



# Let's Worship Christ, the Lord!

December 24, 2021—6:00 PM

Christmas Eve

A Hybrid Worship Experience In-Person and Online

Tonight's worship team—Music Director and soloist: Jayne McDonough.

Worship Leader: Barbara Cain. Message: Rev. Dr. Kevin Yoho.

Worship Production: Norris Clark.



## WELCOME! YOU ARE IN THE RIGHT PLACE!

We are delighted you have joined us tonight! We continue to monitor case counts and spread of Covid-19 in our county. Mask-wearing is required even for fully vaccinated worshippers. Let's be safe together! Thank you for maintaining alternate row seating and safe distancing between family groups. We provide hand sanitizer and masks.

## WORSHIP YOUR WAY!

**In-person:** We are ready for you in the Red Brick Church!

**Online:** [www.coldspringworship.com](http://www.coldspringworship.com)! Tip: Click the YouTube Subscribe button!

**Phone:** 929-205-6099. ID 882 3154 2428. Passcode 1714.

## WORSHIP PREVIEW

You can create new memories at Cold Spring Church, making this Christmas, and every Christmas to come, vitally different, better. How? Unwrap God's gift! Can you imagine a thriving Christmas, not merely surviving it?! This year, let's take all the best of Christmas' past and open our arms and spirits to new ways to receive God's gift of Christmas now? And what is that Gift ready to be opened this year? Jesus. Jesus is the Gift. The Gift that keeps on giving. It's Jesus moving into our neighborhood, now. Today. Sure, he was born in the past to Mary and Joseph among the animals in crowded Bethlehem. But it's (also) today that God is with us. Today, God can blossom afresh into our lives.

## MUSIC PREVIEW:

We will enjoy several Christmas carols that will lift your spirit! We begin with, *Joy to the World*, a forward looking carol, unlike all the others because it is about the second coming of Jesus. The poem was written in 1719 by Isaac Watts and discovered a century later by Boston music teacher Lowell Mason. It has become the most published Christmas Carol in America.

French shepherds had a Christmas Eve tradition of shouting “Gloria in excelsis Deo” to each other as they watched over their sheep flocks on their respective hills in France. That phrase is the chorus of *Angels We Have Heard on High*, possibly written as early as 129 AD and known as “The Angel’s Hymn” it became the first Christmas hymn of the Christian church.

*Away in a Manger* is an American written carol that originated among German Lutherans in Pennsylvania about 1885.

Composer Sally DeFord says she wrote “*When Mary Sang Her Lullaby*” because she loved the symbolism in using Mary’s lullaby as a symbol for the coming of Christ as the Babe of Bethlehem, who would indeed “comfort all the world”.

The lyrics to “*O Little Town of Bethlehem*” were written by Phillips Brooks in 1868 after visiting the town of Bethlehem on his trip to the Holy Land two years earlier. Since that time, this song has become a favorite for many people as they celebrate the Christmas season.

Our candlelighting will include singing of “*Silent Night*” first performed in German in 1818, with the young priest & lyric writer, Joseph Mohr on guitar and singing with Franz Gruber, the choir director who wrote the melody.

## 5-MINUTE COUNTDOWN VIDEO:

**PRELUDE** JAYNE McDONOUGH

**WELCOME:** REV. KEVIN YOHO

## MUSIC (VIDEO LYRICS): JOY TO THE WORLD

HYMNAL #40

1. 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

2. 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

3. 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 and wonders of His love

### **CALL TO WORSHIP (UNISON):**

**Welcome to a celebration like no other! Merry Christmas!  
Rejoice! God is here. Christ our Savior is born Hallelujah! AMEN.**

### **LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE:**

Tonight we light the Christ candle. Jesus is the Light of *the* world.  
Jesus is the Light of *our* world, right where we are! Can you see the  
Light? God is with us!

### **MUSIC (VIDEO LYRICS) - ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH**

HYMNAL #23

1. Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains  
Glo-ri-a In excelsis Deo  
Glo-ri-a In excelsis Deo

2. Shepherds why this jubilee  
Why your joyous strains prolong  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song

Glo-ri-a In excelsis Desi  
Glo-ri-a In excelsis Deo

3. Come to Bethlehem and see  
Christ whose birth the angels sing  
Come adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord the newborn King  
Glo-ri-a In excelsis Deo  
Glo-ri-a In excelsis Deo

4. See Him in a manger laid  
Whom the choirs of angels praise  
Mary Joseph lend your aid  
While our hearts in love we raise  
Glo-ri-a In excelsis Deo  
Glo-ri-a In excelsis Deo

#### **CALL TO RECONCILIATION:**

God loves you and nothing separates you from God's love. In a spirit of gratitude and honesty, let us pray together:

#### **PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS:**

**Loving God, forgive us our sins, hurting or neglecting others, missing opportunities to serve and share Christmas Joy. Help us turn around to live like Jesus, our Lord. Amen.**

#### **SILENT REFLECTION**

#### **HEAR THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God, we *are* forgiven! AMEN.**

#### **OUR CHRISTMAS GIFTS OF GRATITUDE:**

Thank you for your financial support! Your gift may be mailed, given online through [tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly), or visit our [giving page](#). If you'd prefer giving in-person, donation boxes are provided at both exit doors.

#### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (UNISON):**

**God of Surprising Love and Hope, at the end of the Advent road, we look on the Child born to our world. Open our hearts tonight**

**to Hear the story like it's the first time; Feel the story in a fresh way; Touch the story so we can carry its hope to all we meet. As we hear Good News proclaimed, keep our hearts and minds open to Christmas Joy as we learn, grow, and serve. AMEN.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: ISAIAH 9:2, 6-7 (NIV)**

The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.  
For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
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.  
The zeal of the Lord Almighty  
will accomplish this.

**CAROL: AWAY IN A MANGER: (PIANO)**

HYMNAL #25

1. Away in a manger no crib for a 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

2. The cattle are lowing the Baby awakes  
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes  
I love Thee Lord Jesus look down from the sky  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh

3. Be near me Lord Jesus I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me I pray  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care  
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there

**MESSAGE FOR KIDS: WHAT'S NOT UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE**  
**PRAYER FOR FAMILIES**

**MUSIC, SOLO - WHEN MARY SANG HER LULLABY** JAYNE McDONOUGH

**GOSPEL READING: LUKE 2:1-20** (MSG)

About that time Caesar Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Empire. This was the first census when Quirinius was governor of Syria. Everyone had to travel to his own ancestral hometown to be accounted for. So Joseph went from the Galilean town of Nazareth up to Bethlehem in Judah, David's town, for the census. As a descendant of David, he had to go there. He went with Mary, his fiancée, who was pregnant.

While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. She gave birth to a son, her firstborn. She wrapped him in a blanket and laid him in a manger, because there was no room in the inn.

There were shepherders camping in the neighborhood. They had set night watches over their sheep. Suddenly, God's angel stood among them and God's glory blazed around them. They were terrified. The angel said, "Don't be afraid. I'm here to announce a great and joyful event that is meant for everybody, worldwide: A Savior has just been born in David's town, a Savior who is Messiah and Master. This is what you're to look for: a baby wrapped in a blanket and lying in a manger." At once the angel was joined by a huge angelic choir singing God's praises:

*Glory to God in the heavenly heights,  
Peace to all men and women on earth who please him.*

As the angel choir withdrew into heaven, the shepherders talked it over. "Let's get over to Bethlehem as fast as we can and see for ourselves what God has revealed to us." They left, running, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. Seeing was believing. They told everyone they met what the angels had said about this child. All who heard the shepherders were impressed. Mary kept all these things to herself, holding them dear, deep within herself. The shepherders returned and let loose, glorifying and praising God for everything they had heard and seen. It turned out exactly the way they'd been told!

**CAROL: O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM - (ORGAN)**

HYMNAL #44

1. 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

2. For Christ is born of Mary  
And gathered all above  
While mortals sleep the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love  
O morning stars together  
Proclaim the holy birth  
And praises sing to God the King  
And peace upon the earth

3. How silently how silently  
The wondrous gift is giv'n  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heav'n

No ear may hear His coming  
But in this world of sin  
Where meek souls will receive Him still  
The dear Christ enters in

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem  
Descend to us we pray  
Cast out our sin and enter in  
Be born in us today  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell  
O come to us abide with us  
Our Lord Emmanuel

### MESSAGE— UNWRAPPING GOD'S AMAZING GIFT!



REV. KEVIN YOHO

*"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..."*

### PRAYER AND SILENT REFLECTION

## CAROL: SILENT NIGHT

HYMNAL #60

1. 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  
Sleep in heavenly peace

2. Silent night holy night  
Shepherds quake at the sight  
Glories stream from heaven afar  
Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia  
Christ the Savior is born  
Christ the Savior is born

3. 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  
Jesus Lord at Thy birth

## FRESH EXPRESSION OF COMMUNITY

Once we were in darkness, **Now we have the Light of Jesus!**  
Once we were strangers, **Now we share the Light with neighbors.**  
Once we were strangers, **Now we are friends.**

**BENEDICTION:** REV. KEVIN YOHO

**POSTLUDE:** JAYNE McDONOUGH

## MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!

God is here, with us, and goes with us into our new year. Make 2022 your year for possibilities. Join us online or in-person for our energizing worship experience, every Sunday at 10:30 AM, or anytime at [www.coldspringworship.com](http://www.coldspringworship.com). Thank you for being with us! Remember, God is with you always!

Thank you for sharing your Christmas Joy with friends and family,  
and your Youtube, Facebook and Instagram friends, too!

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### Notes for Tonight's Worship:

Cold Spring Presbyterian Church

CCLI License #20561018

Streaming License #20561001

1. (01) Worship Music Countdown CCLI #4662491
2. (02) Joy to the World: text-Isaac Watts, Music-George Frederick Handel;  
CCLI # 24016
3. (03) Angels We Have Heard on High: text-French Carol, trans. James  
Chadwick 1860, Music-arr. Edward Barnes 1937; CCLI #3196504
4. (04) Away in a Manger: text-Little Children's Book for Schools and Families  
1885, Music-James R. Murray 1887; CCLI #322031
5. (05) When Mary Sang Her Lullaby - Sally DeFord
6. (06) O Little Town of Bethlehem: text-Phillips Brooks, Music-Lewis Redner;  
CCLI #1741697
7. (07) Silent Night: text-Joseph Mohr, music-Franz Gruber; CCLI #27862