

# COMFORT AND JOY

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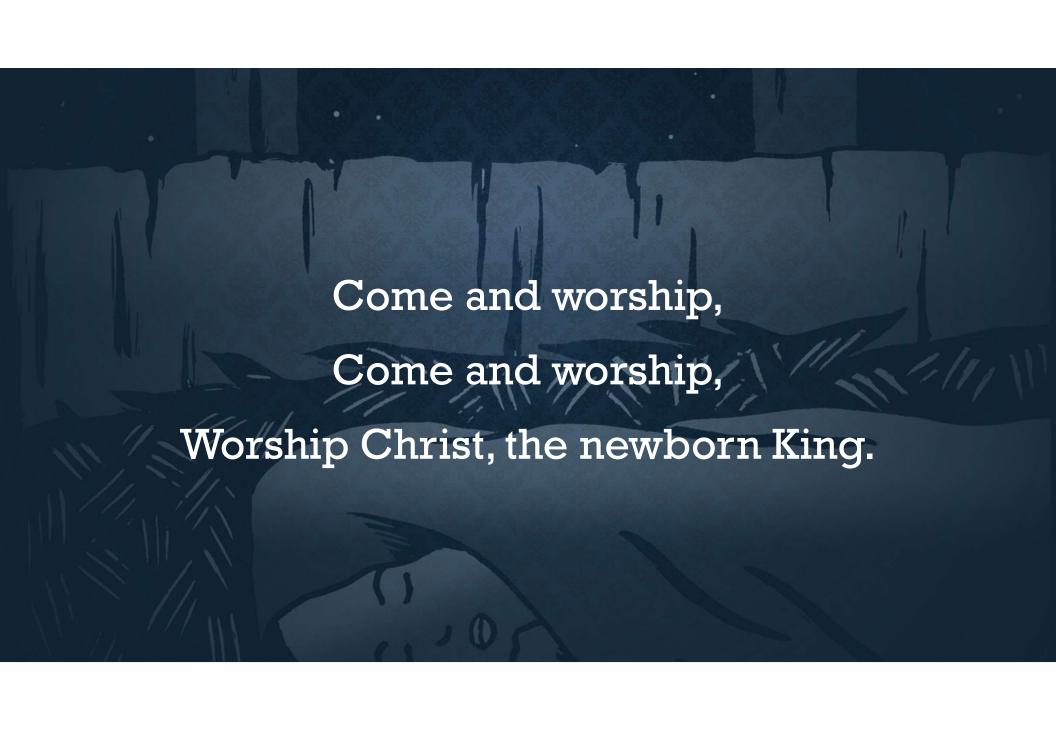


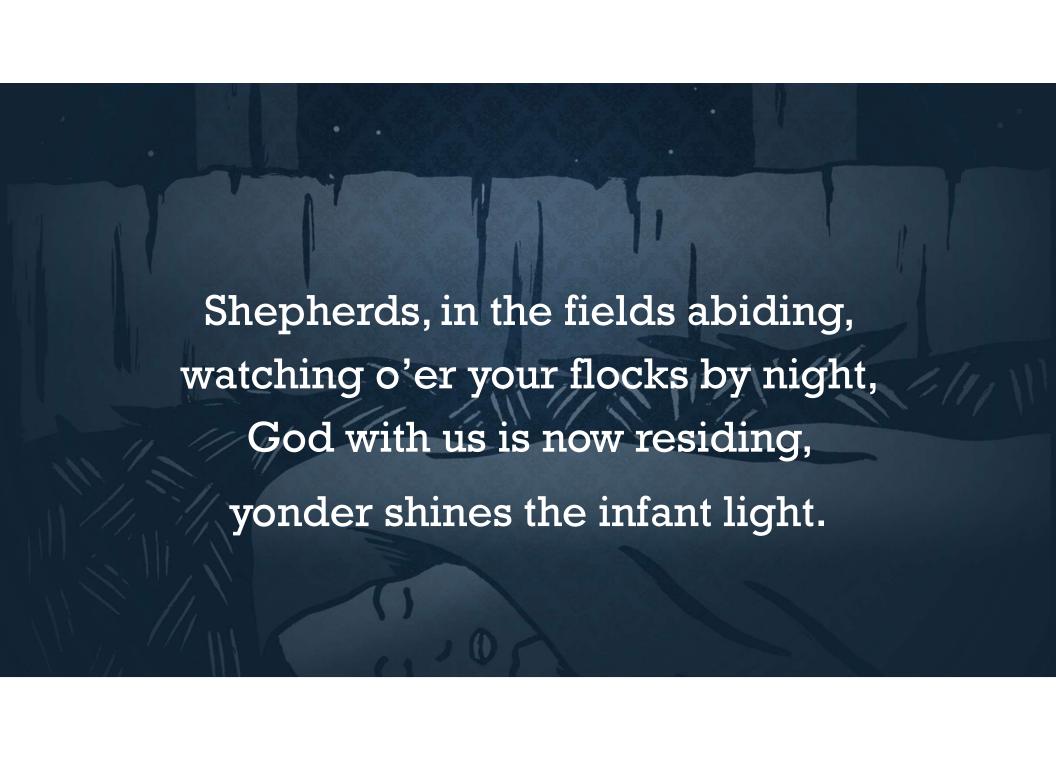
## GATHERING CAROL

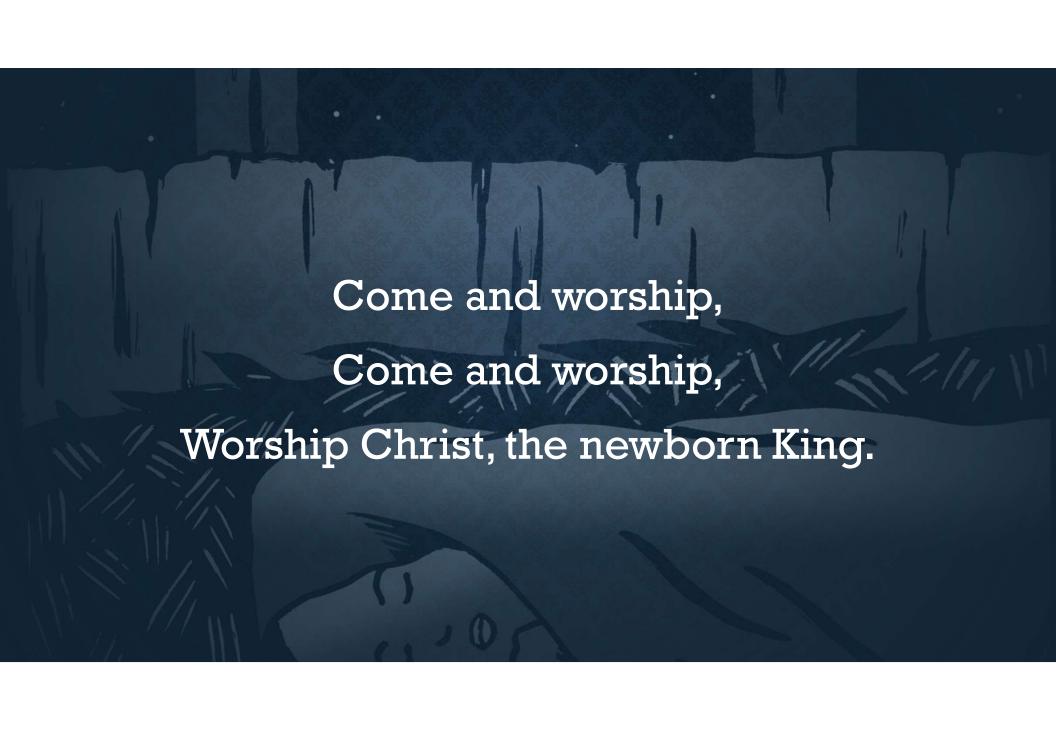
Angels from the Realm of Glory

ELW 275

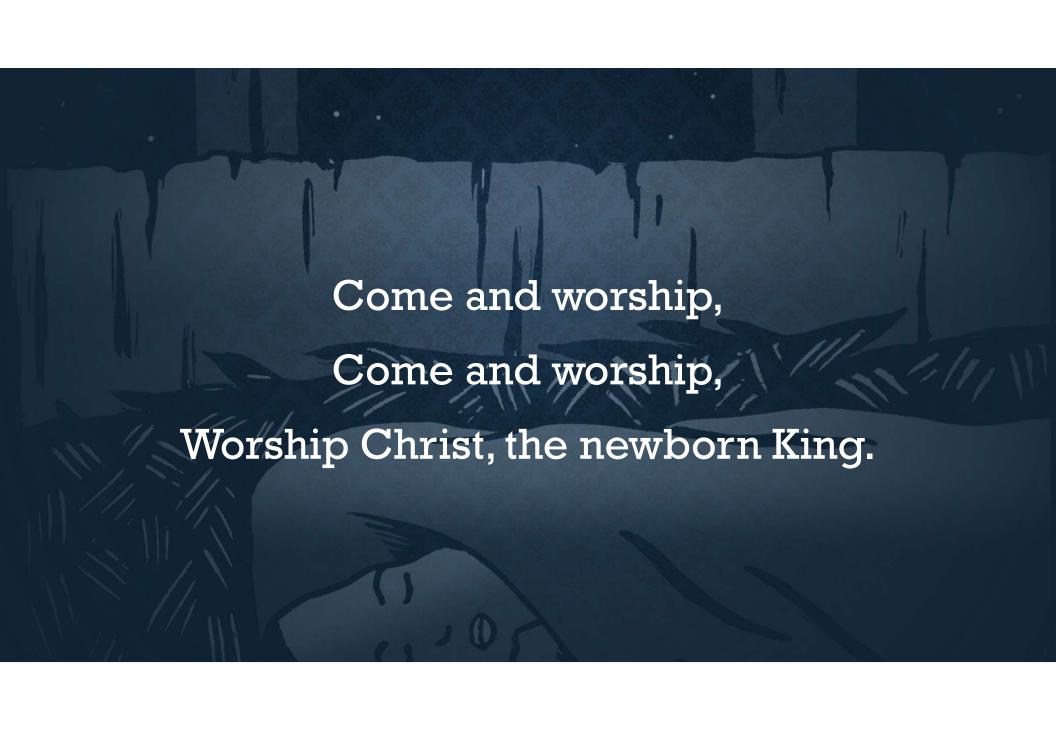
Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:

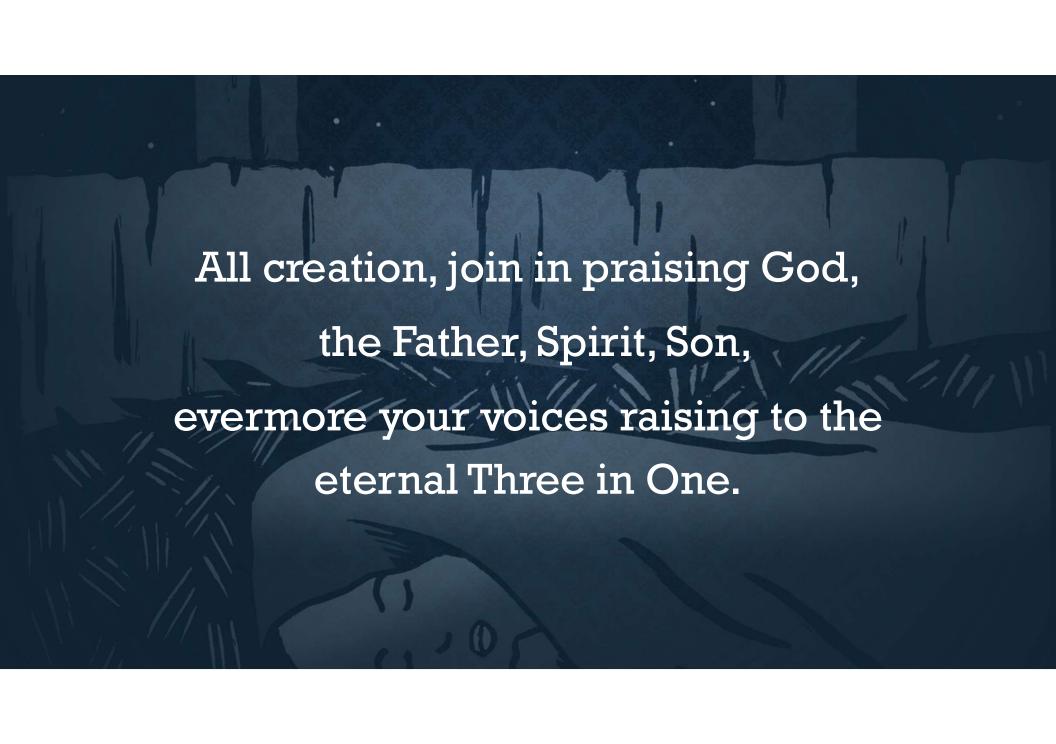


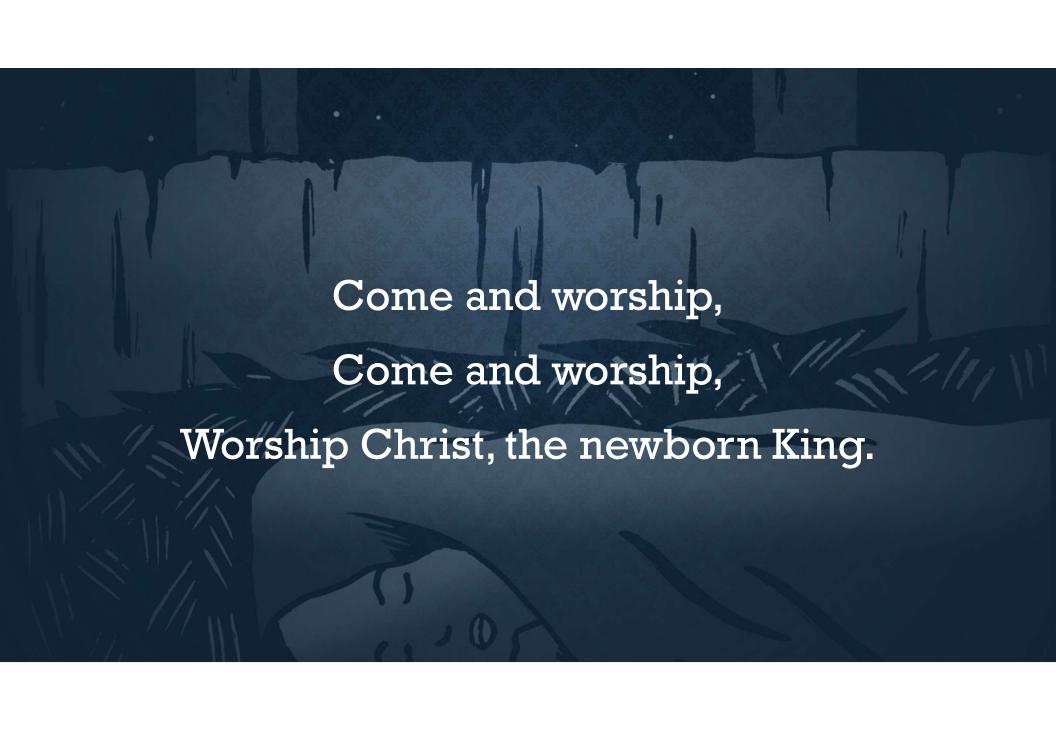








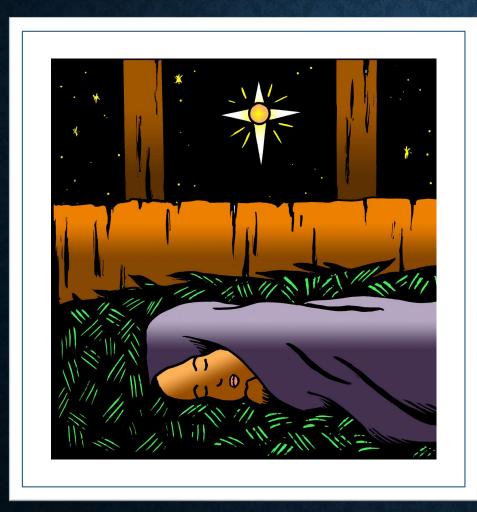






#### CALL TO WORSHIP +

- L: Welcome here to a celebration like no other!
- P: This is the night of the Holy Birth!
- L: Let the love of Jesus be born in your hearts and spirit.
- P:Open our hearts to receive this blessed Gift, Loving God.
- L: Be comforted and rejoice, one and all.
- The Good News is here!
- P: Christ our Savior is Born! Hallelujah! AMEN.



## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT & CHRIST CANDLES

L: Tonight, we give thanks for this journey of Advent that has prepared us and brought us here to this night. As we have focused on the Comfort and Joy that God provides; to bring us through tough situations and realities, each candle reminds us of what God provides through Jesus.

F: The first candle is a sign of the Hope that is shared in God's promises.

P: We find comfort in God's HOPE.

F: The second candle is a sign of Peace found in God's presence.

P: We find comfort in God's PEACE.

F: The third candle is a reminder of the Joy we share in the Lord.

P:We share joy in God's JOY.

F: The fourth candle is a reminder that God's love is expressed in service.

P:We share joy in God's LOVE.

L: The center candle is known as the Christ candle. It reminds us that all these things: Hope, Peace, Joy & Love, are manifested in the One whose birth we celebrate tonight. We pray His presence will be made real in us tonight and throughout our lives. In Jesus' name we pray.

All: AMEN

#### CAROL OF COMFORT AND JOY

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

God rest ye merry gentlemen Let nothing you dismay Remember Christ our Savior Was born on Christmas Day To save us all from Satan's pow'r When we were gone astray Oh tidings of comfort and joy Comfort and joy Oh tidings of comfort and joy

In Bethlehem, in Israel This blessed Babe was born And laid within a manger Upon this blessed morn The which His Mother Mary Did nothing take in scorn Oh tidings of comfort and joy Comfort and joy Oh tidings of comfort and joy

Fear not then, said the Angel Let nothing you affright This day is born a Savior Of a pure Virgin bright To free all those who trust in Him From Satan's pow'r and might Oh tidings of comfort and joy Comfort and joy Oh tidings of comfort and joy

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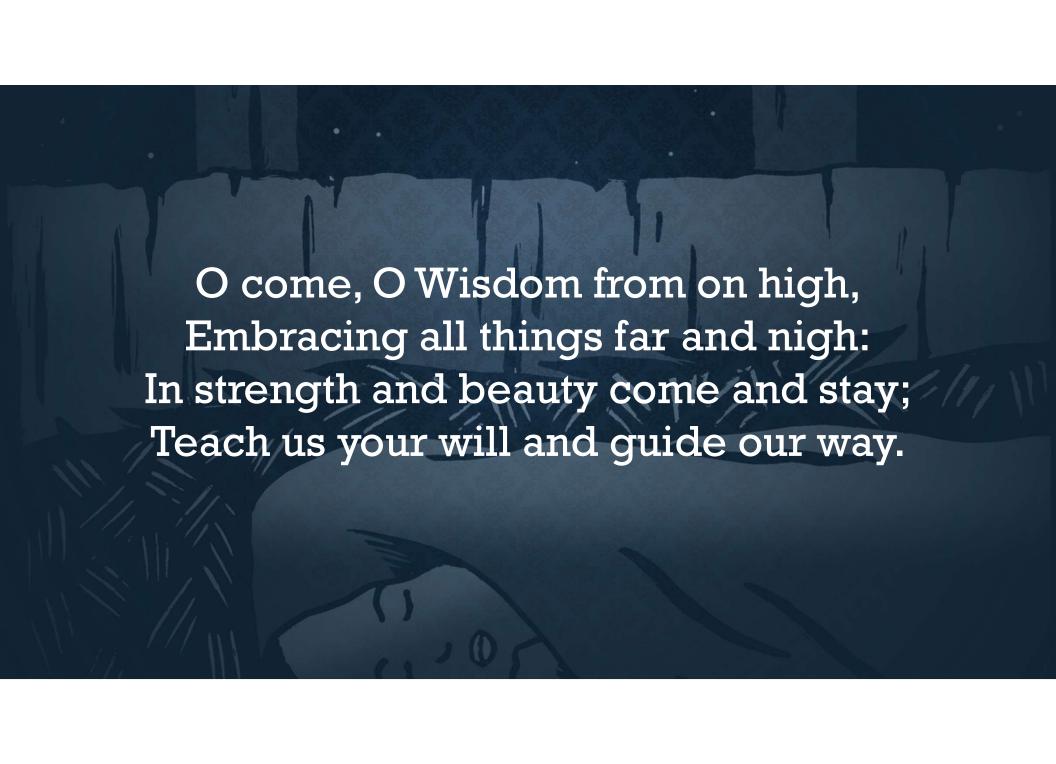


### CAROL OF PROPHECY

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
ELW 257
Vs 1 and 2

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.









#### CAROL OF EXPECTATION

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus
ELW 254

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art, dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king; born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;

By thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.









#### CAROL OF TRAVEL

O Little Town of Bethlehem

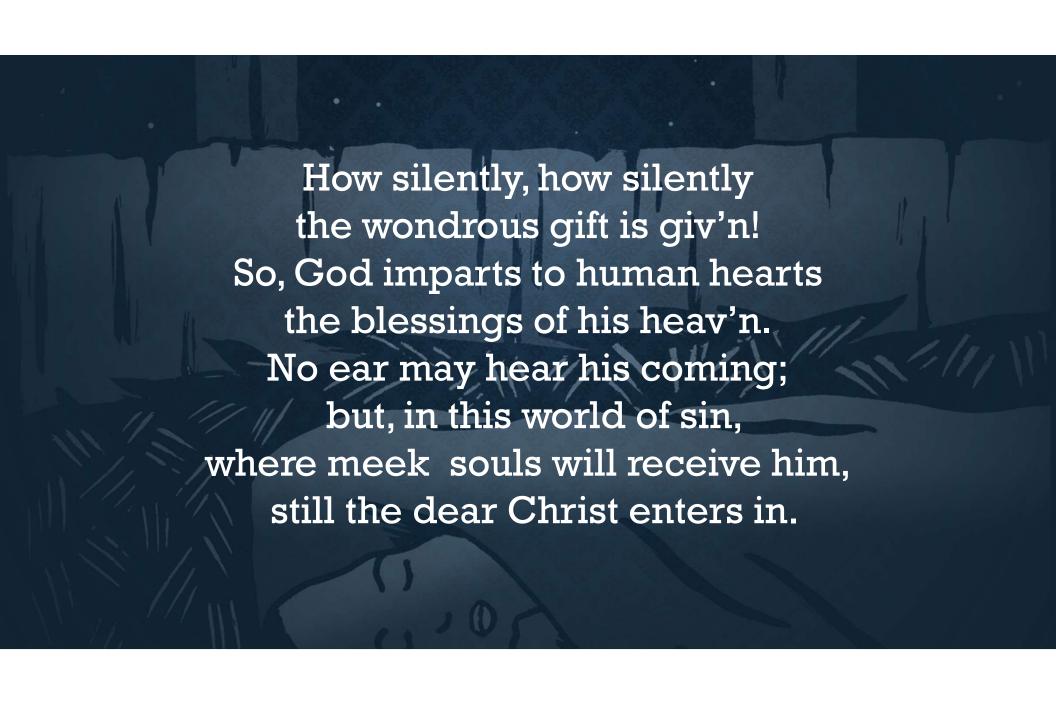
**ELW 279** 

Vs. 1,3

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light.

The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.





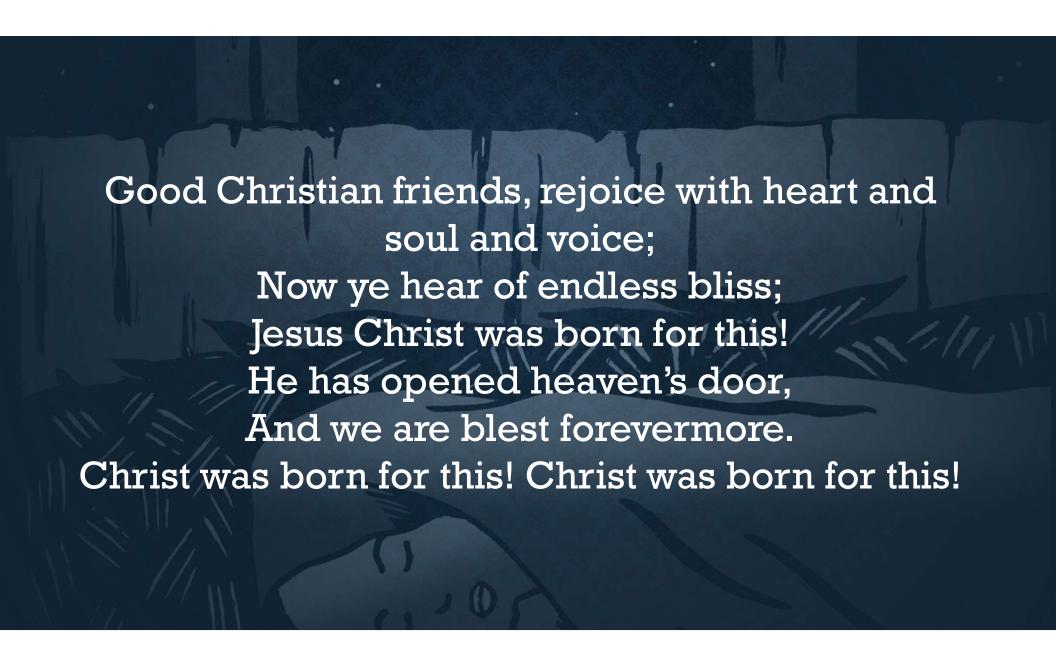




### CAROL OF REJOICING

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
ELW 288

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!



Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

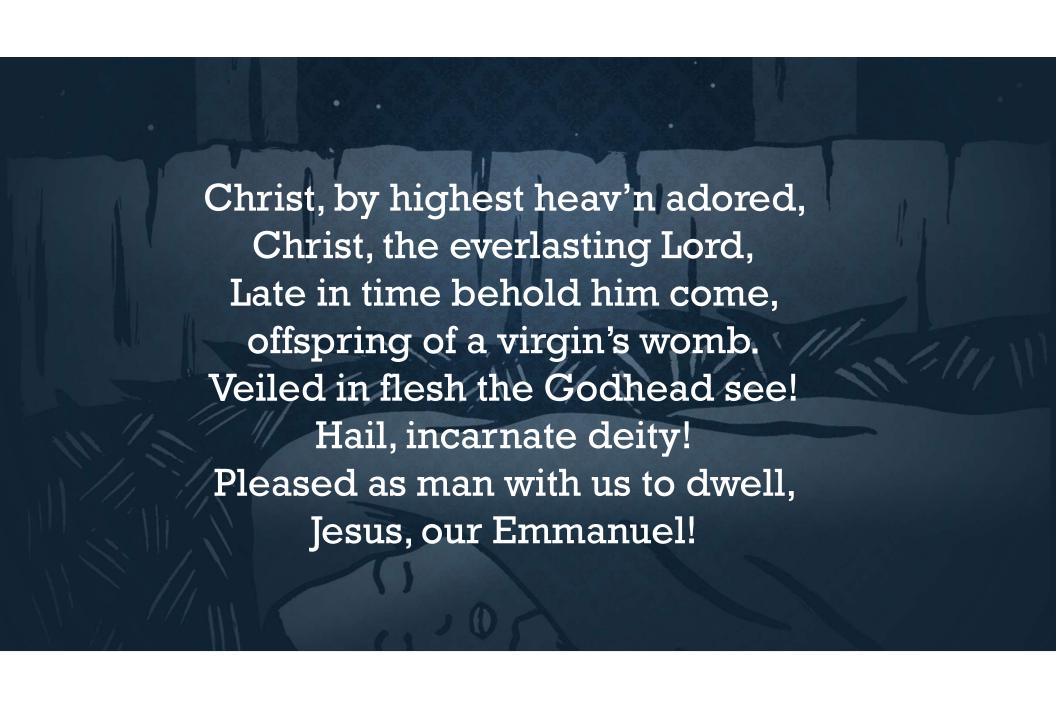


#### CAROL OF THE ANGELS

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing ELW 270

Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"







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 we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth.





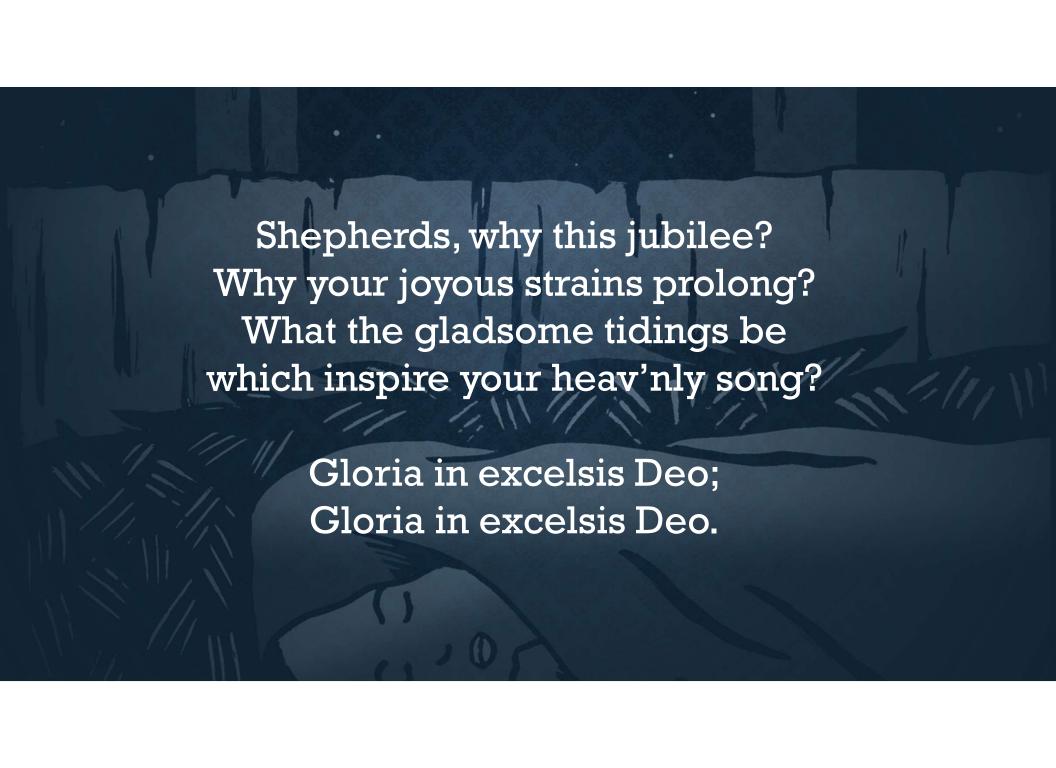
# CAROL OF THE SHEPHERDS

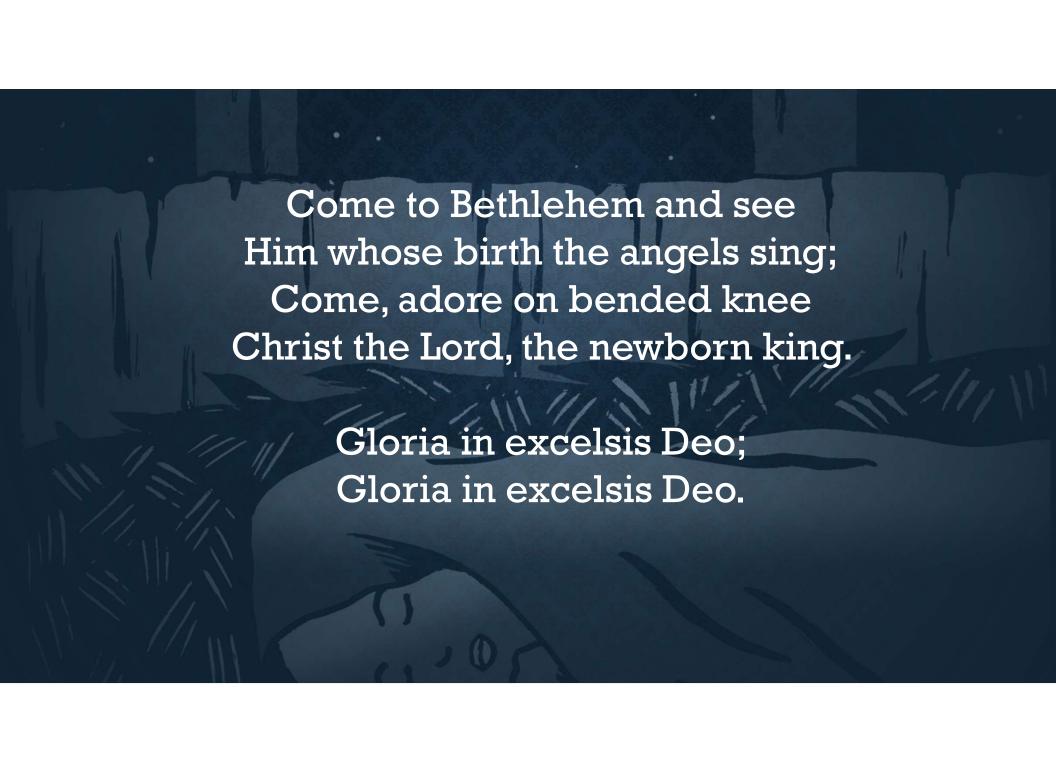
Angels We Have Heard on High

**ELW 289** 

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.





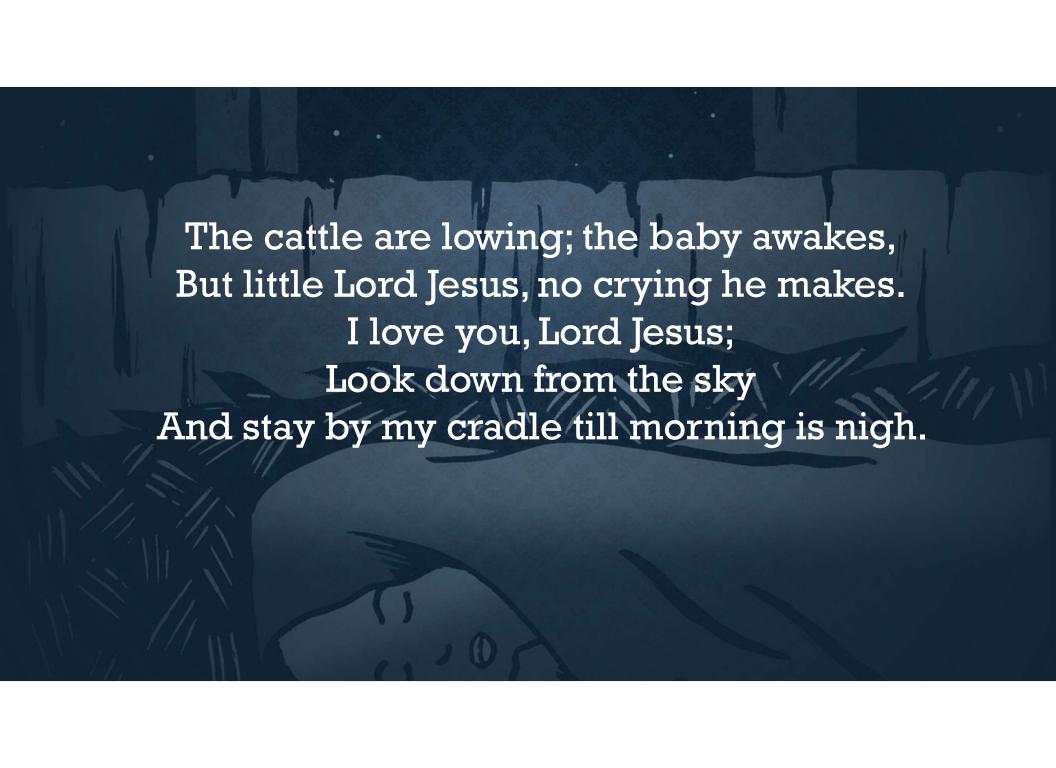


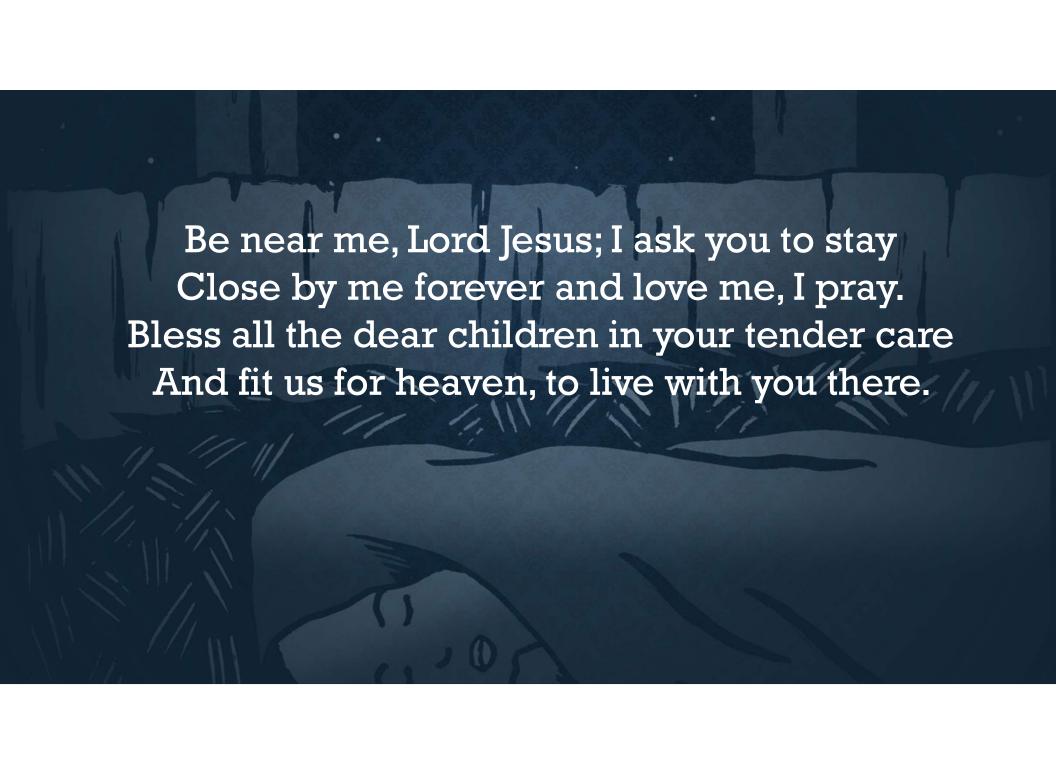


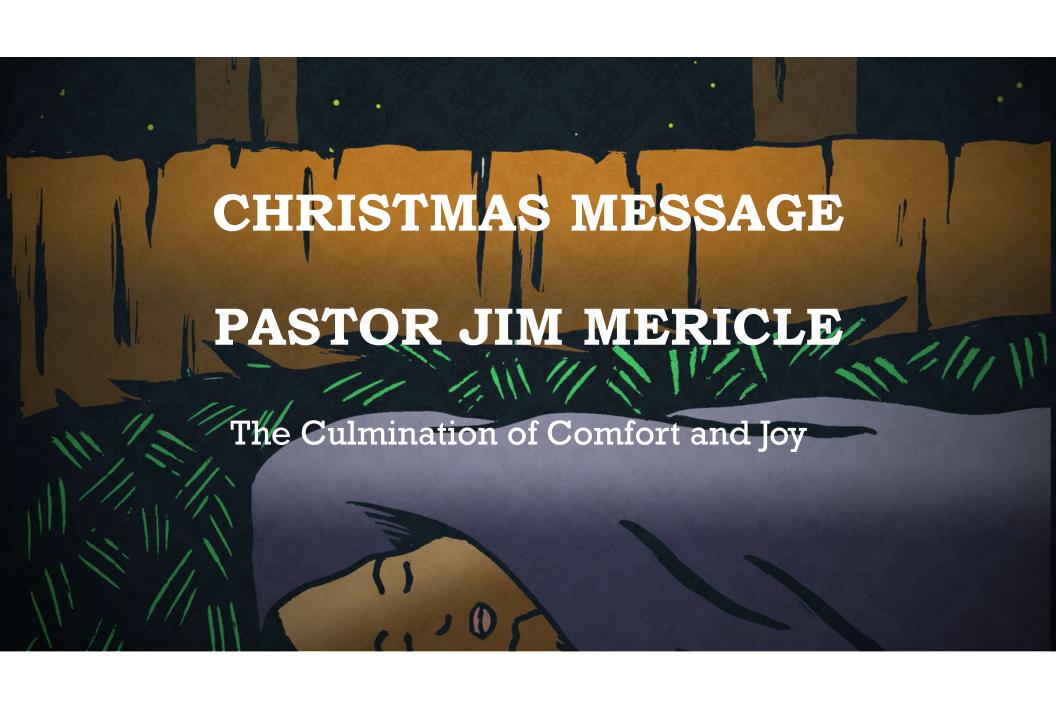
# CAROL OF THE CHILD

Away in a Manger ELW 278

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the bright sky
looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.





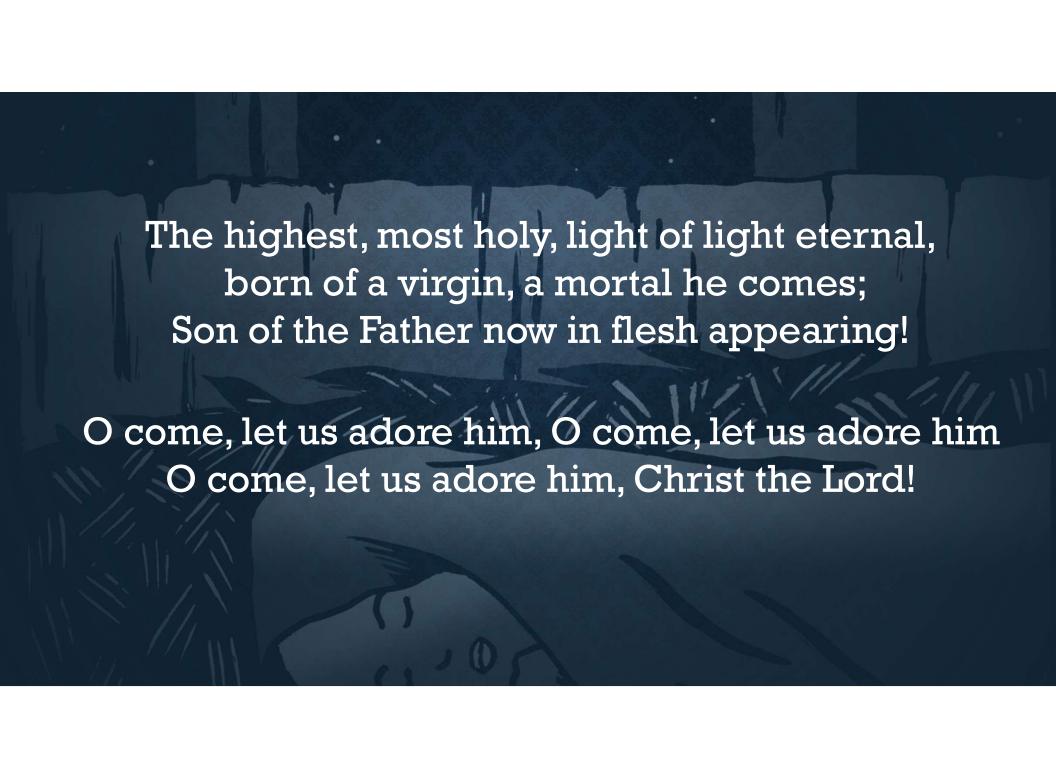


# CAROL OF SHARING COMFORT & JOY

O Come all Ye Faithful ELW 283 (vs 1,2)

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:

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!





P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.





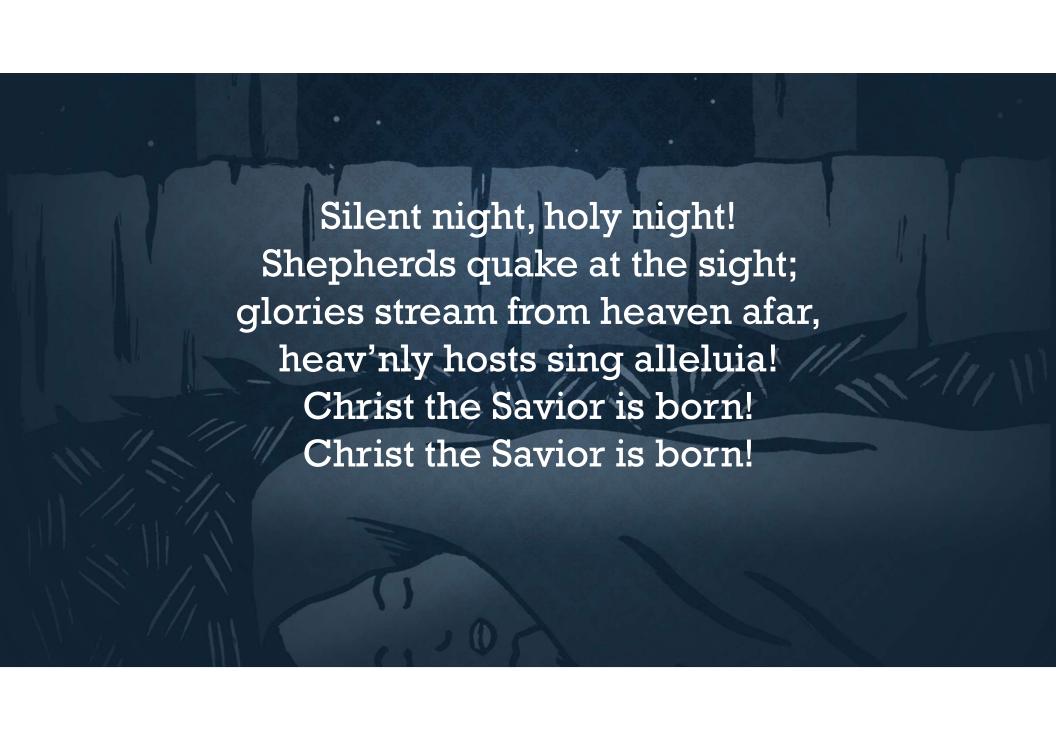
PLEASE TURN ON YOUR CANDLES WITH THE SWITCH ON THE BOTTOM OF CANDLE

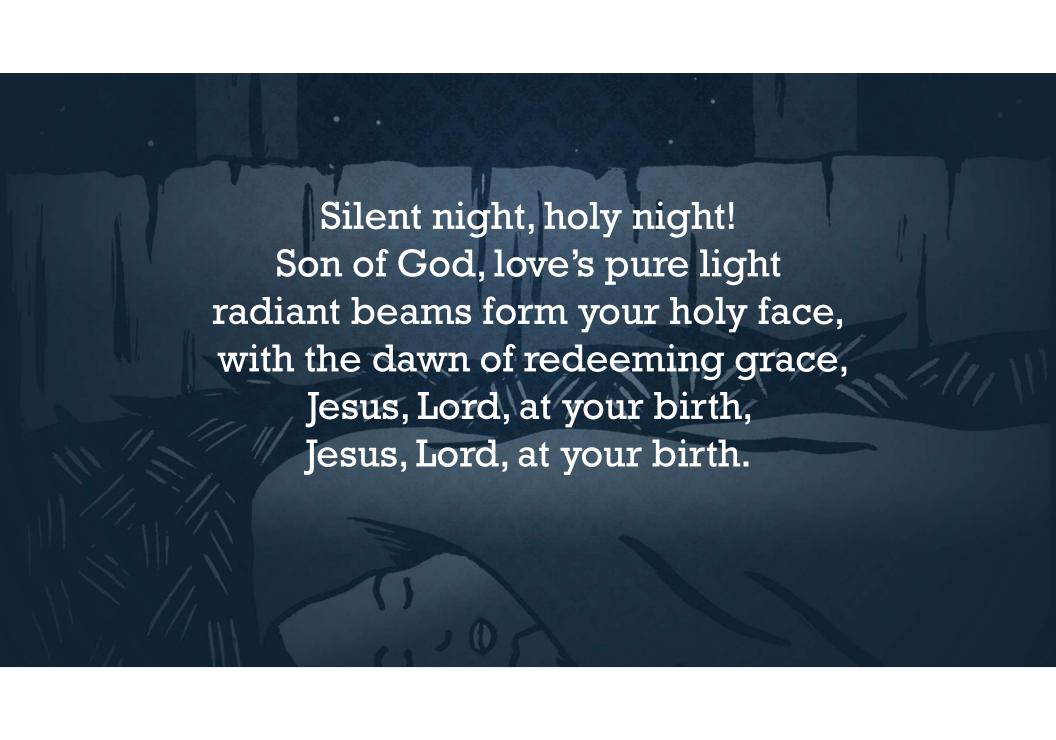
# CAROL OF THIS HOLY NIGHT

Silent Night
ELW 281

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright round you virgin mother and child.

Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.





#### CHRISTMAS PRAYER

L. God of Great Comfort and Joy

P: We have heard the true Christmas story anew today. Singing about and picturing the Child, born to bring Hope into the world. Open and fill our hearts as we go from this worship, in the days and weeks ahead. Guide us by the Light of Jesus Christ, that we may truly feel the power of your love and bring that love, with comfort and joy, to all we meet.

In the name of Jesus, we pray. AMEN

# CHRISTMAS BLESSING

L: May the Father, who sent Jesus into the word bless you.

May the Spirit who hovered over Mary, comfort you.

May the Son, whose birth we celebrate this day, give you

peace and bring you joy!

All: AMEN



# CAROL OF SENDING

Joy to the World
ELW 267

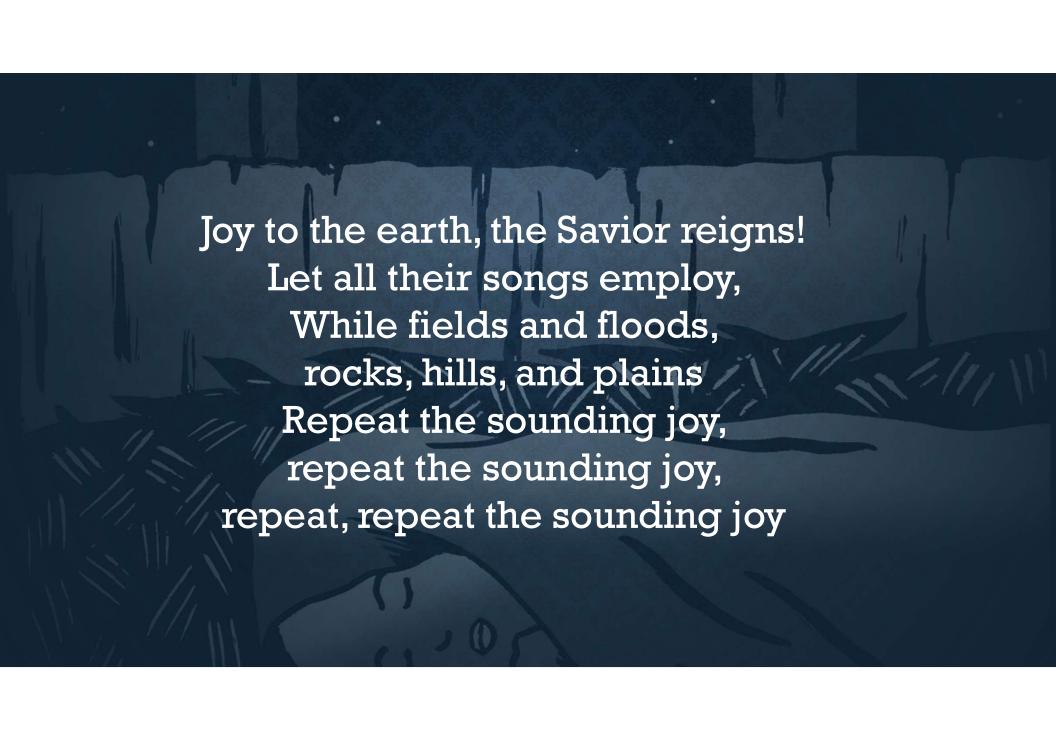
Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

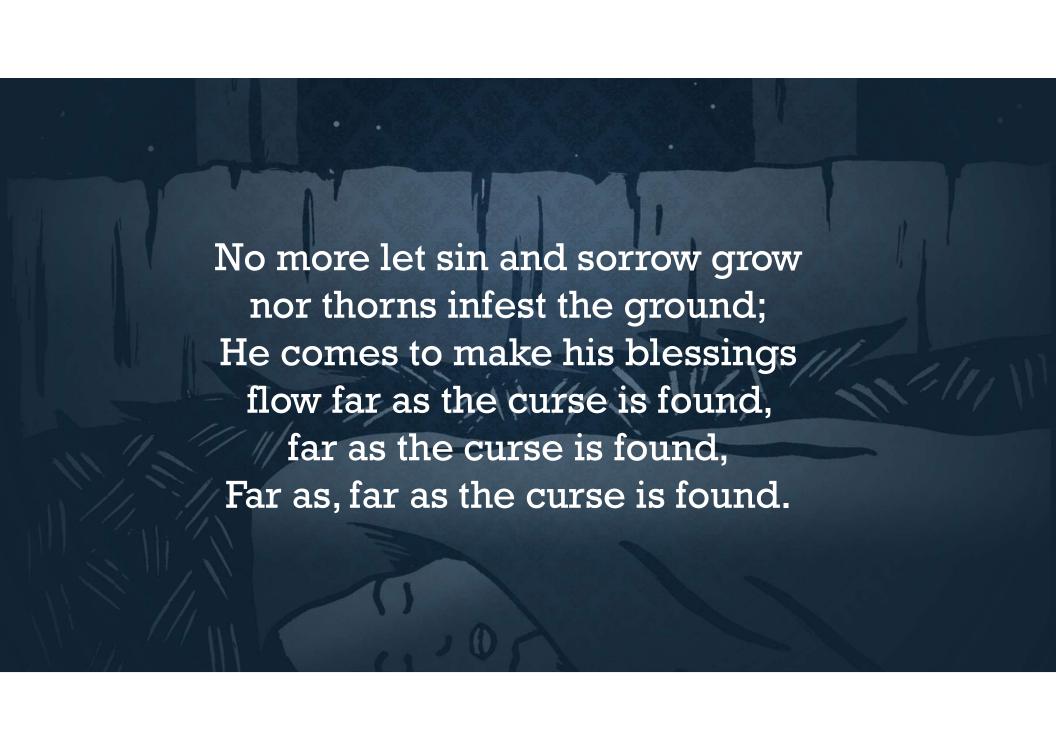
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room

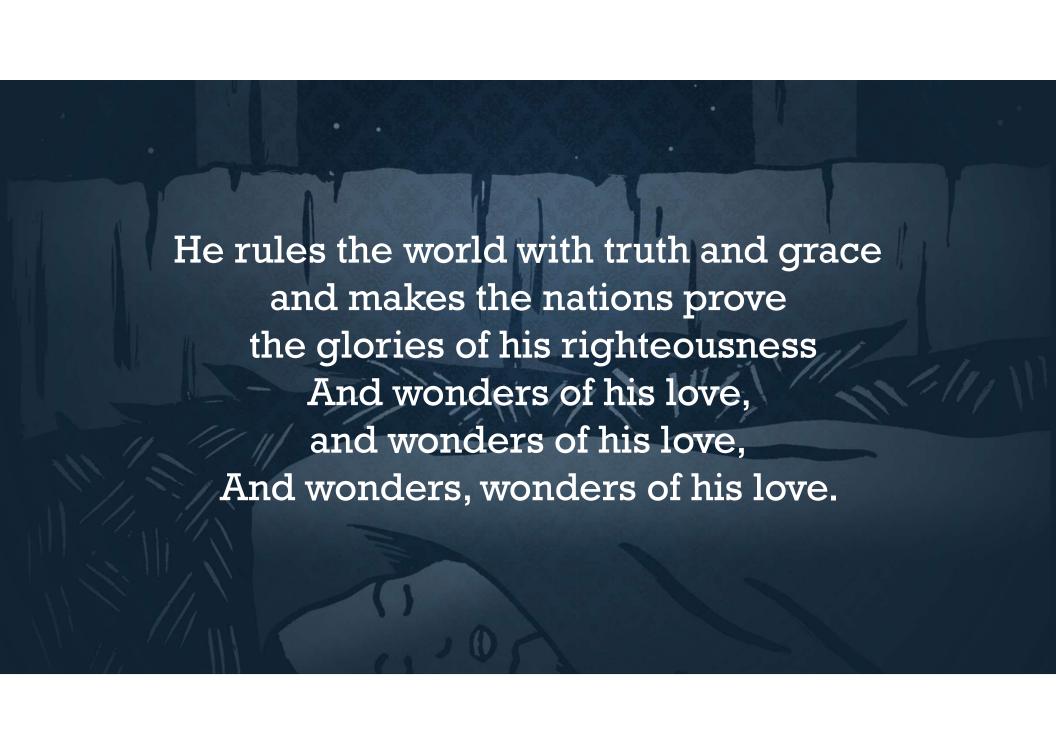
and heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.







#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Join us on December 28 for worship at 10am
- Don't forget to pick up your 2026 envelopes in the Narthex.
- Your Christ in our Home devo is available in the Narthex



