



What Child Is This?

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School

Cudahy, Wisconsin

December 25, 2020

www.stpaulscudahy.com

Welcome to St. Paul's on Christmas Day! It's safe to say, no season of the Christian church year is greeted with greater anticipation than the Christmas season. For Christians, this joy always centers on Jesus Christ. Nothing brings Christians together quite like the singing of Carols and listening to Lessons. This morning we'll share that special closeness as we sing the joy of this happy season! May your worship today make this a truly Merry Christmas!



RINGING OF THE CHRISTMAS BELLS`

INVITATION TO WORSHIP - "Joy to the World" (62)

- M:** Arise, shine, your Light has come and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and His glory appears over you. Nations will come to your Light and kings to the brightness of your Dawn. Lift up your eyes and look about you; all assemble and come to you!
- C:** **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.
- M:** Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the heights above. Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you shining stars. Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths, you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, wild animals and all cattle, kings of the earth and all nations, you princes and all rulers on earth, young men and maidens, old men and children. His name alone is exalted; His splendor is above the earth and the heavens. He has raised up for His people a Horn, the praise of all His saints. Praise the Lord!
- C:** **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.
- M:** How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the Lord returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. Burst into songs of joy together, for the Lord has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord will lay bare His holy arm in the sight of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.
- C:** **No more let sins end sorrows grow**
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

M: A Shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him, the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord, and He will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what He sees with His eyes, or decide by what He hears with His ears; but with righteousness He will judge the needy, with justice He will give decisions for the poor of the earth. Righteousness will be His belt and faithfulness the sash around His waist.

**C: He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of his love, And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.**

I) PROMISED GRACIOUSLY

Isaiah 7:14 / Isaiah 9:6-7 / Micah 5:2

M: Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son,

C: and will call him Immanuel.

M: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.

C: And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

M Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.

C: But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah,

M: out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.



Tammy Nygaard and Robyn Nygaard will be singing selected verses of our Christmas Carols today. Please follow the directions when we sing those carols. We thank them!

CHRISTMAS CAROL – “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” (35)

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Congregation: v.1,4,5

Tammy & Robyn: v.2-3



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed
3 This is he whom heav'n - taught sing - ers
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him,
5 Christ, to you, with God the Fa - ther,



Ere the worlds be - gan to be, He is
When the vir - gin, full of grace, By the
Sang of old with one ac - cord; Whom the
An - gel hosts his prais - es sing, Pow'rs, do -
And the Spir - it cease - less - ly Hymn and



Al - pha and O - me - ga, He the source, the
Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, Bore the Sav - ior
Scrip - tures of the proph - ets Prom - ised in their
min - ions bow be - fore him And ex - tol our
chant and high thanks - giv - ing And un - end - ing



end - ing he, Of the things that are, that
of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
faith - ful word. Now he shines, the long - ex -
God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall
deem - er, First re - vealed his sa - cred
pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its
si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert
min - ion And e - ter - nal vic - to -



see Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
face Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Lord Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ring Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
ry Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

2) CONCEIVED MIRACULOUSLY

Luke 1:30-35 / Matthew 1:20-21

M: The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.

C: He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.

M: “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” The angel answered,

C: “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

M: So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. For no word from God will ever fail.”

C: An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said,

M: “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son,

C: and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

CHRISTMAS CAROL – “Oh, Rejoice All Christians, Loudly” (45)

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Tammy & Robyn: v.1+2

Congregation: Refrain,
v.3+4



1 Oh, re-joice, all Chris-tians, loud-ly, For our joys have
2 See, my soul, your Sav-ior choos-es Pov-er-ty and
3 Lord, how shall I thank you right-ly? I am saved e-
4 Je-sus, guard and guide your mem-bers; Make us chil-dren



now be-gun; Won-drous things our God has done.
weak-ness, too; In such love he comes to you.
ter-nal-ly By your life and death for me.
of your grace; Hear our prayers in ev-'ry place.



Tell a-broad his good-ness proud-ly, Who our race has
Nei-ther crib nor cross re-fus-es, All he suf-fers
Let me not re-gard you light-ly But on you in
Fan-to life faith's glow-ing em-bers; Give all Chris-tians



hon-ored so, That he lives with us be-low.
for your good To re-deem you by his blood.
faith de-pend, Prais-ing you, my heav'n-ly friend.
far and near Ho-ly peace, a glad new year.

Refrain



Joy, oh, joy be-yond all glad-ness, Christ has done a-way with sad-ness!



Hence all sor-row and re-pin-ing, For the Sun of grace is shin-ing!

3) BORN HUMBLY

2 Corinthians 8:9 / Philippians 2:6-8

M: For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor,

C: so that you through his poverty might become rich.

M: Have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing

C: by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

M: And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross!

CHRISTMAS CAROL – “Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light” (44)



Tammy & Robyn: v.l

Congregation: v.l

Break forth, O beau-teous heav'n-ly light, And ush - er in the
morn - ing. You shep - herds, shrink not with af - fright But
hear the an - gel's warn - ing. This child, now weak in
in - fan - cy, Our con - fi - dence and joy shall be, The
pow'r of Sa - tan break - ing, Our peace e - ter - nal mak - ing.

4) ANNOUNCED GLORIOUSLY

Philippians 2:9-11 / Galatians 4:4-5 / John 1:14

M: Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

C: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

M: and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

C: But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman,

M: born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

C: The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory,

M: the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

CHRISTMAS CAROL – “Peace Came to Earth” (707)



Tammy & Robyn: v.1

Congregation: v.2-4



1 Peace came to earth at last that cho - sen night
2 And who could be the same for hav - ing held
3 You show the Fa - ther none has ev - er seen,
4 How else could I have known you, O my God!



When an - gels clove the sky with song and light And
The in - fant in their arms and lat - er felt The
In flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pain, In
How else could I have loved you, O my God! How



God em - bod - ied love and sheathed his might— Who could but
wound-ed hands and side, all doubts dis - pelled— Who could but
bread and wine you vis - it us a - gain— Who could but
else could I em - brace you, O my God! Who could but



gasp: Im - man - u - el! Who could but sing: Im - man - u - el!
sigh: Im - man - u - el! Who could but shout: Im - man - u - el!
see: Im - man - u - el! Who could but thrill: Im - man - u - el!
pray: Im - man - u - el! Who could but praise: Im - man - u - el!

5) PRAISED GLADLY

I Peter 2:9 / Hebrews 13:15-16 / Revelation 5:12-13

M: But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession,

C: that we may declare the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his wonderful light.

M: Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise –

C: the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

M: And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

C: In a loud voice they were saying:

M: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth

C: and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

M: Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

C: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!"

CHRISTMAS CAROL – "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" (Lappy p.94)



Congregation: v.1,2,4

Tammy & Robyn: v.3

1) **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**

2) **From God our heavenly Father A blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born The Son of God by name:
Oh tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy
Oh tidings of comfort and joy**

- 3) **The shepherds at those tidings Rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a feeding In tempest, storm and wind
And went to Bethlehem straightway This blessed babe to find:
Oh tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy
Oh tidings of comfort and joy**
- 4) **But when to Bethlehem they came, Where at this infant lay,
They found him in a manger, Where oxen feed on hay;
His mother, Mary, kneeling, Unto the Lord did pray:
Oh tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy
Oh tidings of comfort and joy**

THE CHRISTMAS PRAYER

- M: Almighty God, heavenly Father, we thank you for your precious gift to mankind in the birth of the Bethlehem Christ Child, as announced by the angel that holy night. May the mystery of the Word made flesh fill our souls with wonder and awe, so that like the shepherds we may hurry to worship him at his manger bed.
- C: Change our hearts from busy inns with no room for your Son, to quiet chambers kept for him.**
- M: Help us, in sincere faith to join in the song of the angels, share the delight of the shepherds, and adore him with the Wise Men. Grant that Christ may be born again to us today that the truth, love and redemption which he brought may live in our hearts and lives.
- C: Like Mary may we keep all these things and ponder them in our hearts always.**
- M: And as you have made us participants of his glory here, grant that one day we may completely and fully share his glory in heaven with you and all the saints and angels. Then we will praise and glorify you for your grace and mercy shown to us sinners. Hear our prayer, O Lord,
- C: For the sake of Jesus Christ your Son and our Savior. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

- M: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.**
- M: Bless we the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God:**

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you on this Christmas Day.

C: **And with you, too. Amen.**

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL – Luke 2:1-20

CHRISTMAS CAROL – “What Child Is This?” (67)



1 What child is this who, laid to rest,
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh;

On Mar - y's lap is sleep - - ing?
Where ox - en now are feed - - - ing?
Come, peas - ant, king, to own him.

Whom an - gels greet With an - thems sweet
Good Chris - tians, fear; For sin - ners here
The King of kings Sal - va - tion brings;

While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
The si - lent Word is plead - ing.
Let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

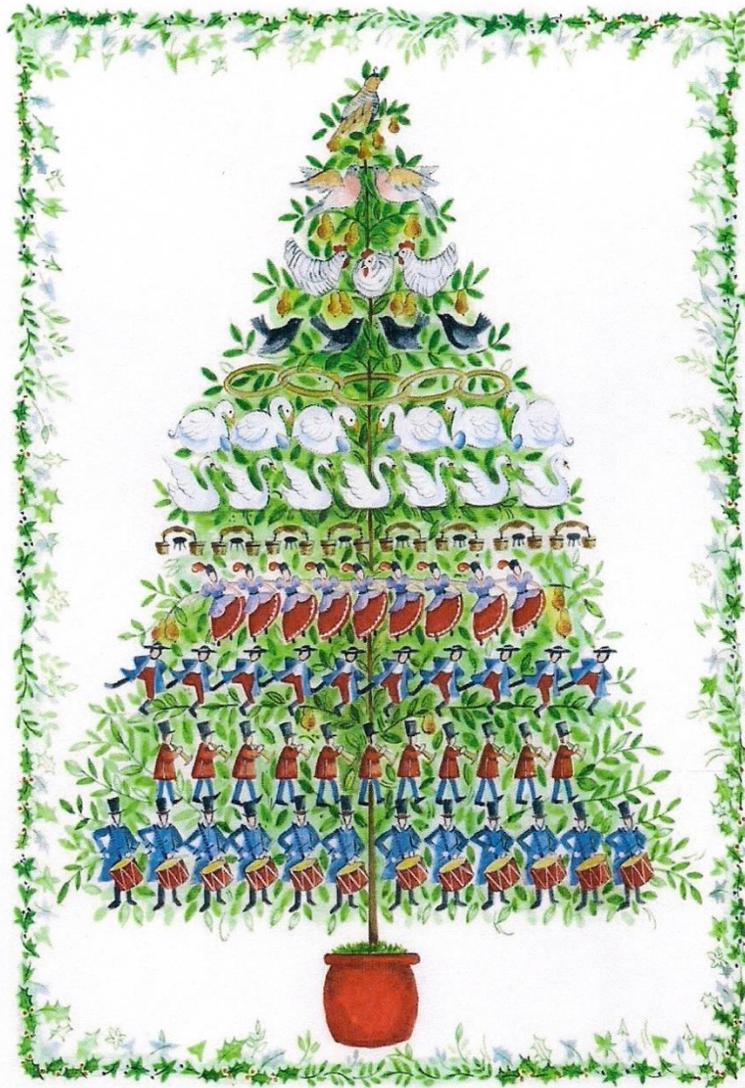
This, this is Christ the King, Whom
Nails, this spear shall pierce him through; The
Raise, raise the song on high; The

shep - herds guard and an - gels sing.
cross he'll bear for me, - gels sing.
vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.

Haste, haste to bring him laud,
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,

The babe, the Son of Mar - y!
The babe, the Son of Mar - y!
The babe, the Son of Mar - y!

The Twelve Days of Christmas Devotions



Did you know that Christmas isn't a day – it's a season! It goes from the birth of Jesus on December 25 until the arrival of the Magi on January 6. Did you also know there's a religious song to teach the significance of our Christian faith? It's called "***The Twelve Days of Christmas.***" You've listened to this carol for years and wondered what do *swimming swans* and *leaping lords* have to do with Christmas?

Tradition has it that during this time someone wrote "***The Twelve Days of Christmas***" as a catechism song for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning – the surface meaning and a hidden meaning known only to the Christian. Each element in the carol was code for a religious concept which the children could remember.

Why not extend your Christmas celebration a bit and learn the hidden Christian meaning to this song? We'll be sending out an e-mail each day to those on our church e-mail list. We'll also be printing the devotions out so you could pick up a booklet of all 12 at church or contact the church and we'll drop one in the mail for you. It will also be available on our church website: stpaulscudahy.com.