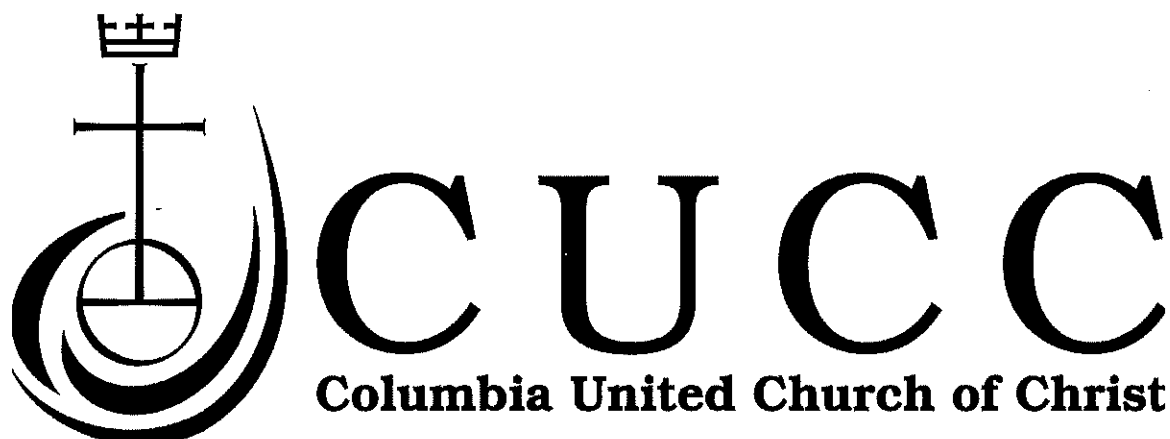


Columbia United Church Of Christ

December 25, 2022
"Christmas Day"



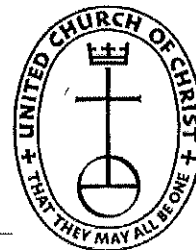
CUCC Open and Affirming/Inclusion Covenant:

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.

**Columbia
United Church
Of Christ**



December 25, 2022

10:30 a.m.

"Christmas"

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

Welcome and Greetings

Pastor Rick

Prelude

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" Amy Crousore
Calkin/arr. Wolaver

Carrying in the Light of Christ

*Call to Worship

(Based on Luke 2)

Shelly Adams

Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea to the city of David called Bethlehem. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

*Gathering Hymn

"Away in a Manger"

(insert)

*Proclamation

(Based on Luke 2)

Pastor Rick

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the LORD stood before them, and the glory of the LORD shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people. To you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah. This will be a sign for you: you will find the child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." Suddenly, there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to all!"

*Hymn

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

(insert)

*Opening Prayer

Shelly Adams

God of eternal presence, we celebrate your incarnation in our midst through the birth of the Christ Child. Through this joyful Christmas gift, you give us hope for renewal in our lives and in the world. Through Jesus you share with us your goodness and love, proclaiming the possibility of peace for all generations. As we hear these stories of our traditions, told and

retold, we pray that they may always be received with eager ears and open hearts. We pray today that this baby may be received in our lives once again to teach us, to lead us, and to show us the way. This Christmas morning, all peace seems possible. We pray that this feeling of renewal remain strong with us all year long. In the name of the Christ Child, we pray. Amen.

*Assurance of Blessing Pastor Rick

The mystery of Christmas continues in our lives, today and all year long, as we spread God's love in the world. We are the hands and feet of the Christ Child working in the world. What a joy it is to not just celebrate Christmas today, but to be Christmas all year long! In the name of Jesus, we are blessed and beloved! Sing Alleluia! Christ is born today, in each one of us!

*Prayer Response "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!" (insert)

*Sharing God's Gift of Peace Pastor Rick

May God's Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Children's Time & Lighting the Christ Candle Pastor Rick

Gospel Reading (Based on Luke 2) Pastor Rick

This reading is a paraphrase of Luke 2:8-20 from The Family Story Bible by Ralph Milton. In it we hear of the shepherds coming to the manger, visiting the infant Jesus.

*Hymn "The Friendly Beasts" (insert)

Gospel Reading (Based on Luke 2) Shelly Adams

This reading is a paraphrase of Luke 2:22-38 from The Family Story Bible by Ralph Milton. In it we hear of Mary and Joseph presenting the infant Jesus in the Temple.

Reflection "The Friendly Beasts" Pastor Rick

Hymn "The First Noel" (insert)

Cookie Communion

All who are present, children and adults alike, no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, are invited to share in this joyous

meal, remembering Christ's ministry and presence among us. We will be celebrating communion this morning using cookies and milk, remembering the lessons of humility and service that Jesus taught us in his life.

Communion Prayer

Institution; Fraction; Distribution

Sharing the Meal & Bringing forth our Gifts

Understanding and affirming the diverse ways 'family' is defined, families of all varieties are invited to come forward and celebrate this meal together with everyone gathering around the table, and all sharing the cookies and milk as a symbol of God's love for us. Please bring your offering forward at this time as well, and drop it in the offering plate on the communion table.

Communion Music

"Midnight Blues"

Amy Crousore
Joe Utterback

Communion Prayer

Pastor Rick

Thank you Jesus for coming into our lives and showing us how to live. We hear about how you were born in a stable, grew up, and lived your life teaching us to serve others. While you taught us, you also learned more about what it means to be one of us. Thank you for coming to us, thank you for leading us, and thank you for your ministry in the world.

Thank you also for this meal. Sharing your meal with you, the cookies and milk this morning, brings us closer to you. As you have shared with us, help us share with others. And now we join together, saying the prayer you taught us:

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. Amen.**

Prayer Response

**"Grant Us Peace"
Hear our Prayer, O Lord!
Hear our prayer, O Lord!
Hear our Prayer, O Lord!
And Grant us Thy Peace! Amen!**

Sharing our Announcements of Community Life

Pastor Rick

*Closing Hymn

“Go, Tell it on the Mountain”

(insert)

*Benediction

Pastor Rick

*Response

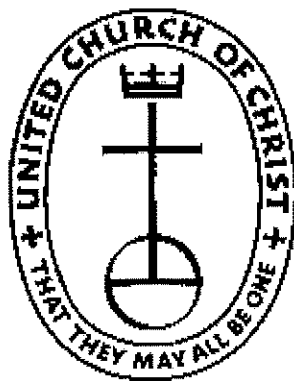
“Let There be Peace on Earth”

**Let there be Peace on Earth and Let it Begin with me!
Let there be Peace on Earth; the Peace that was meant to be!
With God our Creator, Children all are we!
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony!
Let Peace begin with me; let this be the moment now!
With every step I take let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be Peace on Earth; and let it begin with me!**

*Postlude

“Faithdance”

Amy Crousore
Joe Utterback



*If you try to fit God into your life,
You will never have time for God.
If you try to fit your life into God,
You will always have time for what matters.*

Columbia United Church of Christ

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Financial Secretary:	Raj Tolani	finance.cucc@gmail.com
Pastor Emeritus:	Rev. Fred Brandenburg	

TODAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader: Shelly Adams

Acolyte:

Ushers:

Greeters: Susan Dunham

Technology Booth: Brent Marcks

Hospitality:

Council Stewards:

NEXT SUNDAY IN WORSHIP:

Worship Leader:

Acolyte:

Ushers:

Greeters: Susan Dunham

Technology Booth: Ted Dachroeden

Hospitality: Mona Dachroeden

Council Stewards:

Online giving QR code



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Worship & Music:	Mike Pierson	mike.pierson.1969@gmail.com

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NURSERY CARE... is available for children in kindergarten and younger in room #201 in the educational wing. If you need help finding it, ask an usher!

TURNING POINT

One of the many services Turning Point offers is a place for guests to shower. Turning Point is in need of hotel size toiletries - particularly soap and shampoo. Please place donations in the container in the coat room.

EAT WITH EIGHT- SIGN UP TODAY

Don't be left out in the cold! Sign up for Eat with Eight. This is an opportunity to get together over great food and fellowship once a month between January and April. Ideally, you'll be with different people each month. It's a great way to meet others in the church and enjoy some great food and fellowship. For questions, contact Anne Heine. We have a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

HEALTH MINISTRY

The **Health Ministry Care Team** is a new initiative through our Membership and Care Committee with the goal to assist members in meeting their health care needs through education, support, transportation, advocacy as needed. If you need help getting to a health care appointment or a hospital procedure...or have questions about your health, call Anne Heine at 573-529-1543. Also, let us know your thoughts of how our Health Ministry Care Team can help you!

EPIPHANY SUNDAY- "STAR SUNDAY"

Don't miss church on Epiphany- January 8! Our Sunday School program will be doing some special activities focusing on the Magi and the Christmas Star; and we will be celebrating in worship. Bring "Gifts of the Magi" to worship that day- Shampoo, soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste. We will collect these "Gifts of the Magi" in worship, and then donate them to Turning Point and Room at the Inn. We will also celebrate communion that day!

SAVE THE DATE- 100TH ANNIVERSARY KICKOFF 1/22

Save the Date and crack open the cookbook! 2023 is our 100th year, and we will be celebrating all year long! Our first celebration will be on January 22. We will have a potluck meal after worship, with special historical presentations in worship and at the meal. Bring a dish or two to share with everyone! This is a true potluck, so we will eat whatever you bring! Plan now to celebrate!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sun	12/25	<i>Christmas Day</i>	
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship	10:30 a.m.
Mon	12/26	<i>Church Office Closed</i> (no staff meeting)	
Tue	12/27	Quilters	10:00 a.m.
Sun	1/1/23	<i>New Year's Day</i>	
		Fellowship Time	10:00 a.m.
		Worship (in person and livestream)	10:30 a.m.

Columbia UCC Prayer List

Please keep in your prayers this week...

Joe Remeika... recovering from COVID
The family of Andrea Waner . . . especially baby Millie; home from ICU!
The students and staff of Alpha Hart Lewis Elementary... our partnership friend

Sheila... challenges in life and faith
The Koerkenmeier & Malicoat Families
The Williams, Piersee, Marsh Families

Health Issues:

Tiffany Brookshire; Glenn Duermeyer; David Martin;
Levi Markway; Christine Mseke; Joan & Troy Bentlage
Gene Kelly... living with cancer (Jim & Connie Loveless's friend)

Living in Care Facilities:

Bea Gordon, Neal Sprick, Gary Ehrhardt,
Mark Brumbach, Vernie Blank

Living in Independent Living Facilities:

Helen Graves

Serving us in the military:

Alexander & Christopher Tennill, Jeffrey Sanderson,
Dane Wilson, Aaron Dachroeden, Tim Isom (Oberles' friend)
James Walker (Don Helmreich's nephew)

Pregnancies in our church family:

Autumn Lear & Jay Chase
Hannah Duncan & Ben Bashinski
Shelby Oberle & Ryan Furney

*CUCC celebrates God's boundless love by:
Welcoming all God's Children;
Nurturing Faith and Spiritual Growth;
Challenging and inspiring everyone with vibrant worship;
Building a supportive church family;
Transforming both the congregation and community
through service and outreach*

The Friendly Beasts

Unison

1. Je - sus, our broth - er, strong and good, was hum - bly
 2. "I," said the don - key, shag - gy and brown, "I car - ried his
 3. "I," said the cow, all white and red, "I gave him my
 4. "I," said the sheep with curl - y horn, "I gave him my
 5. "I," said the dove, from the raf - ters high, "I cooed him to
 6. Thus all the beasts, by some good spell, in the sta - ble

born in a sta - ble rude, and the friend - ly beasts a -
 moth - er up - hill and down, I car - ried his moth - er to
 man - ger for his bed, I gave him hay to
 wool for his blan - ket warm, he wore my coat on
 sleep that he should not cry, we cooed him to sleep, my
 dark were glad to tell of the gifts they gave Em -

round him stood, Je - sus, our broth - er, strong and good.
 Beth - le - hem town; I," said the don - key, shag - gy and brown.
 pil - low his head; I," said the cow, all white and red.
 Christ - mas morn; I," said the sheep with curl - y horn.
 mate and I; I," said the dove, from the raf - ters high.
 man - u - el, the gifts they gave Em - man - u - el.

WORDS: 12th cent. French carol; trans. anon.; (Lk. 2:7)
 MUSIC: Medieval French melody; harm. by Carlton R. Young, 1987

ORIENTIS PARTIBUS
 Irr.

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 nigh to the north - west, o'er
 5. Then en - tered in those wise men three, full

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

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

WORDS: Traditional English carol (17th century)
 MUSIC: Traditional English melody; desc. Healey Willan, 1926

THE FIRST NOEL
 Irr. w. refrain

Descant

No - el, No - el, No -

Refrain

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

el, No - el, born is the King of Is - ra - el.

el, No - el, born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The Birth of Jesus

152

Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

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,

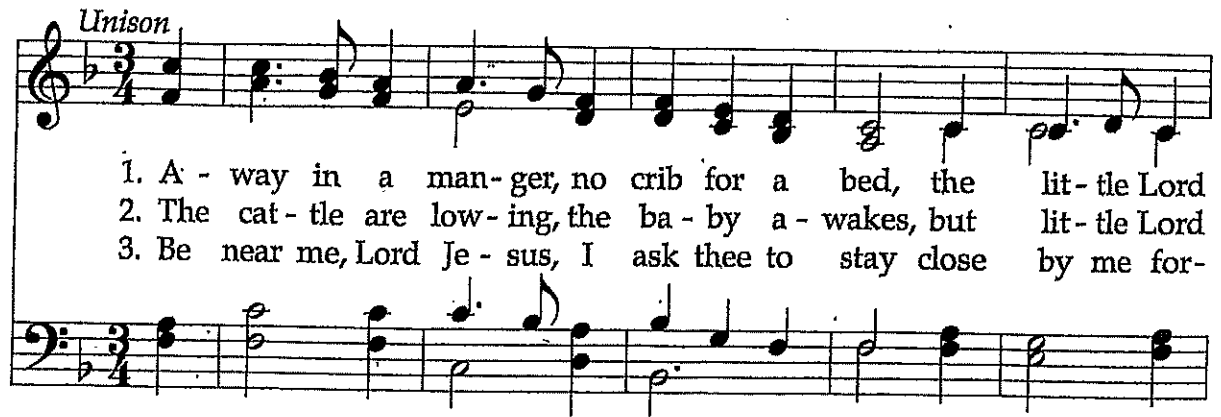
F B \flat F G G7 C7 D.C.

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.

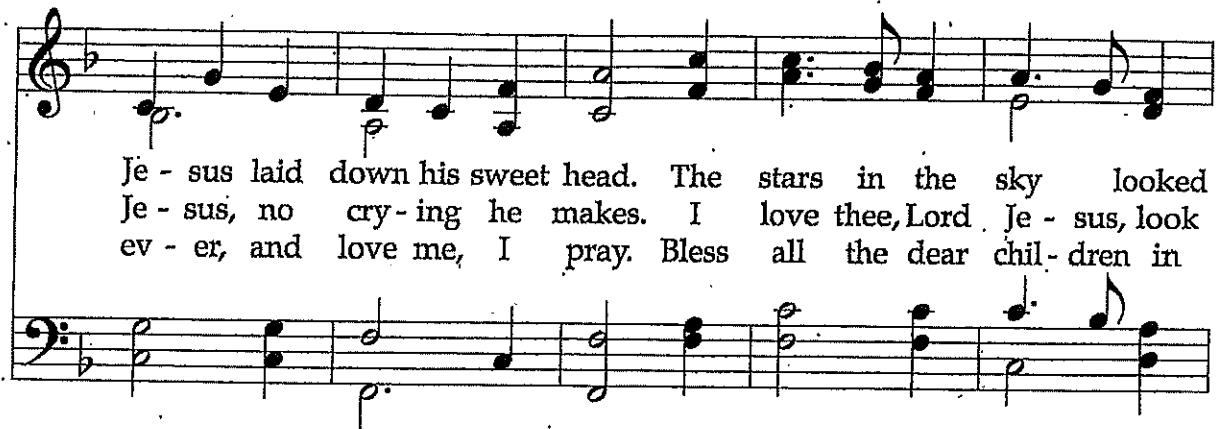
Away in a Manger

147

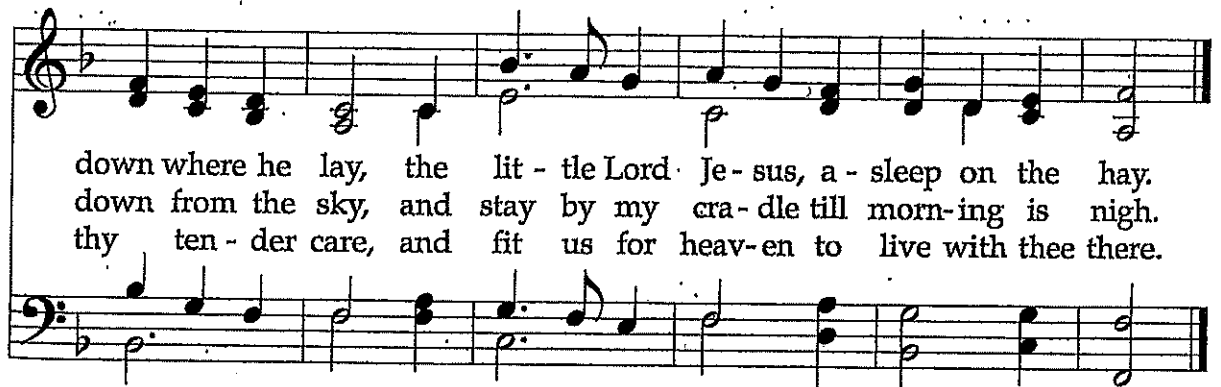
Unison



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

155

Angels We Have Heard on High

Descant

4. See with - in a man - ger laid, Christ, whom choirs of

1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing
 2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Christ, who comes in
 4. See with - in a man - ger laid, Christ, whom choirs of

an - gels praise; Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid,
 o'er the plains, and the moun - tains in re - ply
 strains pro - long? What the glad - some tid - ings be
 low - ly birth. Come a - dore on bend - ed knee
 an - gels praise; Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid,

Refrain

while our hearts in love we raise. Ah!

ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 which in - spire your heav'n - ly song? Glo
 Je - sus, joy of heav'n and earth.
 while our hearts in love we raise.

WORDS: Traditional French carol; tr. *Crown of Jesus*, 1862, alt.
 MUSIC: French carol melody; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937;
 harm. Austin C. Lovelace, 1964, alt.; desc. Richard E. Gerig, 1956

Glo-ri - a, in ex-cel-sis De - o! Ah!

ri - a, in ex-cel-sis De - o! Glo

Glo-ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o!

ri - a, in ex-cel-sis De - o!

Song of Simeon
(Nunc Dimittis)

156

RESPONSE

Now let us sing our Sav-ior's praise, and tell God's good-ness all our days.

R

Lord, now let your servant in peace;
 your word has been fulfilled:
 my own eyes have seen the salvation
 which you have prepared in the presence of all people,
 a light to reveal you to the nations
 and the glory of your people Israel. R



1. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi-ce with heart and soul and voice!
 2. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi-ce with heart and soul and voice!
 3. Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi-ce with heart and soul and voice!



Lis - ten now to what we say: News! News! Je - sus Christ is born to - day.
 Now you hear of end - less bliss: Joy! Joy! Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 Now you need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Je - sus Christ was born to save!



Ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all, to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day!	Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this!	Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save!	Christ was born to save!



WORDS: Latin (14th century); tr. John Mason Neale, 1853, alt.
 MUSIC: German melody (14th century); harm. David Hugh Jones, 1953

IN DULCI JUBILO
 Irr.