

*In the beginning was the*  
**Word,**



*and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.  
And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.*  
*John 1:1,14*

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Christmas Day  
December 25, 2023 · 9:00am

Our Savior Lutheran Church  
1103 North Broad Street  
Mankato, MN 56001

507-385-2180  
contact@oslcmankato.org  
[www.oslcmankato.org](http://www.oslcmankato.org)

# Confession and Absolution

## Opening Hymn: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

LSB 379

- 1 O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him  
Born the king of angels: Refrain
- ref O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!
- 2 Highest, most holy,  
Light of Light eternal,  
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
- Son of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing! Refrain
- 3 Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God  
In the highest: Refrain
- 4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing! Refrain

Text: Public domain

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

## Absolution

LSB 185

## Service of the Word

### Kyrie

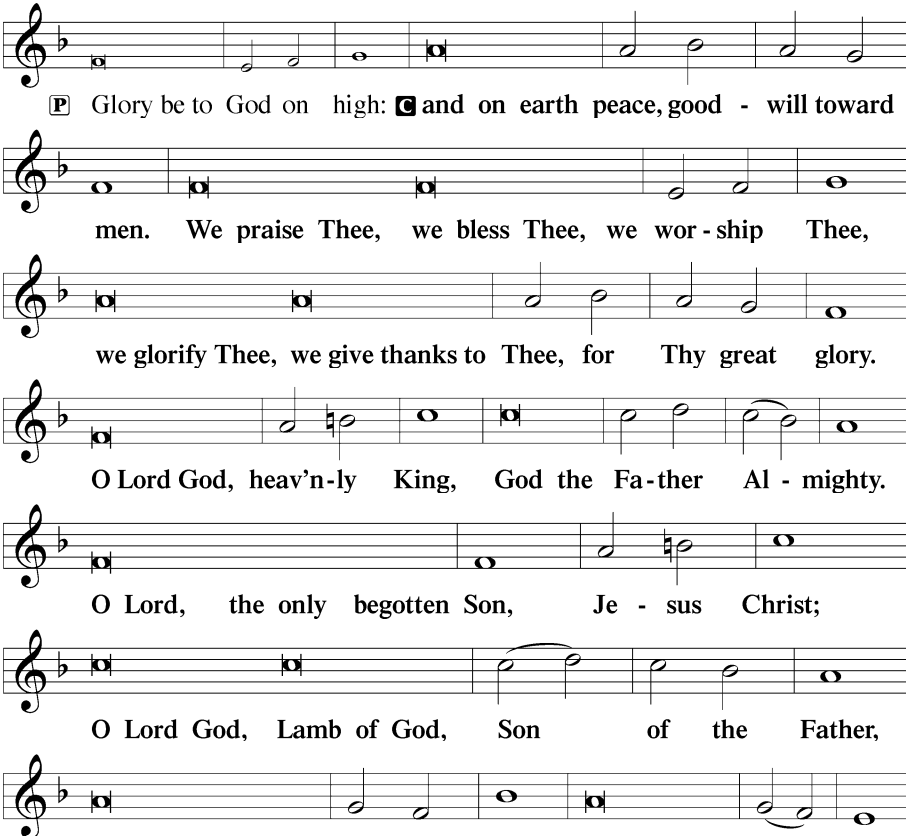
LSB 186



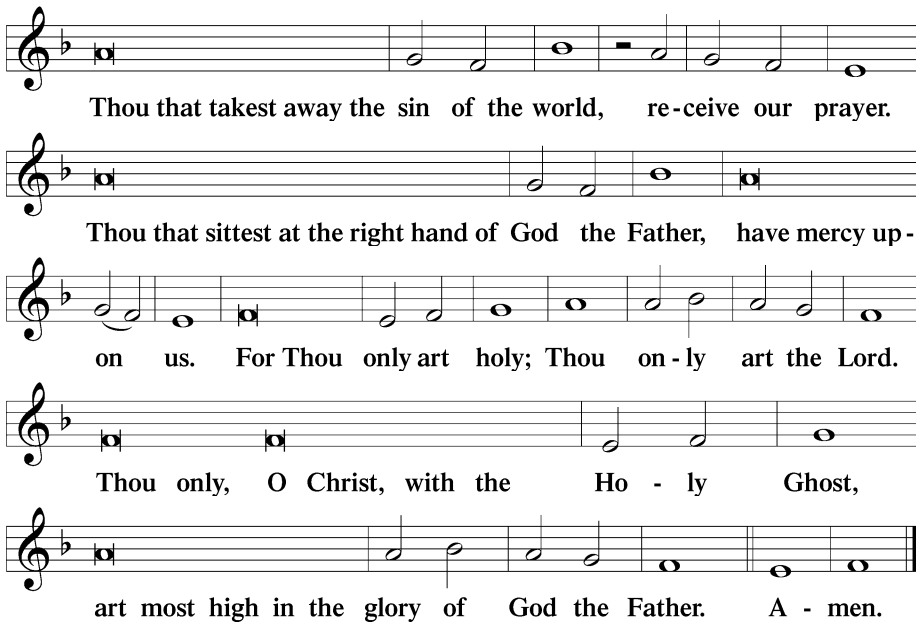
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

### Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187



Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.  
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.


Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Let us pray.  
 Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

### Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 52:7-10*

<sup>7</sup>How beautiful upon the mountains  
 are the feet of him who brings good news,  
 who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,  
 who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

<sup>8</sup>The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;  
together they sing for joy;  
for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion.

<sup>9</sup>Break forth together into singing,  
you waste places of Jerusalem,  
for the LORD has comforted his people;  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

*Psalm 2*

<sup>1</sup>Why do the nations rage  
and the peoples plot in vain?  
<sup>2</sup>The kings of the earth set themselves,  
and the rulers take counsel together,  
against the LORD and against his anointed, saying,  
<sup>3</sup>“Let us burst their bonds apart  
and cast away their cords from us.”  
<sup>4</sup>He who sits in the heavens laughs;  
the Lord holds them in derision.  
<sup>5</sup>Then he will speak to them in his wrath,  
and terrify them in his fury, saying,  
<sup>6</sup>“As for me, I have set my King  
on Zion, my holy hill.”  
<sup>7</sup>I will tell of the decree:  
The LORD said to me, “You are my Son;  
today I have begotten you.  
<sup>8</sup>Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,  
and the ends of the earth your possession.  
<sup>9</sup>You shall break them with a rod of iron  
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”  
<sup>10</sup>Now therefore, O kings, be wise;  
be warned, O rulers of the earth.  
<sup>11</sup>Serve the LORD with fear,  
and rejoice with trembling.  
<sup>12</sup>Kiss the Son,

lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,  
for his wrath is quickly kindled.  
Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.

## Gloria Patri

186

**☐ Gloria be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## Epistle

*Hebrews 1:1–12*

<sup>1</sup>Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets,  
<sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. <sup>3</sup>He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,  
<sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>5</sup>For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”?

Or again,

“I will be to him a father,  
and he shall be to me a son”?

<sup>6</sup>And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

<sup>7</sup>Of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels winds,  
and his ministers a flame of fire.”

<sup>8</sup>But of the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,  
the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.

<sup>9</sup>You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;  
therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”

<sup>10</sup>And,

“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

<sup>11</sup>they will perish, but you remain;

they will all wear out like a garment,  
<sup>12</sup>like a robe you will roll them up,  
like a garment they will be changed.  
But you are the same,  
and your years will have no end.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia

*LSB 190*



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*John 1:1–14*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
<sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men.  
<sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Apostles' Creed

**☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Hymn of the Day: “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

LSB 367

- 1 Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth. Refrain
- ref Come and worship, come and worship;  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.
- 2 Shepherds in the field abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
Yonder shines the Infant Light. Refrain
- 3 Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations,  
Ye have seen His natal star. Refrain
- 4 Saints before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In His temple shall appear. Refrain
- △ 5 All creation, join in praising  
God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising  
To the eternal Three in One. Refrain

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-4): James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.; (st. 5): Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, Salisbury, alt.  
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## Sermon

## Offertory

LSB 192



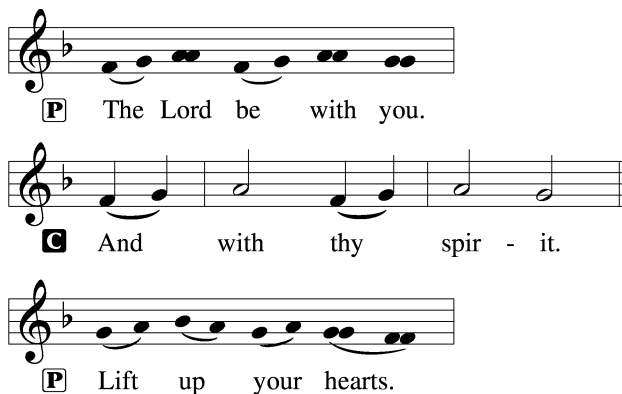
**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

## Prayer of the Church

## Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

LSB 194



**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir - it.  
**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 195



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.

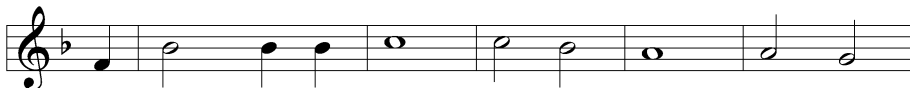


Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

**P** 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.



**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

### Pax Domini

LSB 197



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

### Agnus Dei

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



**Distribution Hymns:**

**“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

**LSB 380**

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,  
 “Glory to the newborn King;  
 Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
 God and sinners reconciled!”  
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
 Join the triumph of the skies;  
 With the\_angelic host proclaim,  
 “Christ is born in Bethlehem!” Refrain

ref Hark! The herald angels sing,  
 “Glory to the newborn King!”

2 Christ, by highest heav’n adored,  
 Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
 Late in time behold Him come,

Offspring of a virgin’s womb.  
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
 Hail the\_incarate Deity!  
 Pleased as Man with man to dwell,  
 Jesus, our Immanuel! Refrain

3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!  
 Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
 Light and life to all He brings,  
 Ris’n with healing in His wings.  
 Mild He lays His glory by,  
 Born that man no more may die,  
 Born to raise the sons of earth,  
 Born to give them second birth. Refrain

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt. Text: Public domain

**“See amid the Winter’s Snow”**

**LSB 373**

1 See amid the winter’s snow,  
 Born for us on earth below,  
 See, the gentle Lamb appears,  
 Promised from eternal years. Refrain

ref Hail, O ever-blessèd morn!  
 Hail, redemption’s happy dawn!  
 Sing through all Jerusalem:  
 “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

2 Lo, within a stable lies  
 He who built the starry skies,  
 He who, throned in height sublime,  
 Sits amid the cherubim. Refrain

3 Sacred Infant, all divine,  
 What a tender love was Thine,  
 Thus to come from highest bliss  
 Down to such a world as this! Refrain

4 Teach, O teach us, holy Child,  
 By Thy face so meek and mild,  
 Teach us to resemble Thee  
 In Thy sweet humility. Refrain

Text: Public domain

## “What Child Is This”

LSB 370

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels  
sing;  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary!
- 2 Why lies He in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you;  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The babe, the son of Mary!
- 3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

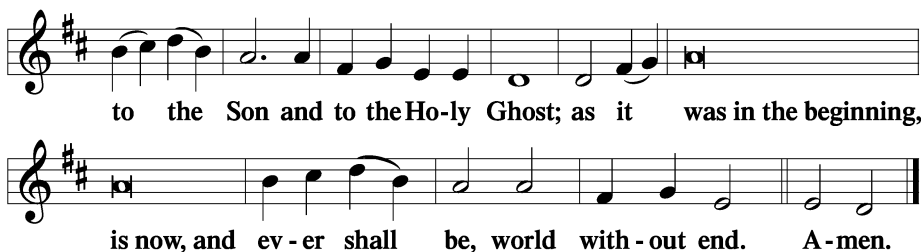
Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98  
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## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



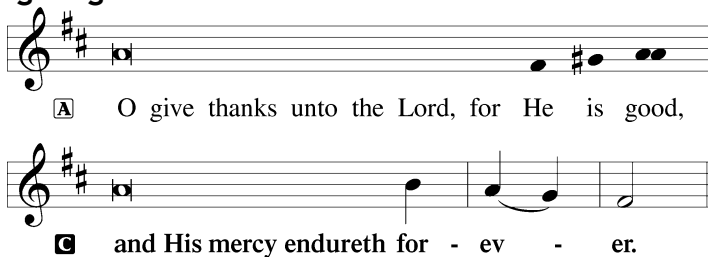
Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## Thanksgiving

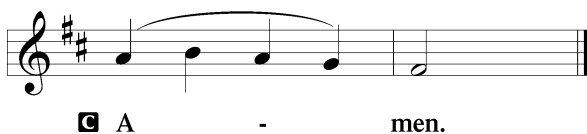
LSB 200



**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**A** Let us pray.

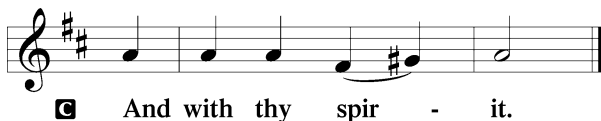
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.



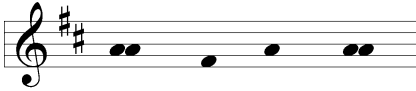
**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

## Benedicamus

LSB 202



**A** Bless we the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

LSB 202

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## Closing Hymn: “Joy to the World”

LSB 387

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!<br/>Let earth receive her King;<br/>Let ev’ry heart prepare Him room<br/>And heav’n and nature sing,<br/>And heav’n and nature sing,<br/>And heav’n, and heav’n and nature<br/>sing.</p> <p>2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!<br/>Let men their songs employ,<br/>While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and<br/>plains<br/>Repeat the sounding joy,<br/>Repeat the sounding joy,<br/>Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.</p> | <p>3 No more let sins and sorrows grow<br/>Nor thorns infest the ground;<br/>He comes to make His blessings flow<br/>Far as the curse is found,<br/>Far as the curse is found,<br/>Far as, far as the curse is found.</p> <p>4 He rules the world with truth and grace<br/>And makes the nations prove<br/>The glories of His righteousness<br/>And wonders of His love,<br/>And wonders of His love,<br/>And wonders, wonders of His love.</p> |
|--|---|

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
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 Special Music ..... Brass  
 Acolytes ..... Elijah Matheny; Jesse Matheny