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Grace Lutheran Church
WORSHIP SERVICE

December 17, 2014
Candlelight Worship

Candlelight
Worship
Service





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WORSHIP SERVICE

December 17, 2014
Candlelight Worship

A night sky with a starburst in the top right and a small yellow square in the center.

ENTRANCE



Welcome & Invocation

Pastor:

*In the name of the Father,
And of the Son,
And of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Responsory

P: Arise, sons of the Kingdom!

C: The King is drawing nigh;

P: Arise, and hail with gladness

C: The Ruler from on high.

P: Ye Christians, hasten forth!

C: Your praise and homage bring Him

P: And glad hosannas sing Him;

C: Naught else your love is worth.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✓ **FOCUS: The King is Coming**
- ✓ **Sanctuary will get darker**
- ✓ **Special candle instructions**



OPENING HYMN

**TLH 68: The Advent of Our
King**

TLH 68, st. 1-3

The Advent of Our King

1. The advent of our King

**Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing
In strains of holy joy.**

2. The everlasting Son

**Incarnate deigns to be;
Himself a servant's form puts on
To set His servants free.**

TLH 68, st. 1-3

The Advent of Our King

- 3. O Zion's Daughter, rise
To meet thy lowly King,
Nor let thy faithless heart despise
The peace He comes to bring.**



Responsory

Zephaniah 3:14-17

P: Sing, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O Israel!

**C: Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!**

*P: The LORD has taken away your
judgments, He has cast out your enemy.*

**C: The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your
midst; You shall see disaster no more.**

Responsory

Zephaniah 3:14-17

P: In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

C: “Do not fear; Zion, let not your hands be weak.

P: The LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save;

C: He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.”

Prayer to Tune Our Hearts

P: Let us pray ...

Lord, tune our hearts this evening by the power of the Holy Spirit, that we may hear Your Word and rejoice in song at the prophecies and fulfillment of our Savior's birth. Amen.

CHOIR

The King Is Coming Soon



1st Lesson

2 Samuel 7:8, 12-16

The Lord promises that a King will come from David's lineage and will rule His kingdom forever.

1st Lesson:

(2 Samuel 7:8, 12-16) (8) "Now therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people, over Israel. ... (12) "When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. (13) "He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. (14) "I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men.

1st Lesson:

(15) "But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you.

(16) "And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever." ' "

HYMN

**TLH 59, st. 1,5: Hail to the
Lord's Anointed**

TLH 59, st. 1,5

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

**1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.**

TLH 59, st. 1,5

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

**5. Kings shall bow down before Him
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore Him,
His praise all peoples sing;
To Him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend,
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.**

2nd Lesson

Psalm 2:1-8

*Although despised, the Lord's
anointed King will overcome.*

2nd Lesson:

(Psalm 2:1-8) (1) Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? (2) The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, (3) "Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us." (4) He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The LORD shall hold them in derision. (5) Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, And distress them in His deep displeasure:

2nd Lesson:

(6) "Yet I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion."

(7) "I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. (8) Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession.

HYMN

**TLH 98:1,3: Of the Father's
Love Begotten**

TLH 98:1,3

Of the Father's Love Begotten

**1. Of the Father's love begotten
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the Source, the Ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.**

TLH 98:1,3

Of the Father's Love Begotten

**3. O ye heights of heaven, adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before Him
And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Every voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.**

3rd Lesson

Micah 5:2-5a

*Out of little Bethlehem will come
the long-anticipated King.*

3rd Lesson:

(Micah 5:2-5) “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *Though* you are little among the thousands of Judah, *Yet* out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth *are* from of old, From everlasting.” (3) Therefore He shall give them up, Until the time *that* she who is in labor has given birth; Then the remnant of His brethren Shall return to the children of Israel. (4) And He shall stand and feed *His flock* In the strength of the LORD, In the majesty of the name of the LORD His God; And they shall abide, For now He shall be great To the ends of the earth; (5) And this *One* shall be peace.



HYMN

**TLH 103, st. 2-4: To
Shepherds as They
Watched**

TLH 103, st. 2-4

To Shepherds as They Watched

**2. At Bethlehem, in David's town,
As Micah did of old make known;
'Tis Jesus Christ, your Lord and King,
Who doth to all salvation bring.**

**3. Oh, then rejoice that through His Son
God is with sinners now at one;
Made like yourselves of flesh and blood,
Your brother is th' eternal God.**

TLH 103, st. 2-4

To Shepherds as They Watched

4. What harm can sin and death then do?

The true God now abides with you.

Let hell and Satan rage and chafe,

Christ is your Brother--ye are safe.

4th Lesson

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

*A Child will be born as King to
establish spiritual peace.*

4th Lesson:

(Isaiah 9:2,6-7) The people who walked in darkness
Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land
of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has
shined. (6) For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a
Son is given; And the government will be upon His
shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful,
Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of
Peace. (7) Of the increase of *His* government and
peace *There will be* no end, Upon the throne of
David and over His kingdom, To order it and
establish it with judgment and justice From that time
forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts
will perform this.

HYMN

**TLH 106, st. 1,5,6: The
People that in Darkness
Sat**

TLH 106, st. 1,5,6

The People that in Darkness Sat

**1. The people that in darkness sat
A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long
In shades of death have been.
In shades of death have been.**

TLH 106, st. 1,5,6

The People that in Darkness Sat

**5. His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor,
The God by all adored.
The God by all adored.**

TLH 106, st. 1,5,6

The People that in Darkness Sat

**6. His righteous government and power
Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based,
His reign shall have no end.
His reign shall have no end.**

5th Lesson

Luke 1:26-33

*The King's arrival is announced to
His mother.*

5th Lesson:

(Luke 1:26-33) (26) Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, (27) to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. (28) And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" (29) But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was.

5th Lesson:

(30) Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. (31) “And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. (32) “He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. (33) “And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”

HYMN

**TLH 645, st. 2,5: Behold, A
Branch Is Growing**

TLH 645, st. 2,5

Behold, A Branch Is Growing

**2. Isaiah hath foretold It
In words of promise sure,
And Mary's arms enfold It,
A virgin meek and pure.
Through God's eternal will
This Child to her is given
At midnight calm and still.**

TLH 645, st. 2,5

Behold, A Branch Is Growing

**5. O Savior, Child of Mary,
Who felt our human woe;
Savior, King of Glory.**

**Who dost our weakness know,
Bring us at length, we pray.
To the bright courts of heaven
And to the endless day.**

6th Lesson

Psalm 24:7-10

*The gates of our hearts are to
prepare for our King's arrival.*

6th Lesson:

(Psalm 24:7-10) (7) Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. (8) Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle. (9) Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. (10) Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory.

HYMN

**TLH 73, st. 1-2: Lift Up
Your Heads, Ye Mighty
Gates**

TLH 73, st. 1-2

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

**1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of Glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near,
The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation He doth bring,
Wherefore rejoice and gladly sing:
We praise Thee, Father, now,
Creator, wise art Thou!**

TLH 73, st. 1-2

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

**2. A Helper just He comes to thee,
His chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness,
His scepter, pity in distress,
The end of all our woe He brings;
Wherefore the earth is glad and sings:
We praise Thee, Savior, now,
Mighty in deed art Thou!**

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES





- ★ **The pastor will light the Christ candle**
- ★ **The congregation may then come forward to light a candle from the Christ candle**
- ★ **Your candle will be presented to you.**
- ★ **Light your candle by tipping it to another lighted candle**
- ★ **PLEASE do not tip a lighted candle.**
- ★ **PLEASE, only children ages 5 and older hold their own candles.**

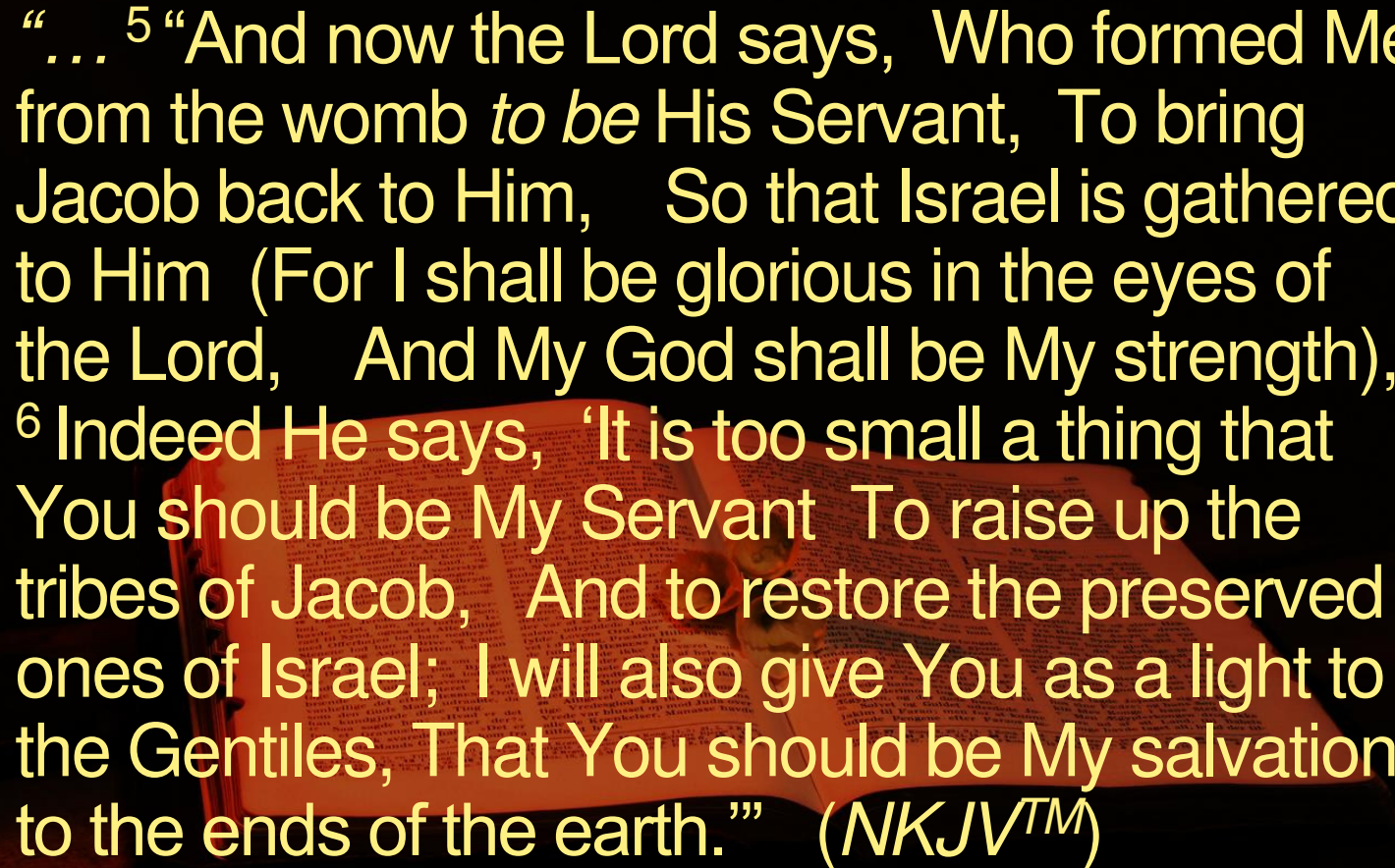








Isaiah 49:5-6



“...⁵ “And now the Lord says, Who formed Me from the womb *to be* His Servant, To bring Jacob back to Him, So that Israel is gathered to Him (For I shall be glorious in the eyes of the Lord, And My God shall be My strength),⁶ Indeed He says, ‘It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob, And to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.’” (NKJVTM)

Isaiah 49:5-6

Isaiah's Royal Prophecies:
This King Will Bring Salvation



7th Lesson

Luke 2:1-11 (Silent Night)

The King long-expected is born.

Note: After singing the first stanza of Silent Night, please sing “oo” for two stanzas during the reading. Afterward the congregation may then again join in singing stanza 3:

Silent Night (Acapella)

**1. 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 (Acapella)

Luke 2:1-11

NOTE: TWO STANZAS OF “OO”

(1) And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (2) (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) (3) And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city. (4) And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) (5) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. (6) And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.



Silent Night (Acapella)

Luke 2:1-11

NOTE: TWO STANZAS OF “OO”

(7) And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. (8) And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. (9) And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. (10) And the angel said unto them, “Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. (11) “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.



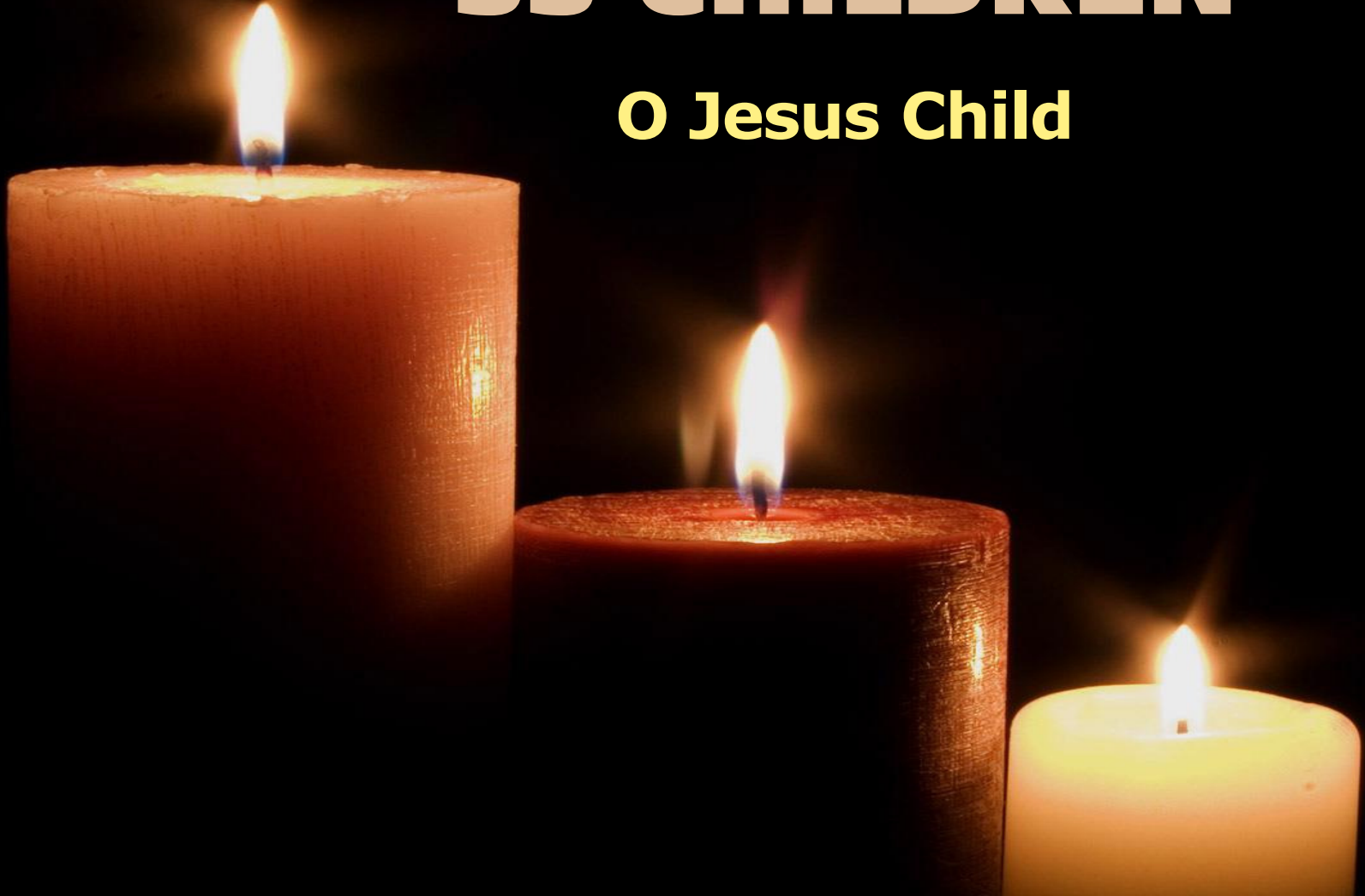
Silent Night (Acapella)

**3. 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.**



SS CHILDREN

O Jesus Child



8th Lesson

Matthew 2:1-2,7-11

*The Magi from the east offer gifts
befitting for the King.*

8th Lesson:

(Matthew 2:1-2,7-11) (1) Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, (2) saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." ... (7) Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. (8) And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also."

8th Lesson:

(9) When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. (10) When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. (11) And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

CDS CHILDREN

The King Is Born



9th Lesson

Hebrews 1:1-9

*The King inherits the glory that He
deserves.*

9th Lesson:

(Hebrews 1:1-9) (1) God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, (2) has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; (3) who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, (4) having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

9th Lesson:

(5) For to which of the angels did He ever say: "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You"? And again: "I will be to Him a Father, And He shall be to Me a Son"? (6) But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him." (7) And of the angels He says: "Who makes His angels spirits And His ministers a flame of fire." (8) But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. (9) You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions."

HYMN

**TLH 91, st. 1,5,9: Let the
Earth Now Praise the Lord**

TLH 91, st. 1,5,9

Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

**1. Let the earth now praise the Lord.
Who hath truly kept His word
And the sinners' Help and Friend
Now at last to us doth send.**

**5. King of Glory, enter in;
Cleanse it from the filth of sin,
As Thou hast so often done;
It belongs to Thee alone.**

TLH 91, st. 1,5,9

Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

**9. And when Thou dost come again
As a glorious King to reign,
I with joy may see Thy face,
Freely ransomed by Thy grace.**

Special Offering



A night sky with a bright star in the upper right corner, casting a lens flare. The sky is dark blue and purple, with many small stars. In the foreground, there are dark, silhouetted mountains.

PRAYER

Lord's Prayer

C: 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; 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. Amen.

Benediction

**P: The LORD bless you and keep you;
The LORD make His face to shine upon you
and be gracious unto you;
The LORD lift up His countenance upon
you, and give you peace.**

C (♪): Amen. Amen. Amen

A night sky with a bright star in the upper right and dark mountains at the bottom.

CONCLUDING HYMN

TLH 87: Joy to the World

TLH 87

Joy to the World

**1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing. ... {repeat}**

**2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy. ... {repeat}**

TLH 87

Joy to the World

**3. No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found. ... {repeat}**

**4. He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love. ... {repeat}**

A night sky with a bright star in the upper right corner, casting a lens flare. The sky is dark blue and purple, with many small stars. In the foreground, there are dark, silhouetted mountains.

SILENT PRAYER

A night sky with a bright star in the upper right corner, casting a lens flare. The sky is dark blue and purple, with many small stars. In the foreground, there are dark, silhouetted mountains.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



