your gifts,
prepare us to receive the grace and truth
you offer at this table
and renew in us the song of your salvation,
in Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

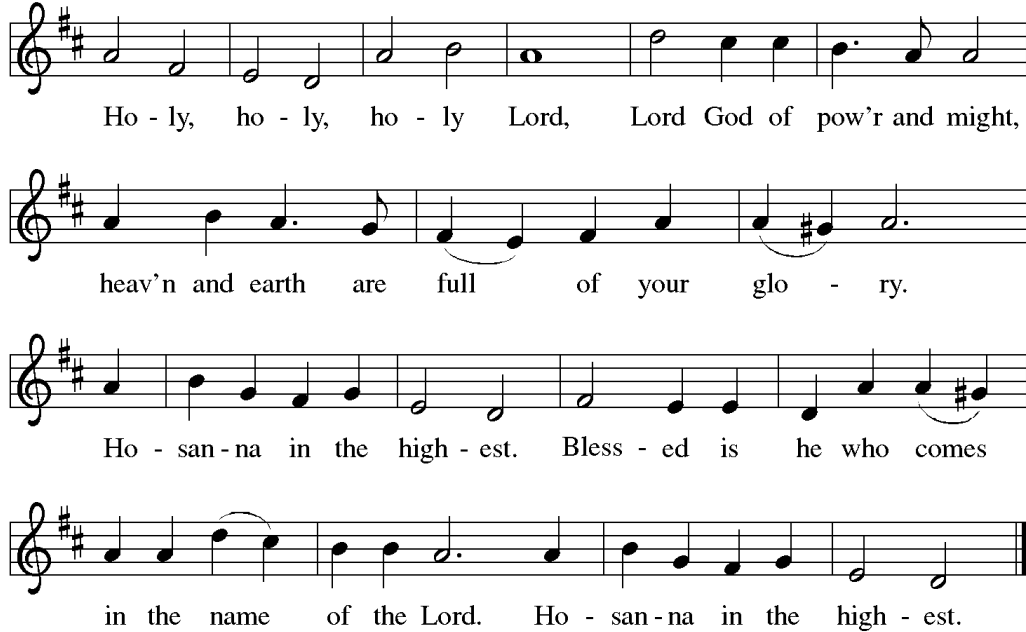
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THE PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world with righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels and with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn. we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Please kneel or sit.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
The Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,
Gave thanks, blessed and broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
And gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
Shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

- P With this bread and cup
We remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
- C Come, Lord Jesus.**
- P Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your
light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.
- C Come, Holy Spirit.**
- P All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High, one God now and forever. **C Amen.**

LORDS PRAYER

- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we say the prayer that Jesus taught us:
- C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
Now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

- P In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for
you. Come to the table where all are welcome.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



CONTINUOUS COMMUNION

Please stay seated until the person in front of you has received the wafer.

Continue to mask until after you have received the wafer & cup and have stepped away from the communion tray.

*A tray with individual cups is located in front of each pew section.
The center contains purple grape juice.
White wine is in the remainder of the tray.*

After use, please deposit cup in receptacle at the end of pew section.

All who are baptized and believe Christ is present in the meal offering forgiveness of sins and eternal life may receive communion.

*If you do not wish to receive Communion,
you may cross your arms in front of you and come forward to receive a
blessing.*

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING:

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P The God of hope
fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus,
the Word made flesh. C Amen.

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

SENDING HYMN

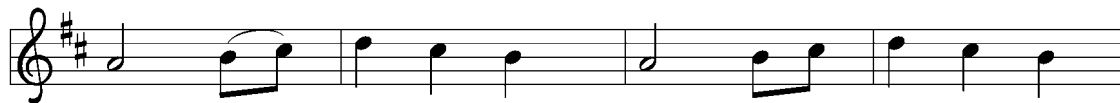
LBW 56



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .
4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and



night that was so deep.
tin-ued both day and night.
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
place where Je - sus lay.
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated

POSTLUDE: The First Noel
Carillon-Sortie

Franklin Ashdown

+ + +

OUR SPECIAL THANKS TODAY

TO

Sue Papera, Greeter

Kaitlin Costello, Liturgist & Reader

Fred Lewis, Prayers of Intercession

Lynn Buckingham, Altar Guild

+ + +



Wednesday, January 5th, at 3 PM
in-person at
Grace, Teaneck



Via Zoom

Thursday, January 6th, at Noon

Based on the Bishop's Challenge & God's Intention at the Time of Creation

Connection link will be emailed



Congregational
MEETING

**BRIEF MEETING AFTER MASS
SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2022**

to vote on Church Council nominees

Leslyn Cooke & Donna Maxwell

PRAYERS

Carol Weber; Donald Lazlear and his family (Zulema's friends); Katie (Zulema's niece), Surella (Katie's mom), and Frank Borowski (Katie's dad), and aunt; Enrique Perez (Jack's father-in-law); Marc Yaffe (Leslyn's and Michael's son); Melanie M. (Julie's friend); Susan Bethke (Lynn's cousin undergoing chemo and other treatment for a brain tumor); Nancy McCabe (Lynn's sister-in-law who has COPD); Nancy Galya (Lynn's former coworker); Bill Ewing (Sue's husband and Grace's Attorney); Gina Ewing in her work regarding equality and justice for all; Dick Barlotta (Sue Papera's brother-in-law/Penny's husband, following knee replacement surgery); Jason and Paul Thalmann (Janet's nephew and brother); Kathy Obtain (a co-worker of Janet Thalmann's sister-in-law); Hahnah and Navi (Karen Bartholomew's friend's children); Mark Crovatto (Al's son); Susan Beever (Mary Ellen's friend); Arline A. (Mary Ellen's friend with metastatic cancer); Jessica and Casey O'Neil (Kay Roseen's daughter and son-in-law) who work for the State Department, working in Beijing; Susan (Lorli's sister-in-law); Tammy (Lorli's niece who has an immune disorder); James Ilgenfritz (Erika's son); Caridad (Rosa's aunt); Jael (Rosa's cousin); The Rosillo family (Surella's friends with Covid); Liz Frentzel (health concerns); Gerry Schlask (following back surgery); Tom Corcoran (Gerry Schlask's friend, following heart attacks); Kevin (a friend of the congregation undergoing treatment for cancer); Tom (a friend of the congregation undergoing treatment for cancer); Mary Ellen Fitzgerald (health concerns); Lorli Steffen (hip replacement); Erika Ilgenfritz (following cataract surgery); Mary Ellen Fitzgerald (cancer); Chris Niederer (Pastor's son with immune system disorder); the people of Afghanistan, Americans, and allies who are still there; front line workers, medical researchers; health experts, national and regional officials; those affected by natural disasters and wildfires.



COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church, died 1872
Sunday, January 2, 2022

A nineteenth-century German Lutheran pastor, Loehe worked to enliven the church with the eucharist at its center, from which would flow evangelism and social ministry. He sent pastors to North America, Australia, New Guinea, Brazil, and the Ukraine.



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