



NORTH WILKESBORO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOMING • GROWING • SERVING • LOVING

**A SERVICE OF WORSHIP
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
December 29, 2024 - 11:00 a.m.**

Prelude *Go Tell It on the Mountain*
Arr. Kenneth Danchik
Handbell Choir

Words of Welcome Rev. Amanda Horan

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship Cooper Huffman

One: Praise the Lord!

Many: Praise the Lord from the earth!

One: Young and old alike,

All: everyone together.

Praise the Lord!

***Hymn (#127)** *Jesus, the Light of the World*

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

***Call to Confession**

Rev. Amanda Horan

***Prayer of Confession**

God of wonder, you surround us with signs of your glory and surprise us with your presence, yet we often miss the marvels you place before us. Forgive our dullness and make us alert to the ways you make yourself known, that we might be witnesses to your good news and proclaim your extravagant love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. (Silence)

***Responsive Assurance of Pardon**

One: Hear this good news of great joy: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

One: Glory to God in the highest,

All: and peace to God's people on earth.

***Sharing a Sign of Christ's Peace**

***Congregational Response (#113)**

*Angels We Have Heard on High, Refrain
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:41-52

*(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Many: Thanks be to God.**)*

Anthem

Before the Song Was Done

Sarah Quartel

Second Scripture Lesson

Psalm 148

*(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Many: Thanks be to God.**)*

Sermon

With All Creation

Rev. Amanda Horan

WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

***Affirmation of Faith (#110)**

Love Has Come

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

***Hymn (#679)**

Let the Whole Creation Cry

Call to Generosity

Offertory

Angels We Have Heard on High

Arr. John Leavitt

***Congregational Response (#607, alt. tune #147)**

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below.

Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

***Responsive Prayer of Dedication**

One: Loving God:

Many: We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, the word made flesh.

One: Receive the gifts we offer in union with Christ's gift for us.

**All: Clothe us with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience,
that we may be Christ for others. In his name we pray. Amen.**

WE DEPART TO SERVE

***Hymn (#132 v.2-3)**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude**

God Tell It on the Mountain

Arr. Robin Dinda

***Please rise, in body or spirit.**

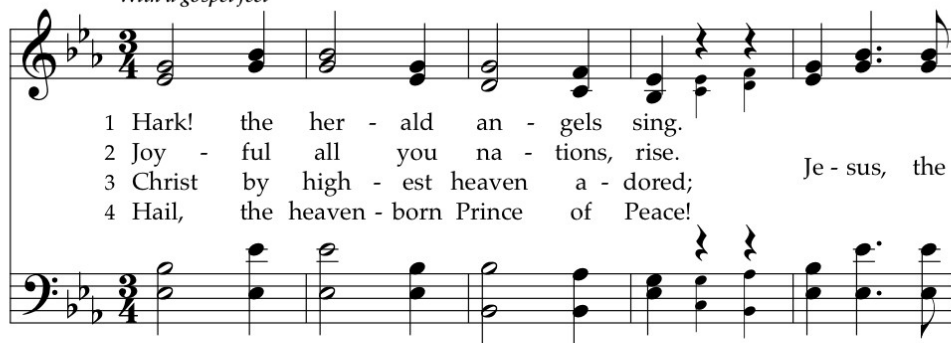


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127 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Jesus, the Light of the World

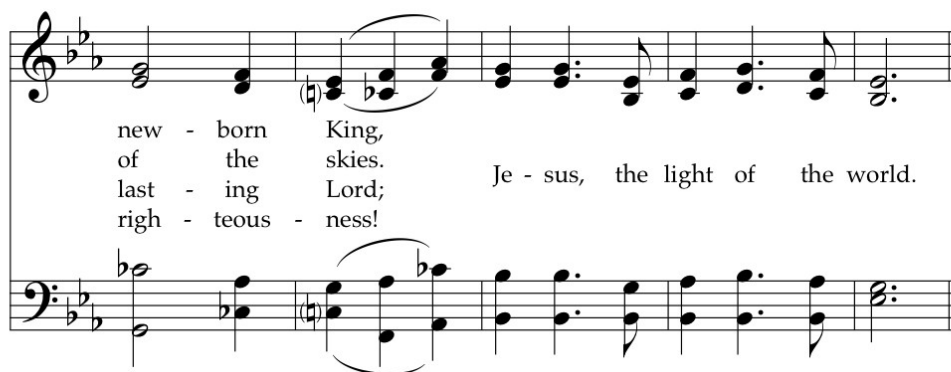
With a gospel feel



1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing.
 2 Joy - ful all you na - tions, rise. Je - sus, the
 3 Christ by high - est heaven a - dored;
 4 Hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!



light of the world. Glo - ry to the
 Join the tri - umph
 Christ, the ev - er -
 Hail, the Sun of



new - born King,
 of the skies. Je - sus, the light of the world.
 last - ing Lord;
 righ - teous - ness!

This blues-tinged setting of a familiar Christmas carol participates in a longstanding African American practice of adapting Anglo-European texts, as is done here by incorporating a repeated internal line and by appending a refrain that expands that line's language and imagery.

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

Refrain

We'll walk in the light, beau - ti - ful light.

Come where the dew - drops of mer - cy shine bright.

O, shine all a - round us by day and by

night. Je - sus, the light of the world.

Love Has Come

110

Capo 3: (D) F (Bm7) Dm7 (Em7) Gm7 (A) C



1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!

(D) F (Bm7) Dm7 (Em7) Gm7 (A7) C7 (D) F



Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all
 Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the
 Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is

(A) C (D) F (Bm7) Dm7 (D) F (A) C (G) B^b (D) F



heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of
 glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her
 Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our

(Em7) Gm7 (F#7) A7 (G) B^b (A) C (Bm7) Dm7 (A7) C7



joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a
 heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she
 hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

(D) F (A) C (G) B^b (A) C (D) F (A) C (A7) C7 (Dsus) Fsus (D) F



Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.
 Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Here is a chance to sing a familiar French carol tune with new words, the most important clearly being "Love." The senses "seen and heard" (as in Acts 4:20 and elsewhere) organize the first two stanzas, while the third holds the summary statement: "Love is the gift of Christmas."

679 Let the Whole Creation Cry

(Psalm 148)



1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high."
 2 Men and wom-en, young and old, raise the an-tem loud and bold;



Heaven and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - mighty King."
 join with chil - dren's songs of praise; wor-ship God through length of days.



Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
 From the north to south-ern pole let the might-y cho-rus roll:



sun and moon, up - lift your voice; night and stars, in God re - jice!
 "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One, glo - ry be to God a - lone!"



Originally this text was more than twice as long as the present version because it followed Psalm 148 in directing additional parts of the created order to praise God. This wide-ranging text is set here to a suitably expansive and well-crafted 17th-century chorale melody.

132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

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;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: 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!

Carols using two languages, like this one dating from at least the 14th century, belong to a special group called "macaronic," the original languages here being German and Latin. Though the present version is only in English, it is sung to the traditional German folk melody.