



# We Sing of His Glory

*A Children's Christmas Service*

*by Beth Nolte and Lisa Reckzin*



SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS

[www.duluth Lutheran.org](http://www.duluth Lutheran.org)

## Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

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### WELCOME

We are glad that you have chosen to spend time with us in worship. In our worship, we gather, before Jesus, our Good Shepherd, to offer him our love and praise. Our Lord builds us up in faith through his Word and equips us for living now and in eternity. Our prayer is that the good news of Christ's love touches your heart and transforms your life. Whether you're worshipping with us here today or watching online, we are happy you have joined us.

### WORSHIP SERVICE

The goal of our worship is to praise God and enrich your faith through his Word. To make your experience today easier, the worship folder you're holding has the entire order of service. The pieces marked [P] are spoken by the pastor, and the parts marked [C] are to be spoken or sung by the congregation. **In today's special service, the pieces marked [N] are spoken by the children narrators.**

### FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Our congregation enjoys the "worshiping family." Each service includes a children's message which teaches God's truth to your kids. Parents with small children are an essential part of God's kingdom. That's why children are never considered an inconvenience to our worship. We also want your family to be comfortable. There is a cry room outside the main doors to the right if you need a moment.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*For more announcements and event information visit the church website at [www.dulutheran.org/events](http://www.dulutheran.org/events) or sign up for our weekly email at [www.dulutheran.org/subscribe](http://www.dulutheran.org/subscribe). You can also view the church calendar at [www.dulutheran.org/church-calendar](http://www.dulutheran.org/church-calendar).*

**Altar Flower:** Today's flowers are given by Lisa Sanders, to the glory of God, for the Christmas program.

**Special Thank You:** A huge thank you to all who contributed to today's special service! Thanks to our children who used their talents to share the Christmas message, their Sunday School teachers who helped them learn their parts, our Youth Music Ministry leaders, Youth Choir, Lisa Dunsmoor, the accompanists, and everyone who made this possible. You are appreciated!

**Call Meeting Update:** Following Thursday's call meeting, we extended a call to Pastor Jeffery Halldorson, who currently serves in Greeley, CO. Please keep Pastor Halldorson in your prayers as he deliberates where to serve.

**Envelopes:** Offering envelopes for 2025 are available by the mailboxes. Please take the envelopes that match your mailbox number.

**Giving Tree for Women's Care Center:** Today is the last day to donate items to the Giving Tree for the Women's Care Center. You can find the donation boxes located in the entryway by the tree. Please speak with Kim Kirkland if you have any questions.

**Adult Choir:** Anyone interested in singing in the Adult Choir should meet following today's service. There will be another practice on Thursday, December 19th, at 6:30PM. Please speak with Laura Metcalf if you have any questions.

**Food Drive and Silent Auction Update:** Thank you to all who supported the Second Harvest Northland food bank by donating to our food drive or attending our Silent Auction. We were able to drop off 102 lbs of food and a check for \$1,893. This is enough to help them feed about 5,764 meals to our neighbors in need. We greatly appreciate your help to make this an impactful event!

**Preschool Christmas Program:** We are looking for volunteers to help support our Little Lambs by assisting with their upcoming Christmas Program on **Wednesday, December 18th at 6 p.m.** We are in need of food items, help with set-up, or assistance with clean-up after the event. Please scan the QR code to sign-up.

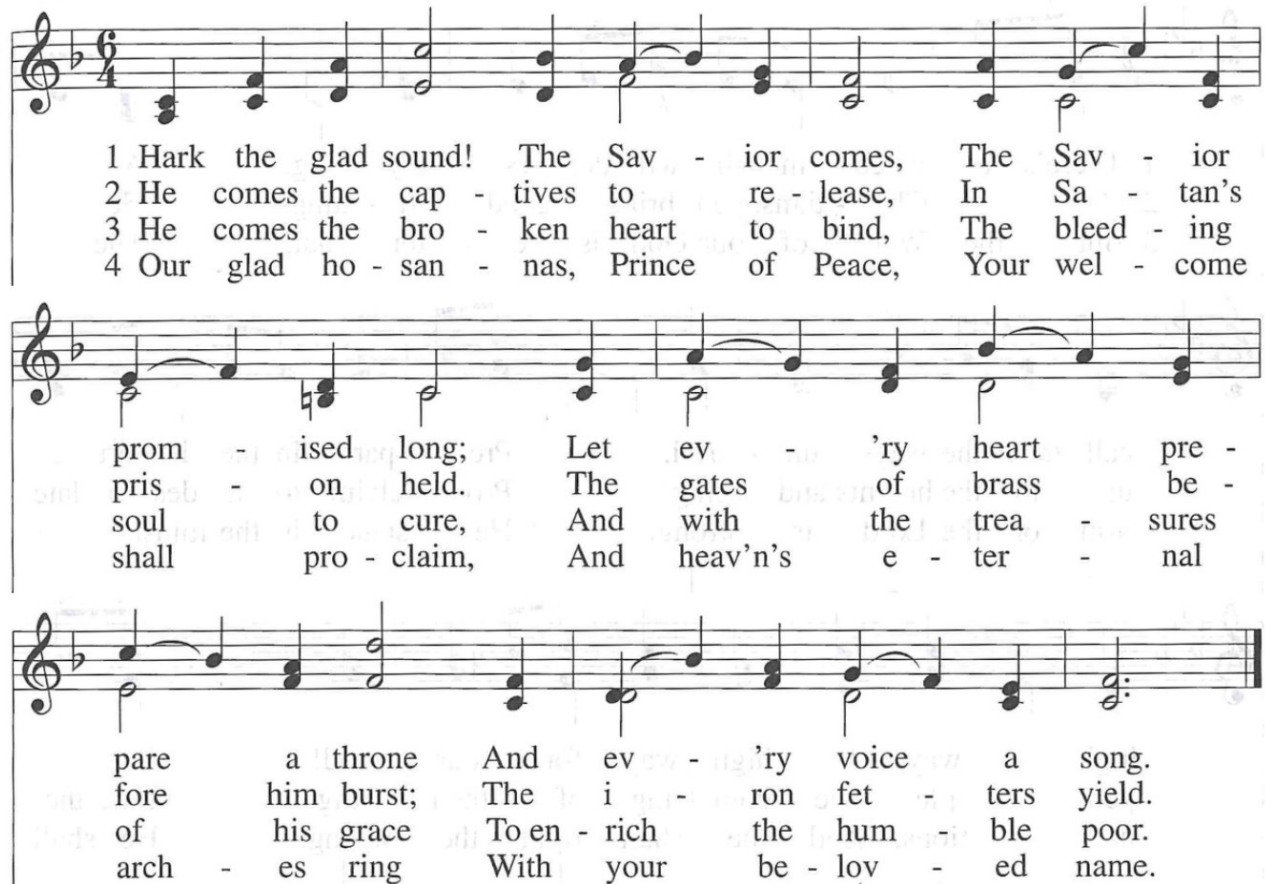
PLEASE STAND

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes”

CW 12

(Congregation and Children)



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior  
2 He comes the cap - tives to re - lease, In Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Your wel - come

prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
pris - on held. The gates of brass be -  
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.  
fore him burst; The i - ron fet - ters yield.  
of his grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring With your be - lov - ed name.

PLEASE BE SEATED

## INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his glory in the life to come; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

- C:** Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord a new song. A Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.
- N:** Sing to the LORD, praise his name;
- C:** Proclaim his salvation day after day.
- N:** Declare his glory among the nations,
- C:** His marvelous deeds among all peoples.
- N:** Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness;
- C:** Tremble before him, all the earth. Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord a new song. A Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.
- N:** Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;
- C:** Let the sea resound, and all that is in it;
- N:** Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them.
- C:** Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy,
- N:** For he comes to judge the world in righteousness
- C:** And the peoples in his truth. Glory 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. Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord a new song. A Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

### Part 1: Jesus is Born

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- N:** Luke 2 verses 1-7 tell us: In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to his own town to register.
- So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.
- While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

### CHORAL SELECTION BY THE CHILDREN

**“Sing Glory, Glory!”**

*Text by Gail Pawlitz © 2007 Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO  
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1. In a manger on the hay,  
Jesus lay on Christmas Day.  
Born as our Immanuel,  
He is God with us to dwell.

Sing glory, glory!  
Sing glory, glory! Sing glory, glory!  
God's Son has come to us.

- N: In Genesis 49 verse 10 Jacob prophesied, "The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom [tribute] belongs and the obedience of the nations is his." When the Jews came under Roman rule, the emperor planned a taxation based on an empire-wide census.
- N: God used this time to bring Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem, the home of their forefather David, to fulfill what Micah had prophesied: "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." Micah 5:2

## HYMN BY CHILDREN & HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' CHOIR

"Away in a Manger"  
CW 68

### Part 2: His Birth is Announced to the Shepherds

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#### RECITATION BY THE CHILDREN

Luke 2 verses 8-12 tells us: There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

#### CHORAL SELECTION BY THE CHILDREN

"Sing Glory, Glory!"

2. Shepherds with their flocks that night  
Saw an angel's glory bright.  
"Do not fear," he said to them.  
"A Savior's born in Bethlehem."

Sing glory, glory!  
Sing glory, glory! Sing glory, glory!  
God's Son has come to us.

- N: The birth of a child is reason to celebrate. Parents send out birth announcements. Friends and family eagerly look forward to getting a glimpse of the baby. And so it was with the birth of our Savior. God sent out a glorious birth announcement to shepherds who were guarding their sheep out in the countryside near the small town of Bethlehem.
- N: As with others who saw angels, these lowly shepherds were afraid when the angel appeared to them. But the angel assured them that what they were about to hear was good news. These faithful Jewish shepherds were the ones to whom God decided to proudly announce the birth of his one and only Son. But this message was not only for them. It was for all people of all times.
- N: The shepherds were to follow the directions of the angel so that they might have a glimpse of their newborn King. He was to be found in a manger, a feeding trough for animals. Certainly this was an unusual place for a child. But it was part of God's plan to help the shepherds know that they had found the Messiah. Yet how much more unusual and humble was this bed for the newborn King of all creation!

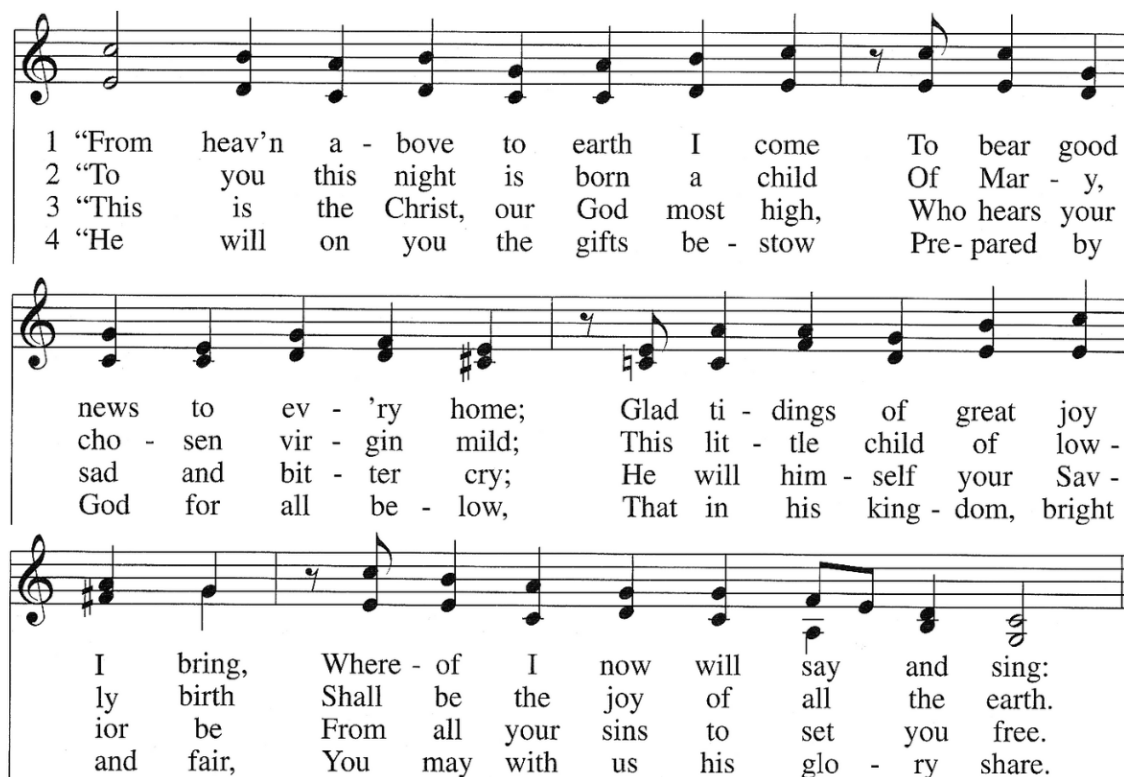
❖ CHRISTMAS DEVOTION ❖

PLEASE STAND

HYMN BY THE CONGREGATION

“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

CW 38 vs 1-5



1 “From heav’n a - bove to earth I come To bear good  
2 “To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,  
3 “This is the Christ, our God most high, Who hears your  
4 “He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by  
news to ev - ’ry home; Glad ti - dings of great joy  
cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of low -  
sad and bit - ter cry; He will him - self your Sav -  
God for all be - low, That in his king - dom, bright  
I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:  
ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.  
ior be From all your sins to set you free.  
and fair, You may with us his glo - ry share.

5 “These are the signs which you shall mark:  
The swaddling clothes and manger dark.  
There you will find the infant laid  
By whom the heav’ns and earth were made.”

PLEASE BE SEATED

Part 3: The Angels Sing of Jesus’ Glory

RECITATION BY THE CHILDREN

Luke 2 verses 13 through 14 proclaim: Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.”

CHORAL SELECTION BY THE CHILDREN

“Sing Glory, Glory!”

3. Then a heav’nly host appeared  
Praising God for all to hear!  
With this news the shepherds fled  
Quickly to the manger bed.

Sing glory, glory!  
Sing glory, glory! Sing glory, glory!  
God’s Son has come to us.

N: What a joy it must have been to hear the multitude of angels praising God! It must have been truly awesome. Someday believers will join the angels around the throne of God, singing his praises. Let us use our lives of worship here on this earth to practice for our perfect praise in heaven! To God be all glory!

## Part 4: The Shepherds See Jesus

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N: Luke 2 verses 15-20 reveal: When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

N: When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

### CHORAL SELECTION BY THE CHILDREN

**"Sing Glory, Glory!"**

4. There they saw the holy child  
Wrapped in cloths, so meek and mild.  
Joyfully the shepherds raced  
To spread this news in ev'ry place.

Sing glory, glory!  
Sing glory, glory! Sing glory, glory!  
God's Son has come to us.

N: The Jews had been waiting for the Messiah for thousands of years. So it is not surprising that the shepherds excitedly hurried to Bethlehem to search out the child. After seeing the child, they were so overcome with joy that they told all who would listen that the Messiah had been born. Everything that the angel had said was true, and they were witnesses to the fact. And so these shepherds were given the wonderful task of testifying to the truth that God had come to earth as a child born in Bethlehem.

### Youth Choir Hymn

**"Silent Night! Holy Night"**

CW60:1-3

N: Sleep in heavenly peace. What is heavenly peace? Not something we come by naturally. The Bible tells us in Psalm 51 verse 5: "Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me." From our very beginnings, our hearts, dark with sin, made us natural enemies of God. Paul says in Romans 5 verse 8, "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

N: Jesus washed us in his blood, which makes us as white as snow. In John's first letter, chapter 1 verse 7, we hear, "The blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin." Sin no longer separates us from God. We are at peace with God. Paul tells us in Romans 5 verse 1, "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." We live knowing our eternal peace awaits us in our heavenly home.

5. Jesus is God’s own dear Son  
 Sent from heav’n for ev’ryone.  
 Lived and died for you and me  
 So from sin we could be free.

Sing alleluia!  
 Sing alleluia! Sing alleluia!  
 The Savior has been born.

WORSHIPING THE LORD WITH OUR OFFERINGS

by Youth Ushers



*Members of Shepherd of the Hills respond to their Savior’s love with offerings that are given joyfully and freely according to how the Lord has blessed them. If you are a guest today, please know that there are no expectations for you to make a donation. If you wish to support us by making an online offering, scan the QR code here or visit our website: [www.duluth.lutheran.org](http://www.duluth.lutheran.org) and click on the “GIVE” tab.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL TONE CHIME CHOIR

“Silent Night! Holy Night”  
 CW 60

✠ PRAYERS ✠

PRAYER FOR PEACE

P: Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: 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.**

BLESSING

P: The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

“Joy to the World”  
 CW 62 (Children sing vs 1, Congregation sings vs 2 & 4)  
 Printed on the back of the insert.