

Order for the Public Worship of God
December 13, 2020
3rd Sunday of Advent
11:00 AM Worship Service

WE COME TO WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY

“Celtic Magnificat”

Larry Shackley

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rory Cooney

*My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
My heart shall sing of the day you bring, let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.*

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Stephanie Carson, Soloist

PRAYER OF THE DAY

HYMN #108

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

(stanzas 1,2,3,6)

**Of the Father’s love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega; he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!**

**By the Word was all created; he commanded; it was done:
heaven and earth and depths of ocean, universe of three in one,
all that sees the moon’s soft shining, all that breathes beneath the sun,
evermore and evermore!**

**O, that birth forever blessed when the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race,
and the babe, the world’s Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!**

**Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be.
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,
evermore, and evermore! Amen.**

THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

Lighting the Candle, Terry & Elizabeth Curkan

The reader offers words about the candle of joy.

RESPONSE

Reader:and so we offer this mysterious prayer:

All: **Lord Jesus, into our darkness, quickly come.**

All singing: **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Together*)

Holy God, we confess how hard it is to continually wear masks, to avoid public gatherings, to spend so much time watching screens. We are losing patience and we want to celebrate faith together. We're caught between the selfishness of wanting to do whatever we want and wanting to protect those most at risk among our family and friends. Help us when we do not understand the way forward. Remind us daily that there is light at the end of the tunnel. Help us in these strange days. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

CAROL

**True freedom comes when we commit our lives to God's intent.
When we are oaks of righteousness, prepared and confident.
When wrong no longer reigns within, and selfish pride is gone,
We reap the joy of lives in tune with God's approaching dawn.**

From *Led by Love* by Lavon Bayler

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DUET

"Mary, Did You Know?"
Stephanie Carson & Mark Johnston

arr. Bruce Inman

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE 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.

CALL TO OFFERING

HYMN #100

"My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout"
(Canticle of the Turning)

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

Refrain after stanzas 1 & 4 only

**My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servants plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?**

***Refrain:* My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe all the tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.**

**Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.**

**From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread; every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.**

**Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forbears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.**

Refrain

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 11:1-2; Luke 1:46b-55 (NRSV)

SERMON

Advent Series: The World Is Not Yet Finished
#3 “Turning Towards Joy”
Chris Curvin, Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

HYMN #129

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

ES IST EIN’ ROS’

**Lo, how a rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse’s lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung.
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.**

**Isaiah ‘twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God’s love aright she bore for us a Savior,
when half spent was the night.**

**This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
Enfleshed, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us
and lightens every load.**

BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Fantasia on ‘I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light’”

John Behnke

Stephanie Carson, Music Director
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director

Of the Father's Love Begotten 108



1 Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be - gan
 2 By his Word was all cre - at - ed; he com-mand-ed; it
 3 O, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed when the Vir - gin, full
 4 This is he whom seers in old time chant-ed of with one
 5 O ye heights of heaven, a - dore him. An - gel hosts, his prais -
 6 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost,



to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga; he the
 was done: heaven and earth and depths of o - cean, u - ni -
 of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the
 ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets prom - ised
 es sing. Powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him, and ex -
 to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing and un -



source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that
 verse of three in one, all that sees the moon's soft
 Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's Re -
 in their faith - ful word. Now he shines, the long - ex -
 tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 wea - ried prais - es be. Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,
 shin - ing, all that breathes be - neath the sun,
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,
 pect - ed. Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord,
 si - lent; ev - ery voice in con - cert ring,
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry,

(after stanza 6)



ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

Seldom has the wonder of the Incarnation been expressed so beautifully as in this text, created in the era when the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds were being codified and mindful of similar theological affirmations. It is set here to a plainchant melody from the late Middle Ages.

100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



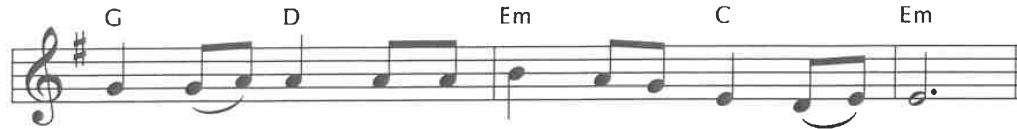
You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be

By employing an energetic Irish folk song for its melody, this ballad-like paraphrase of the *Magnificat*, Mary's song at her meeting with her relative Elizabeth (Luke 1:46-55), recaptures both the wonder and the faith of the young woman who first recognized what God was doing.

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

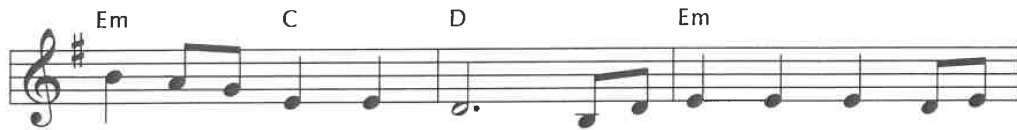


name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

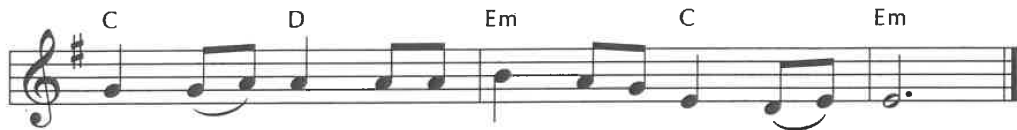
Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming 129

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung,
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I have in mind;
 3 This flower, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the air,

of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing, by faith - ful proph - ets sung.
 with Mar - y we be - hold it, the vir - gin moth - er kind.
 dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the dark-ness ev - ery-where.

It came, a flower - et bright, a - mid the cold of
 To show God's love a - right she bore for us a
 En - fleshed, yet ver - y God, from sin and death he

win - ter, when half spent was the night.
 Sav - ior, when half spent was the night.
 saves us and light - ens ev - ery load.

Although the early copies of this 15th-century German text include many more stanzas than are printed here, this simpler, shorter form has much to commend it. This early 17th-century harmonization of the traditional chorale melody invites and rewards singing in parts.

TEXT: German carol; stanzas 1, 2 trans. Theodore Baker, 1894, alt.; stanza 3 trans. Harriet Knuth Spaeth, 1985, alt.
 MUSIC: *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1599; arr. Michael Praetorius, 1609

ES IST EIN' ROS'
 7.6.7.6.6.7.6