



## Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 9:2-7 The people rejoice at the end of their oppression, for a child of the line of David has been born, who will be the Messiah.  
 Psalm 96 The psalmist praises God for God's works of salvation, creation, and coming judgment.  
 Titus 2:11-14 The coming of Christ and gift of God's grace change how we live our lives in the world.  
 Luke 2:1-14 (15-20) Angels announce Jesus' birth to shepherds, who hurry to see him.

## Call to Worship

Come, all peoples of the earth and rejoice.  
**Let us come to Bethlehem and see what God is doing.**  
 Come, friends of God, and be amazed.  
**Let us come to the stable and see where God dwells.**  
 Come, all who have despaired of God's presence.  
**Let us come to the manger and see that God is alive among us.**  
 Come, all who have known darkness.  
**Let us come to the Christ Child, and see the light of the world.**

## Hymns for the Day

	PH	EH	ELW	UMH	NCH	VU	STF	SNC	TFBF	HFTG
<b>Hymns of Praise</b>										
Before the Marvel of this Night						40				
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing	31	87	270	240	144	48			59	
O Little Town of Bethlehem	41, 42	78, 79	279	230	133	64				
<b>Old Testament</b>										
Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light	26	91		223	140	83				
The Race that Long in Darkness Pined		125, 126				879				
It Came Upon a Midnight Clear	38	89, 90	282	218	131	44				
<b>Epistle</b>										
Joy to the World	40	100	267	246	132	59				
From Heaven Above to Earth I Come	54	80	268		130	72				
All My Heart Today Rejoices	21		273							
<b>Gospel</b>										
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice	28	107	288	224	129	35				
The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy				234		73			53	
While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks	58, 59	94, 95		236		75				
Love Has Come			292							
One Holy Night in Bethlehem							2097			
Love Came Down at Christmas		84		242	165					
<b>Communion</b>										
O Come, All Ye Faithful	41, 42	83	283	234	135	60				
Silent Night	60	111	281	239	134	67				
<b>Sending</b>										
The First Nowell	56	109	300	245	139	91				
Infant Holy, Infant Lowly	37		276	229		58				
Born in the Night, Mary's Child	30					95				
<b>Important Hymns from Other Sources</b>										
Where Nights Are Torn by Sirens Wail, Herman Steumpfle, <i>Redeeming the Time</i>										

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## Prayer of Confession

**On this night, O God—on this night we confess that we do not want to confess.**  
**We do not want to examine our hearts before you and admit to the dark places.**  
**We want you to warm us in candlelight, carols and communion.**  
**We desire soft light tonight; not the blinding shining of your glory that terrified the shepherds.**  
**We cannot stand in that light.**  
**God among us, forgive us.**  
**Help us hear your angel saying, "Do not be afraid."**  
**Flood our hearts with the light that drives out all our darknesses.**  
**Straighten our backs and loose our timid tongues that we might sing, "Glory!"**

## Psalm Settings

**Psalm 96 Metrical**  
 "Bring to God your New, Best Songs" TP 96  
 "Sing to the Lord New Songs of Praise" NMP 158  
**Responsorial**  
 "O sing a New Song to the Lord" P 92  
 "Proclaim the Glory of the Lord" PP2 76  
 "Sing to the Lord" TPP 96

## Contemporary Songs

"Child of Mercy" David Haas *Gather Comprehensive*  
 "The People Who Walk in the Darkness" Timothy Valentine GIA, G-4818  
 "All the Ends of the Earth" David Haas/Marty Haugen *Gather Comprehensive*  
 "God's Love Made Visible" Iola Brubeck/Dave Brubeck *Lift Up Your Hearts*  
 "Poor Folk Hear Him Gladly" Jessie Nyagondwe/John Bell *God Comes Tomorrow*  
 "Star Child" Shirley Erena Murray/Carlton Young *Sing the Faith*  
 "Star-Child" Shirley Erena Murray/David Haas GIA, G-5206; *Gather Comprehensive*  
 "Funny Kind of Night" John Bell *Innkeepers and Light Sleepers*

"Warm the Time of Winter" Ruth Duck/Lori True  
*Gather Comprehensive*

## Global Songs

"Pastores a Belén" (Puerto Rico) NCH 149  
 "Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child" SNC 108  
 "Tonight, We See the Light of the World" (Indonesia) STB 136  
 "Child of Joy and Peace (Hunger Carol)" (New Zealand/Taiwan) STB 144

## Anthems for Larger Choirs

"Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light" J. S. Bach, NOV 29.0309.01, SATB  
 "Cantate Domino" David Ashley White, PAR 13 9605, SATB  
 "Before the Marvel of this Night" Carl Schalk AUG 0800646037, SATB  
 "Silent Night" Norman Dello Joio, HLC 00007902, SATB, piano 4-hand

## Anthems for Smaller/Youth Choirs

"Jesus Is Born Tonight" Schalk, Con. (98-3940), SATB, organ  
 "The People Who Walked in Darkness" Cool, Aug, SAB, keyboard, opt. HB  
 "Three French Carols" Moore, Brilee, 3-part mixed, opt. baritone solo  
 "What Comes?" "Glory to God" and "Let Us See This Child, This King" from *This Child, This King*, Gawthrop, Dunstan House, SATB, soprano and tenor soloists, organ, harp, timpani

## Anthems for Children's Choirs

"Light the Candle" Carl Schalk, MSM 50-0006  
 "Manger Carol" Arr. Leo Sowerby, HWG 2419  
 "On Christmas Night All Christians Sing" Arr. Robert J. Powell, flute, CPH 98-2106

## Handbell Music

"Mary Had a Baby," Arr. by John A. Behnke, Red River Music, BL5012, 3-5 oct. with opt. conga drum, L3

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# Lectionary Aids, *Continued*

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“On That Wondrous Silent Night” Dan R. Edwards,  
National Music, NMHB-592, 3 oct., L2

“In Dulci Jubilo” Arr. Anna Laura Page, CG,  
CGB198, 3, 4 or 5 oct. with opt. hand chimes  
3 oct., L2+

“Carol-Prelude on Greensleeves” Searle Wright,  
HWG: St. Cecilia (M)

“La Nativite” from *Poemes Evangeliques*, Jean Langlais (D)

“Christmas Cradle Song” Alfred Hollins, BMP (M)

### Organ Music

“Weihnachten” Max Reger, *Organ Music for the  
Christmas Season*, DP (M-D)

“Il et ne le divin enfant” Henri Busser, *Deux Pieces  
sur des Noels populaires*, Op. 82, MMP (M+)