

The Nativity of our Lord

December 25, 2020



*“Christmas is not an event within history
but is rather the invasion of time by eternity.”*

Hans Urs Von Balthasar

Prelude: Angels, We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.

[Refrain]: Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear? [Refrain]

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing.
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. [Refrain]

Prelude: Away in a Manger

Away in a manger no crib for His bed, the little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky look down where He lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus look down from the sky, and stay by my side 'Til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus I ask you to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Your tender care, and fit us for Heaven to live with you there.

Prelude: Sussex Carol

*On Christmas night all Christians sing to hear the news the angels bring.
News of great joy, news of great mirth. News of our merciful King's birth.*

*Then why should men on earth be so sad? Since our Redeemer made us glad.
When from our sin he set us free all for to gain our liberty?*

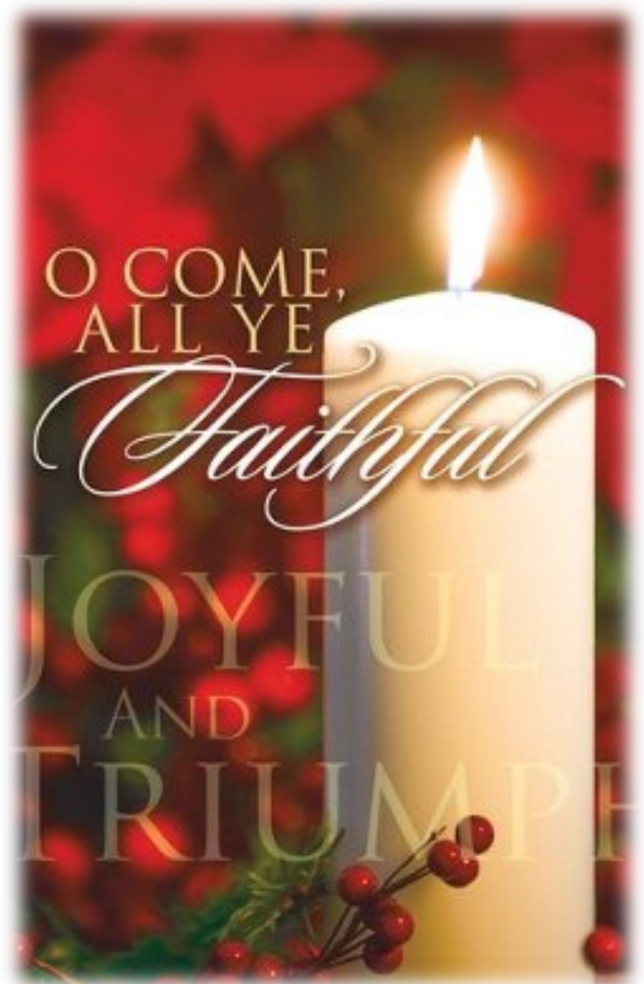
*When sin departs before His grace then life and health come in its place.
Angels and men with joy may sing all for to see the newborn King.*

Processional Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful

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, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:
"Glory to God, all glory in the highest!"
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, begotten, not created.
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.



Gloria

Glory to God in the highest. And on earth peace to men of good will.

We praise You. We bless You. We adore you. We glorify You.

We give You thanks for Your great glory. O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father almighty.

O Lord Jesus Christ, the Only-begotten Son. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father:

you Who take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

You Who take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

You Who sit at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are holy. You alone are the Lord. You alone, O Jesus Christ, are most high.

with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen.



Reading 1: Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings, announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, "Your God is King!"

Break out together in song, O ruins of Jerusalem! For the LORD comforts his people, he redeems Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm in the sight of all the nations; all the ends of the earth will behold the salvation of our God.

Hark! Your sentinels raise a cry, together they shout for joy, for they see directly, before their eyes, the LORD restoring Zion.

Responsorial: Psalm 98



For ev - er I will sing — the good-ness of the Lord.

*Sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done wondrous deeds;
his right hand has won victory for him,
his holy arm.*

*All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation by our God.
Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands;
break into song; sing praise.*

*The LORD has made his salvation known:
in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice.
He has remembered his kindness and his faithfulness
toward the house of Israel.*

*Sing praise to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and melodious song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
sing joyfully before the King, the LORD.*

Reading 2: Hebrews 1:1-6

Brothers and sisters: In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son, whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the universe, who is the refulgence of his glory, the very imprint of his being, and who sustains all things by his mighty word.

When he had accomplished purification from sins, he took his seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high, as far superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say: *You are my son; this day I have begotten you?* Or again: *I will be a*



father to him, and he shall be a son to me? And again, when he leads the firstborn into the world, he says: *Let all the angels of God worship him.*



Gospel: John 1:1-5; 9-141

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came to be through him, but the world did not know

him. He came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him.

But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to those who believe in his name, who were born not by natural generation nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God.

And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.



Offertory Hymn: Hark, The Herald Angels Sing

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 hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"



Communion Antiphon

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation which comes from our God.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things and I desire to possess You within my soul.

**Since I am unable at this moment to receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there,
and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.**

Communion Hymn: Silent Night

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.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar; Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born!

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.

O HOLY NIGHT
CHRIST IS BORN, GLORIFY HIM!



Recessional Hymn: Joy to the World

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its king;
Let every 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.
Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

Communion Meditation: O Little Town of Bethlehem

*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.*

*For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above.
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, and Peace to men on earth*

*How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given,
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still the dear Christ enters in.*

Communion Meditation: Gesu Bambino

*When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows upon a winter night,
Was born the Child the Christmas Rose, The King of Love and Light.
The angels sang, the shepherds sang, the grateful earth rejoiced.
And at His blessed birth the stars their exultation voiced.
O Come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

*Again the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night
That gave the world it's Christmas Rose, It's King of Love and Light.
Let every voice acclaim His name, the grateful chorus swell.
From paradise to earth He came that we with Him might dwell.
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*



“Every mother, when she picks up the young life that has been born to her, looks up to the heavens to thank God for the gift which made the world young again. But here was a mother, a Madonna, who did not look up. She looked down to Heaven, for this was Heaven in her arms.”

- Archbishop Fulton Sheen