

St. James Worship Service



4th Sunday of Advent

Children's Christmas Pageant

December 21, 2025

Serving Today

Minister

Pastor Don Knowles

Organist/Pianist

Dr. John Hildreth

Guitarist

Rhea Frank-Cottingham

Worship Assistant

Stacy Miles

Pageant Director

Bethany Weipert

Narrator

Lillian Loete

Video

Mike Olinski

Today's Music

242	<i>Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn</i>	
283	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	1-2
279	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	1
	<i>We Three Kings of Orient Are</i>	1-2
267	<i>Joy to the World</i>	1-4
275	<i>Angels, From the Realms of Glory</i>	

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242

***Awake! Awake, and Greet
the New Morn***

**1. Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn,
for angels herald its dawning.
Sing out your joy, for soon he is born,
behold! the Child of our longing.**

**Come as a baby weak and poor,
to bring all hearts together,
he opens wide the heav'nly door
and lives now inside us forever.**

**2. To us, to all in sorrow and fear,
Emmanuel comes a-singing,
his humble song is quiet and near,
yet fills the earth with its ringing;**

**music to heal the broken soul
and hymns of lovingkindness,
the thunder of his anthems roll
to shatter all hatred and blindness.**

**3. In darkest night his coming shall be,
when all the world is despairing,
as morning light so quiet and free,
so warm and gentle and caring.**

**Then shall the mute break forth in song,
the lame shall leap in wonder,
the weak be raised above the strong,
and weapons be broken asunder.**

**4. Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night,
though dark the winter and cheerless,
the rising sun shall crown you with light,
be strong and loving and fearless.**

**Love be our song and love our prayer
and love our endless story;
may God fill ev'ry day we share
and bring us at last into glory.**

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

The First Christmas

A Children's Christmas Pageant
by
Louise Egan

Retold by
Lillian Loete

Cast

In order of appearance

Narrator.....Lillian Loete
Mary.....Leah Vandygriff
Joseph.....Violet McGinnis
Baby Jesus.....doll
Gabriel.....Myla Vandygriff
Caesar.....Lillian McGinnis
Inn Keeper.....Lillian McGinnis
Animals

Forrest Weipert
Madden McGinnis
June McGinnis

Shepherd.....Meadow Weipert
Magi 1.....Bailie Vandygriff
Magi 2.....Katie Loete
Magi 3.....Miranda McGinnis

Director.....Bethany Weipert
Organist/Pianist.....Dr. John Hildreth
Guitarist.....Rhea Frank-Cottingham

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283

O Come, All Ye Faithful

**1. 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:**

Refrain

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord!

**2. The highest, most holy,
light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father
now in flesh appearing!**

Refrain

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him,

Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786;
tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4

279

O Little Town of Bethlehem

**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.**

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893

646

(With One Voice)

We Three Kings of Orient Are

**1. We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.**

Refrain

**Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!**

**2. Born a king on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again;
king forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign.**

Refrain

**Oh, star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!**

Text: John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1820-1891, alt.

267

Joy to the World

**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. No more let sin and sorrow grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessing flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.**

**4. 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.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

275

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

**1. Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creations's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.**

**2. Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.**

**3. Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations,
you have seen his natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.**

**4. All creation, join in praising
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.**

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3;
Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, st. 4

Go in peace. Keep Awake.

Thanks be to God.

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