

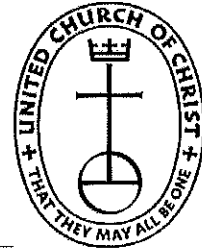
**Columbia  
United Church  
Of Christ**

**December 24, 2022  
"Christmas Eve 7pm"**



**CUCC**  
**Columbia United Church of Christ**

*Columbia  
United Church  
Of Christ*



*December 24, 2022                      7:00pm Worship                      Christmas Eve*

*\*indicates that all are invited to stand, if comfortably able*

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

“Mary Had a Baby”

Amy Crousore  
Gruber/arr. McLean

Bringing in the Light of Christ

\*Call to Worship

Lindsey Oberle

Don't be afraid! For see, I am bringing you Great News!  
News of JOY for all people!

**Let all the world rejoice! The Prince of PEACE is born!**

To you is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior.  
This is the Messiah; Christ, the Lord!

**God's gift of HOPE is ours once more!**  
**God's LOVE revealed in the Christ Child!**

Let's go now with great haste to see what has taken place!  
Our hearts and our lives are filled with JOY!

**We come here tonight to celebrate Jesus!**  
**Come, let us worship God!**

\*Opening Hymn

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” verses 1,3,4                      *(insert)*

\*Opening Prayer

Lindsey Oberle

**God of Unity, we have been through a lot in our world the past few years. We have gone through difficult times, but you were with us the whole way. Today, as we celebrate your birth in our midst once more, we pray that we may realize the newness you bring and recommit ourselves to your presence in our lives.**

**We pray for your gifts of Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy to be realized in our lives today. We admit that we do not quite understand all the implications of your Incarnation in the Christ child we adore, but we know that, in Him, you are very present in the world. Tonight, when all things are**

possible, we pray that we might take the essence of your presence into our hearts.

As Christmas turns into the New Year and the lights of this evening fades, help us keep the Christmas miracle alive in our hearts all year long. In the name of the Christ Child we pray, Amen.

\*Prayer Response "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus;  
Look full in his wonderful face!  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
In the light of his glory and grace!*

\*Sharing God's Gift of Peace Pastor Rick

May God's Peace be with you!

**And also with you!**

*God is revealed to us through the Gift of Christ*

*Waiting for Christ*

Gospel Reading Matthew 1:18-21 Lindsey Oberle

Hymn: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" vs. 1-3 (insert)

*Receiving Christ*

Children's Time and Lighting the Christ Candle

Gospel Reading Luke 2:1-7 Pastor Rick

Hymn: "Away in a Manger" (insert)

*Celebrating Christ*

Gospel Reading Luke 2:8-14 Lindsey Oberle

Christmas Anthem "See That Star" Celebration Singers  
*Victor C. Johnson*

*Proclaiming Christ*

Gospel Reading Luke 2:15-20 Lindsey Oberle

Christmas Anthem "Christmas Day in the Morning" Celebration Singers  
*Larry Shackley*

Homily "John the Baptizer, Charles Dickens, and Dr. Seuss"  
Pastor Rick

Hymn: "What Child is This" (insert)  
**Responding to Christ**

Offering our Gifts

*Our offering this evening will be donated to Camp MoVal, the Outdoor Ministry program of the Missouri Mid-South Conference. Camp MoVal provides outdoor education for hundreds of children every year, teaching them to experience God's presence in the world.*

Offertory "Adeste Fideles" Chapel Ringers  
Cynthia Dobrinski

\*Prayer of Dedication Pastor Rick

**God of Blessing and Service, as we give our gifts to you this evening, we contemplate the incredible nature of your presence in our world. As you came into this world doing a new thing in the life of Jesus, you inspired us to new adventures, as well. So take these offerings this evening and use them to inspire new and exciting adventures in your ministry at Camp MoVal. Multiply these gifts that all may be able to experience your presence through their outdoor ministry programs. Amen.**

***The Sacrament of Communion***

*All who are present are invited to share in this joyous meal, no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey!*

\*Invitation

Communion Prayer/Institution/Blessing/Fraction

Sharing the Meal

*We will celebrate Altar Communion this evening, remembering the Wisdom this Christ Child will share with us. You are invited to come forward via the center aisle and receive the bread celebrating Christ's ministry from the communion steward; then, move to the steward holding the cup of New Life and Resurrection. Take the elements back to your chair; if you choose to wait, we will partake together once all have received the elements. The center ring of cups contain grape juice; the outer rings contain wine.*

Communion Music "Gesu Bambino" Amy Crousore  
Pietro Yon/arr. Bock

\*Communion Prayer Lindsey Oberle

*The lights will slowly dim as Lindsey offers the following Prayer of Thanksgiving. You are invited to pray along silently. By the time we*

*join together in saying the Unison Lord's Prayer, the Sanctuary lights will be extinguished, and we will be reciting the Lord's Prayer together among only the lights of Christmas. The Sanctuary lights will remain off until after we sing "Silent Night." After the Lord's Prayer, Pastor Rick will begin passing the light of Christ to prepare for Congregational singing of "Silent Night."*

Lindsey:

We give you thanks, Loving God, that you have come to us through Jesus Christ: both in the mists of time and history in the city of Bethlehem, and in the timeless reality of Christ's loving ministry, remembered here this Christmas Eve in the bread and the cup. Send us into the world rejoicing, ready to share your gifts, renewed through your presence here. We celebrate our Savior's birth this evening as one family, praying the prayer he taught us:

\*The Lord's Prayer *(spoken by the congregation)*

**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. Amen.**

\*Lighting of the Candles "Silent Night"

\*Meditation Hymn: "Silent Night" *(insert)*

*As Amy begins playing "Silent Night," Pastor Rick will share the light of Christ with the folks sitting in the center aisle. You are also invited to share that light with those sitting next to you and those in the next section. Once everyone's candle is lit and the lights are extinguished, Brandon will lead us in singing "Silent Night." You may extinguish your candle after the prayer of dedication.*

\*Prayer of Dedication Pastor Rick

**Thank you, God for the miracle of this evening. Help us to realize your love working inside each one of us as well; and share that love with all the world. We are renewed this Christmas Eve by your passion and presence. Hear our joyful responses as we go into your world, shouting our Joy at your birth. Amen.**

\*Responding to Christ "Joy to the World" *(insert)*

\*Benediction

\*Postlude "Fanfare on Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Amy Crousore  
*Mendelssohn/arr. Hobby*



# Columbia United Church of Christ

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Website: [www.columbiaucc.com](http://www.columbiaucc.com)

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<b>Student Pastor:</b> Shelly Adams	<a href="mailto:shellyraeadams@gmail.com">shellyraeadams@gmail.com</a>
<b>Admin. Assistant:</b> Mike Pierson	<a href="mailto:office@columbiaucc.com">office@columbiaucc.com</a>
<b>Moderator:</b> Kristy Hayward	<a href="mailto:kristyodneal@gmail.com">kristyodneal@gmail.com</a>
<b>Music Coordinator:</b> Brandon Brown	<a href="mailto:brandon.michael.brown@gmail.com">brandon.michael.brown@gmail.com</a>
<b>Organist/Accompanist:</b> Amy Crousore	<a href="mailto:amycrousore@gmail.com">amycrousore@gmail.com</a>
<b>LODO Director:</b> Erika Maltsbarger	<a href="mailto:littleonesdayout@yahoo.com">littleonesdayout@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Custodian:</b> Caleb Berry	<a href="mailto:calebprenticeberry@gmail.com">calebprenticeberry@gmail.com</a>
<b>Financial Secretary:</b> Raj Tolani	<a href="mailto:finance.cucc@gmail.com">finance.cucc@gmail.com</a>
<b>Pastor Emeritus:</b> Rev. Fred Brandenburg	



## Poinsettias in the Sanctuary this evening were given by:

**Ed & Judy Kaiser**

in memory of Karenda Kaiser

**Donnie & Lauren Helmreich**

in memory of Carla Helmreich, Bill Graves, and Andrew Helmreich

**Glenn & Carol Duermeyer**

in memory of Family & Friends



**Jeffrey Kies**

in memory of Seth Brandenburg

in honor of Eric and Sara Schweain and Mia, Isaac, & Riley

**John Graves**

in memory of Bill & Helen Graves and Virgil & Neva Schupp

**Helen Graves**

in memory of Bill Graves, Carla & Andrew Helmreich

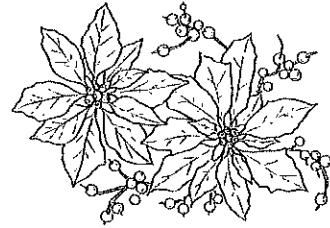
**Hayward/Odneal/Neale Family**

In memory of Gertrude & George Altemose and Robert S. Haward

**Melba Shaffer**  
In memory of Hal Shaffer

**Chuck & Audrey Lasley**  
In honor of Darren Lasley  
In memory of Parents & Grandparents

**Jim & Connie Loveless**  
In memory of Parents & Grandparents



**Fred & Carolyn Malicoat**  
In memory of Our Parents  
In honor of Our Children & Grandchildren

**Susan Dunham**  
In memory of Alex Dunham & Jean Dunham

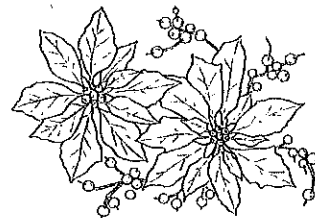
**Kitty Rogers**  
In memory of J.R. Schmitt (brother)

**Rev. Rick and Kim Oberle –**  
in memory of Christine Oberle, Lester and Melba Mosberger,  
Richard and Melba Oberle, Al and Til Knobbe,  
Michael and Margaret Wittich

**Barry & Jolene Kirchhoff**  
In loving memory of our son, Wes, and our daughter, Rachel

**Mike & Sharon Rapp**  
In memory Alfred & Marianna Wilmsmeyer and Kenneth & Marian  
Rapp

**Anne Heine**  
In memory of Paul Heine



**Sue Ann Schaefer**  
In memory of Jim & Dorothy Schaefer

**Muench Family**  
In memory of Grandparents, Great Grandparents, and Bhisham Tolani

**Cliff & Sue Beckman**  
In honor of Our Daughters: Jen Siebert & Nancy Miller and in honor of  
Heather Miller on graduating from college

**Helen Schultz**

In memory of Family & Friends and Shirley Lawler & Dorothy Kyger

**Eric & Lorry Dreier**

In honor of Danielle's Confirmation

**Eric, Lorry, & Danielle Dreier**

In memory of Family that has gone before us

**Shelly Adams**

In memory of David Barber

**Doug & Judi Privitt**

In memory of Delores Privitt, Rev. Robert Dohm, Aileen Dohm, Carla Helmreich, Andrew Helmreich, and Heather Frisone

**Doug & Judi Privitt**

In memory of Chuck Boots—a devoted business partner and friend  
In honor of Rev. Josh Privitt & Nicole Warrington (soon to be daughter-in-law) and Drew & Anna Privitt

**Pastor Rick**

In honor of this year's Confirmation Class

Trevor Pierson, Danielle Dreier, Lawson Flood-Lorber, Aidan Pierson

**CUCC Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant:**

Columbia United Church of Christ celebrates God's boundless and unconditional love by intentionally welcoming and affirming all God's children.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey;

No matter where you are on your faith journey;

No matter your sexual orientation, gender expression or identity;

No matter your race, culture, ethnicity, nationality or politics;

No matter your age, ability, health, relationship status or family structure;

No matter your social, economic, educational, legal or life circumstances;

You are welcome here!

Called by Jesus to be an Open and Affirming, inclusive faith community, Columbia United Church of Christ commits to welcoming everyone into the full life of our congregation. Our paths and voices may differ, but we journey in faith together.



# O Come, All Ye Faithful

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1 O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-phant; O come  
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e-ter-nal, born  
 3 Sing, choirs of an-gels; sing in ex-ul-ta-tion; sing,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap-py morn-ing; Je-



ye; O come ye to Beth-le-hem! Come, and be-hold him,  
 of a vir-gin, a mor-tal he comes; ver-y God, be-  
 all ye cit-i-zens of heaven a-bove! Glo-ry to God, all  
 sus, to thee be all glo-ry given; Word of the Fa-ther,



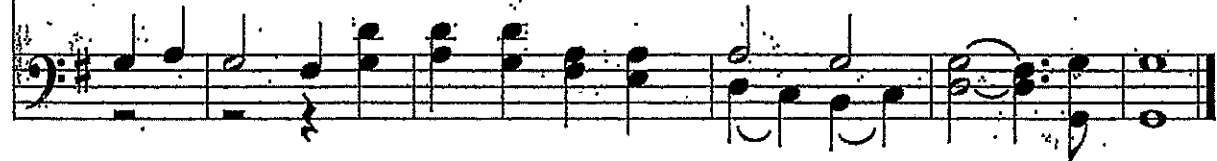
*Refrain*



born the King of an-gels!  
 got-ten, not cre-at-ed! O come, let us a-dore him; O come, let  
 glo-ry in the high-est!  
 now in flesh ap-pear-ing!



us, a-dore him; O come, let us a-dore him, Christ, the Lord!



From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

# 144 O Little Town of Bethlehem

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
 2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry, and gath - ered all a - bove  
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is given!  
 4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by.  
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the joys of high - est heaven.  
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

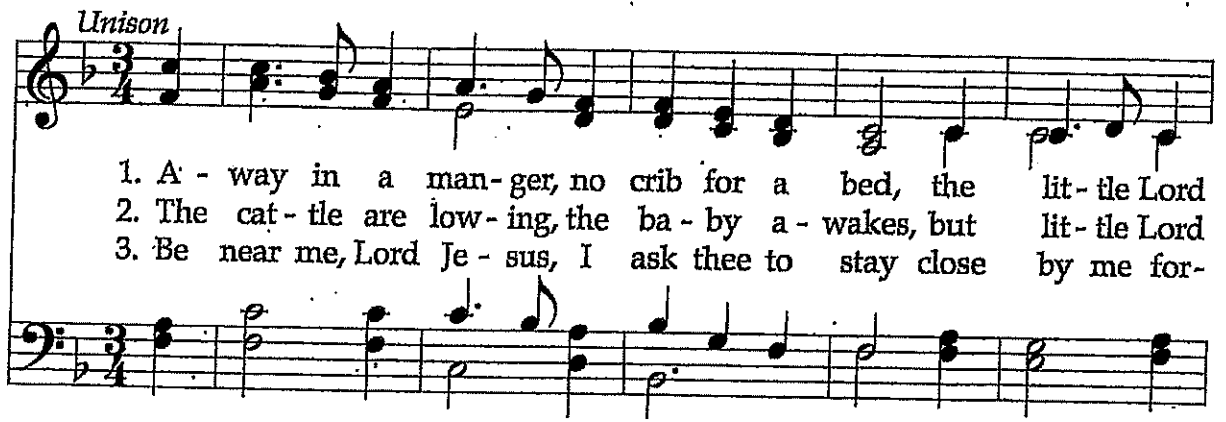
Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;  
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth.  
 No ear may hear Christ com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
 Your voic - es raise to God in praise; and peace to all on earth.  
 where meek souls will re - ceive him still, the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our God, Em - man - u - el.

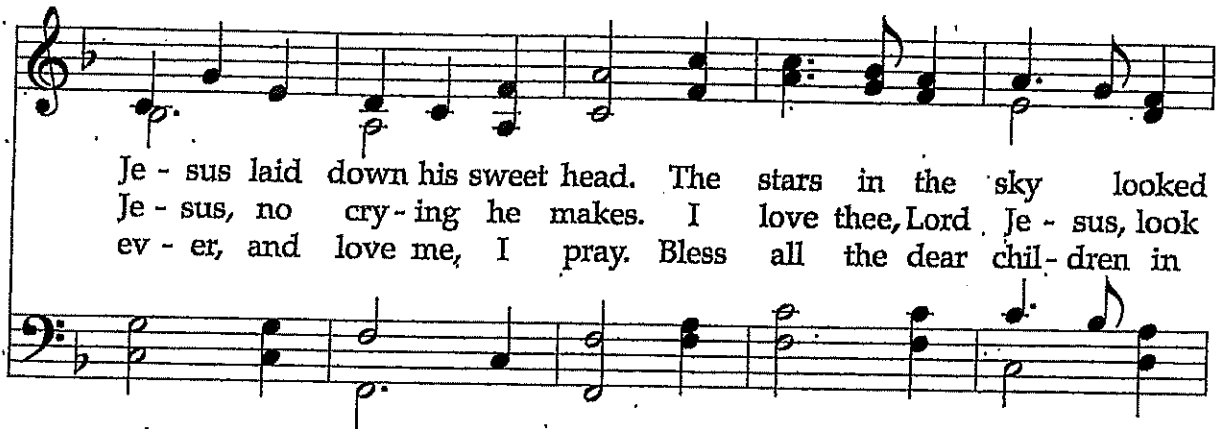
# Away in a Manger

147

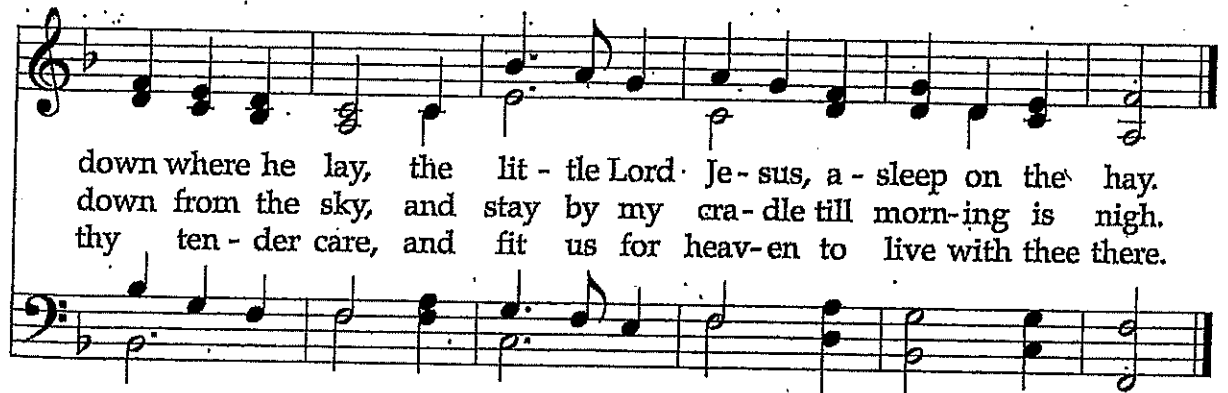
*Unison*



1. A - way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed, the lit-tle Lord  
2. The cat-tle are low-ing, the ba-by a-wakes, but lit-tle Lord  
3. Be near me, Lord Je-sus, I ask thee to stay close by me for-



Je - sus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked  
Je - sus, no cry-ing he makes. I love thee, Lord Je - sus, look  
ev - er, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil-dren in



down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.  
down from the sky, and stay by my cra-dle till morn-ing is nigh.  
thy ten - der care, and fit us for heav-en to live with thee there.

WORDS: Anonymous (19th century)  
MUSIC: Attr. James R. Murray, 1887; harm. LBW, 1978

AWAY IN A MANGER  
11 11.11 11

Harm. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, used by permission  
of Augsburg Fortress

Alt. tune: CRADLE SONG

## It Came upon the Midnight Clear



1. It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo-rious song of old,
2. Still through the clo-ven skies they come, with peace-ful wings un-furled,
3. And you be-neath life's crush-ing load whose forms are bend-ing low,
4. For lo, the days are has-tening on, by proph-et seen of old,



from an-gels bend-ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold;  
and still their heaven-ly mu-sic floats o'er all the wea-ry world;  
who toil a-long the climb-ing way, with pain-ful steps and slow,  
when with the ev-er-cir-cling years shall come the time fore-told;



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all gra-cious King."  
a-bove its sad and low-ly plains they bend on hover-ing wing,  
look now, for glad and gold-en hours come swift-ly on the wing;  
when peace shall o-ver all the earth its an-cient splen-dors fling,



The world in sol-emn still-ness lay to hear the an-gels sing.  
and ev-er o'er its Ba-bel soundsthe bless-ed an-gels sing.  
O rest be-side the wea-ry road, and hear the an-gels sing!  
and the whole world send back the song which now the an-gels sing.



## What Child Is This

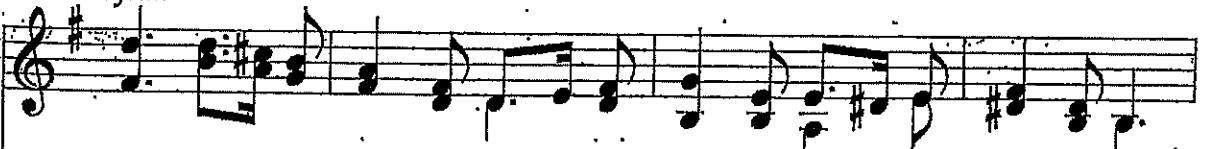
162



1. What Child is this who, laid to rest, on Ma-ry's lap is sleep-ing?
2. Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?
3. So bring him in-cense, gold, and myrrh, come, rich and poor, to own him,



Whom an-gels greet with an-thems sweet, while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?  
 Good Christ-ian, fear: for sin-ners here the si-lent Word is plead-ing.  
 the King of kings sal-va-tion brings, let lov-ing hearts en-throne him.

*Refrain*

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing:



haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Ma-ry.



# Silent Night, Holy Night

145



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright  
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep-herds quake at the sight,  
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light  
 4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, won-drous star, lend thy light;



round you vir - gin moth-er and child, ho - ly in-fant so ten-der and mild,  
 glo - ries stream from heav-en a - far, heav-en-ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia;  
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,  
 with the an - gels let us sing, al - le - lu - ia to our King;



sleep in heav - en - ly peace,      sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
 Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!      Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
 Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth,      Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.  
 Christ, the Sav - ior, is born,      Christ, the Sav - ior, is born.



WORDS: Joseph Mohr, 1818; tr. John F. Young, 1863  
 MUSIC: Franz Gruber, 1818

STILLE NACHT  
 Irr.

# Joy to the World



1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re-  
 2. Joy to the world, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the



ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
 songs em - ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness,



and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



And heaven and na - ture sing, and  
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -  
 And won - ders of his love, and



sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.



heaven and na - ture sing,  
 peat the sound - ing joy,  
 won - ders of his love,

# 167 Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Refrain* F B $\flat$  F Dm C Dm C F Am C7

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev-ery-where;

F B $\flat$  F Dm F7 Gm F C7 F *Fine*

go, tell it on the moun-tain, that Je-sus' Christ is born.

F B $\flat$  F Dm C7 Dm C7 F

1. While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si-lent flocks by night,  
 2. The shep-herds feared and trem-bled, when lo! a-bove the earth,  
 3. Down in a low-ly man-ger the hum-ble Christ was born,

F B $\flat$  F G G7 C7 D.C.

be-hold through-out the heav-ens there shown a ho-ly light.  
 rang out the an-gel cho-rus that hailed the Sav-ior's birth.  
 and God sent us sal-va-tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.