



WYCKOFF

REFORMED CHURCH

WORSHIP GUIDE
DECEMBER 20, 2020

Thanks for joining us for worship! We're all spending too much time on screens and on Zoom lately, and it's easy to only half-heartedly engage. Do whatever you need to in order to show up fully. Maybe set up your space differently. Sit at your dining room table or arrange chairs in your living room. Maybe just take a moment to prepare yourself for worship.

If you have an advent wreath, have it near you and ready to light. This worship guide will lead you through the service and includes the words we will speak and sing together. The sections in bold will be read out loud together.

[Here is this week's Zoom link.](#) When you join us, you'll first enter a waiting room and then be let into the meeting where you can see everyone. If you arrive early, feel free to unmute and say hello to everyone. Once the service starts, we'll ask everyone to mute themselves so that everyone else can hear the leaders clearly. We encourage you to leave your camera on, if possible, so that we can see each other. We also encourage you to read and sing aloud, even if it feels weird to do so alone at home. Worship isn't something we watch others do; it's something we are called to offer to the King of the Universe: Jesus. We're so glad you've joined us!

GATHERED BY GOD

GATHERING SONG

"HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING"

WELCOME

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth, **Amen.**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

LIGHTING THE CANDLE

TITUS 2:11-14

"The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people. It educates us so that we can live sensible, ethical, and godly lives right now by rejecting ungodly lives and the desires of this world. At the same time we wait for the blessed hope and the glorious appearance of our great God and savior Jesus Christ. He gave himself for us in order to rescue us from every kind of lawless behavior, and cleanse a special people for himself who are eager to do good actions."

*SONG OF PRAISE

"ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH"

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

Refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?

Why your joyous strains prolong?

What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song?

Refrain

Come to Bethlehem and see

him whose birth the angels sing;

come, adore on bended knee

Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Refrain

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Grace incarnate, you beckon us to seek you always, to come and behold Emmanuel. You call us to leave behind the world's ideas of security, comfort, and success. This path is hard to choose and even harder to endure. Forgive us, God, for our heavy-laden feet and hesitant hearts. Bend our knees and grow in us an adoring heart as we await your coming. Like the shepherds, may our mouths and our deeds declare the glory of God. Glory to God in the highest!

PROMISE OF GRACE

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people. He gave himself for us in order to rescue us from every sin, and cleanse us that we might live for him and for the flourishing of the world.

OFFERING

We respond to the love and grace of Jesus by giving back our whole lives to God in worship. In this offering, we give our financial gifts as a symbol that all we have comes from God and is to be used for God's glory. Please continue to support us! To give your gift online visit www.wyckoffreformed.org/give.

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Him, all creatures here below

Praise Him, above ye heavenly host

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

LISTENING TO GOD

SCRIPTURE

LUKE 2:8-20

SERMON

"CHARACTERS OF CHRISTMAS: SHEPHERDS"

Rev. Andy Kadzban

RESPONDING TO GOD

*APOSTLES' CREED

We join our voices together with Christians throughout the ages and across the world to proclaim these words:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SONG OF RESPONSE

"GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN"

Refrain:

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light.

Refrain

The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth.

Refrain

Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SENT WITH GOD'S BLESSING

NUMBERS 6:24-26

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.
May the Lord lift up his presence to you and give you his peace,
Now and always, Amen.

POSTLUDE

"Angels We Have Heard On High" Words: Crown of Jesus Music, French, 18th c., Music: Edward Barnes, arrg, 1937,
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"Go, Tell It On the Mountain" Words and Music: African American spiritual, 19th c., Public Domain.