

### Welcome and Announcements

**Opening Song**  
**"Once In Royal David's City"**  
See next page for lyrics

### Opening Prayer

**One:** Glory to God in highest heaven. And on earth peace for those on whom God's favor rests.  
**All:** **In the tender compassion of our God, the morning sun has risen upon us who lived in darkness.**  
**One:** The Word has become flesh, has come to dwell among us, and we have seen that glory.  
**All:** **Glory as of the only Child of the Creator, full of grace and truth.**  
**One:** To us a child is born, to us a Son is given. Alleluia.  
**All:** **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia. Amen!**

### First Reading Isaiah 52:7-10

See next page for reading

Join us in singing:  
"O Little Town Of Bethlehem"  
See next page for lyrics

### Scripture Reading John 1: 1-14

See next page for reading

### Preparing Our Hearts For Worship

### Special Music

**Sermon**  
**"Surprisingly Sacred"**  
Rev. Dr. Nancy Wilson

**Song of Reflection**  
**"Fum, Fum, Fum"**  
Featuring Park Showalter

### Prayers of the People (Join us in signing when instructed)

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Your name is called Emmanuel.  
God with us, revealed in us, Your name is called Emmanuel.

### Lord's Prayer

(Join us in signing when instructed)  
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, Your name is called Emmanuel.  
God with us, revealed in us, Your name is called Emmanuel.

### Offering /Offertory

### Doxology

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow;  
Praise God, All Creatures Here Below;  
Praise God All Heavens And The Earth Reflecting The Sacred Story.

This, This Is Christ The One, Who Mirrors Hope For All Of Us.  
Haste, Haste Your Praise To Bring, The Word Of Time Eternal.

### Communion and Anointing

The Great Thanksgiving  
The Holy One be with you  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts  
**We lift them up to our God.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### Join us in singing

Gloria . . . .In Excelsis Deo  
Gloria. . . . . In Excelsis Deo!

### Words of Institution

Celebrant: And so, this morning, with hope, peace and joy as your people, we proclaim together that...

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!**

### COMMUNION SONG

**Join us in singing**  
Gloria . . . .In Excelsis Deo  
Gloria. . . . . In Excelsis Deo!

**Closing Song**  
**"Deck The Halls"**  
See next page for lyrics

### Benediction

### Lyrics

#### “Once In Royal David’s City”

Once In Royal David’s City Stood A Lowly Cattle Shed,  
Where A Mother Laid Her Baby In A Manger For His Bed:  
Mary Was That Mother Mild, Jesus Christ Her Little Child.

Christ Came Down To Earth From Heaven, Love Incarnate For Us All,  
And His Shelter Was A Stable, And His Cradle Was A Stall;  
With The Poor, The Scorned, The Lowly, Lived On Earth Our Savior Holy.

Jesus Is Our Childhood’s Pattern; Day By Day Like Us He Grew,  
He Was Little, Weak, And Helpless, Tears And Smiles Like Us He Knew.  
Thus He Feels For All Our Sadness, And He Shares In All Our Gladness.

And Our Eyes At Last Shall See Him, Through His Own Redeeming Love;  
For That Child Who Seemed So Helpless Lives And Reigns in Heaven Above;  
And He Leads His Children On To The Place Where He Is Gone.

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#### “O Little Town Of Bethlehem”

O Little Town Of Bethlehem,  
How Still We See You Lie!  
Above Your Deep And Dreamless Sleep  
The Silent Stars Go By.  
Yet In Your Dark Streets Shine  
The Everlasting Light;  
The Hopes And Fears Of All The Years  
Are Met In You Tonight.

Where Children Pure And Happy Pray  
To The Blessed Child,  
Where Misery Cries Out To You,  
Son Of The Mother Mild;  
Where Charity Stands Watching  
And Faith Holds Wide The Door,  
The Dark Night Wakes, The Glory Breaks,  
And Christmas Comes Once More.

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#### “Deck The Halls”

Deck The Hall With Boughs Of Holly, Fa La La La La, La La La La.  
’Tis The Season To Be Jolly, Fa La La La La, La La La La.  
Don We Now Our Gay Apparel, Fa La La La La, La La La La.  
Troll The Ancient Yuletide Carol, Fa La La La La, La La La La.

See The Blazing Yule Before Us, Fa La La La La, La La La La.  
Strike The Harp And Join The Chorus, Fa La La La La, La La La La.  
Follow Me In Merry Measure, Fa La La La La, La La La La.  
While I Tell Of Yuletide Treasure, Fa La La La La, La La La La.

Fast Away The Old Year Passes, Fa La La La La, La La La La.  
Hail The New, Ye Lads And Lasses, Fa La La La La, La La La La.  
Sing We Joyous All Together, Fa La La La La, La La La La.  
Heedless Of The Wind And Weather, Fa La La La La, La La La La.

### First Reading Isaiah 52:7-10

In the early church, Sunday was known as the “day of light.” And so it is special when Christmas falls on a Sunday, as it does in today. As light dawns on this morning, as children scramble to the tree to see what has appeared, we remember that the sacred comes in the form of surprise sometimes, just as it did when light and life came to us in a baby in a humble stable. Can we dare to believe that we can know a surprising calm, even in the midst of anxiety because of the in-breaking of this Prince of Peace upon our lives?

Hear this reading from the Prophet Isaiah, chapter 52  
How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news, who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices together they shout for joy,  
for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.

Break forth; shout together for joy, you ruins of Jerusalem,  
for the God has comforted the people; God has redeemed Jerusalem.

The Eternal One has bared their holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**RESPONSE:** Thanks be to God!

### Second Reading John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The Word was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through the Word, and without the Word, not one thing came into being. What has come into being was life, and that life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. Christ, the Word, was in the world, and the world came into being through the Word, yet the world did not know or understand. Jesus came to what was his own, and but his own did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in Jesus’ name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of humanity, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have beheld that glory, the glory as of a parent’s only child, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ!

**RESPONSE:** Thanks be to God.