

Greenwood Forest Baptist Church



Greenwood ForestBaptist Church

December 24, 2020

CHRISTMAS

Contents:

Children's Christmas Eve	2
Children's Coloring Pages	7
Candlelight Christmas Eve (8pm)1	L1
For the Candlelight Christmas Eve (8pm), you will want to)
bring elements for communion (bread and wine) and a	
candle to light during Silent Night.	

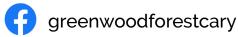
Welcome to Greenwood Forest!

We are so glad you've chosen to join us this week. Greenwood Forest Baptist Church is an inclusive community of faith, which means we welcome, affirm, and include all God's people in their diversity of genders, sexual orientations, races, ethnicities, ages, abilities, and backgrounds. We are each beloved by God and we are happy to welcome you to our church exactly as you are.

an inclusive community of faith

Connect with us

gfbccary.org







Children's Christmas Eve

Prelude

O Little Town of Bethlehem performed by Hannah Meador

arr. Hayes

Opening Hymn (vv. 1 & 3)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

(see page 3)

Welcome Rev. Lauren Efird

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**

Call to Worship

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

Leader: The world was once in darkness;

People: Now we have God's light—Jesus—to shine on us!

Leader: The words and promises of God are all true!

People: God has given us the best gift of all!

Leader: Rejoice! God is with us!

People: Praise be to God!

Invocation Rev. Dr. Stacks

Anthem The Friendly Beasts Sufjan Stevens

Jesus our brother, strong and good Was humbly born in a stable rude And the friendly beasts around him stood Jesus our brother, strong and good.

"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown, "I carried his mother up hill and down; I carried his mother to Bethlehem town." "I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown.

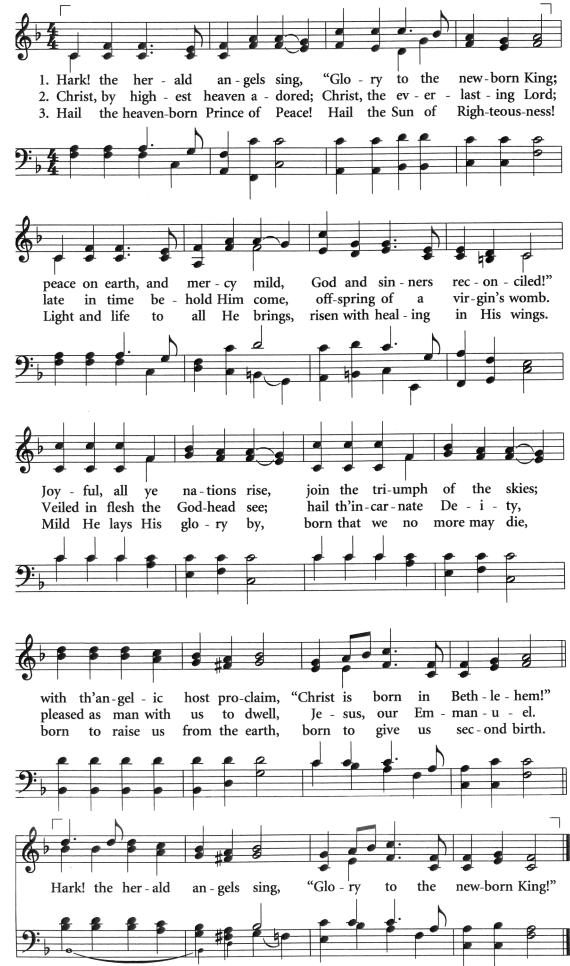
"I," said the cow, all white and red "I gave him my manger for his bed; I gave him my hay to pillow his head." "I," said the cow, all white and red. "I," said the sheep with curly horn,
"I gave him my wool for his blanket warm;
He wore my coat on Christmas morn."

"I," said the sheep with curly horn.

"I," said the dove from the rafters high,
"I cooed him to sleep so that he would not cry;
We cooed him to sleep, my mate and I."

"I," said the dove from the rafters high.

Thus every beast by some good spell In the stable dark was glad to tell Of the gift he gave Emmanuel, The gift he gave Emmanuel.



Reflection on the Stable and the Animals

Luke Perrin

Reflection on the Angel and Joseph

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

Reflection on Mary

Rev. Efird

Hymn (vv. 1 &2)

Go Tell It On the Mountain

(see page 5)

Reflection on the Christ Child

Rev. Dr. Stacks

Reflection on the Shepherds

Luke Perrin

Reflection on the Magi

Rev. Spears-Newsome

Closing Prayer

Rev. Efird

Closing Hymn

Silent Night, Holy Night

(see page 6)

Benediction

Rev. Efird

Postlude

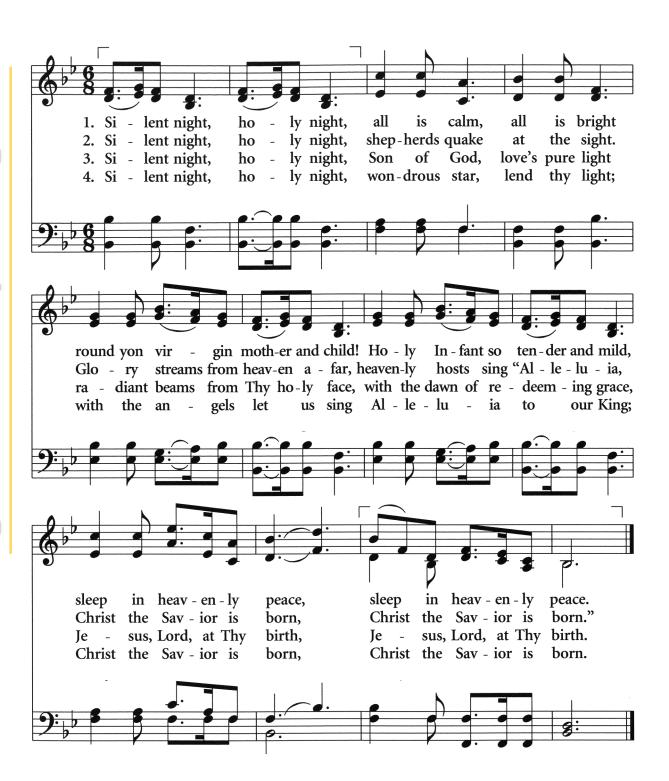
Lullay, Thou Little Tiny Child

arr. Davis

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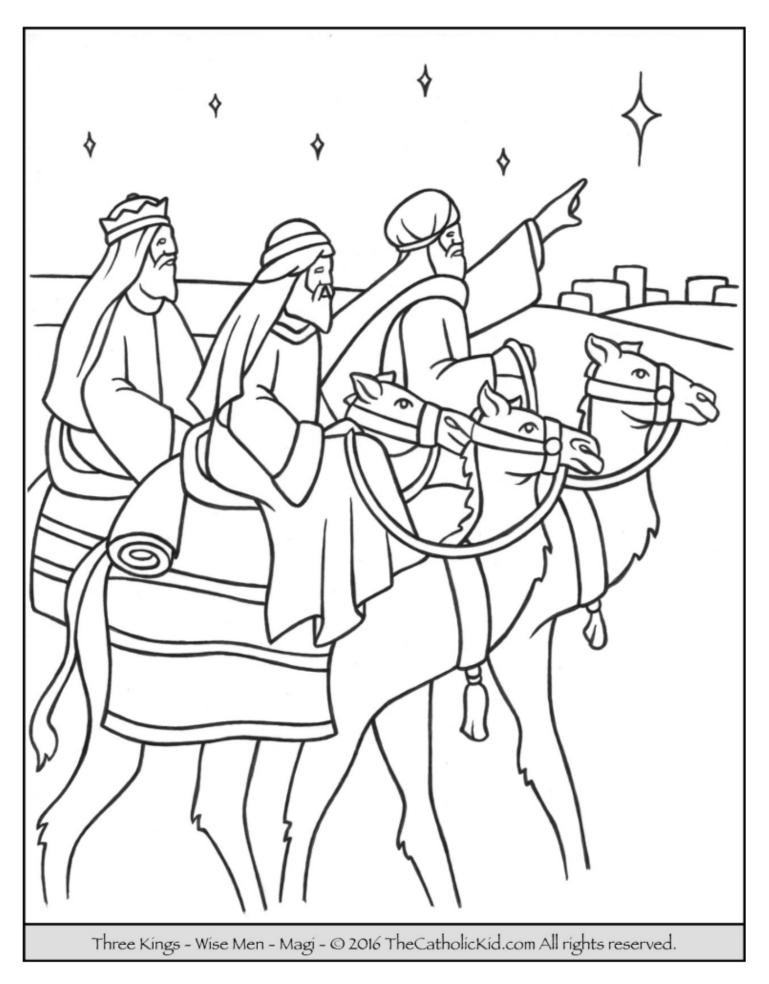


Christmas Coloring Pages











Candlelight Christmas Eve | 8pm

For this service, you will want to bring elements for communion (bread and cup) and a candle to light during Silent Night.

Prelude O Little Town of Bethelehem arr. Hayes

performed by Hannah Meador

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Chiming of the Hour

Gathering Hymn Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

(see page 12)

Rev. Lauren Efird Welcome to Worship

Leader: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you.

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship (Isaiah 9:2-7)

Rev. Dr. Stephen Stacks

Leader: The people who walked in darkness People: Have seen a great light!

Leader: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness,

People: On them, light has shined!

Leader: You have multiplied the nation,

People: You have increased its joy;

Leader: They rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,

People: As people exult when dividing plunder.

Leader: For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,

People: The rod of their oppressor,

you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Leader: For all the boots of the tramping warriors

and all the garments rolled in blood

People: Shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

Leader: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;

People: Authority rests upon his shoulders;

Leader: and he is named Wonderful Counselor.

People: Mighty God, continued ->



Leader: Everlasting Father, **People: Prince of Peace!**

Leader: His authority shall grow continually,

People: And there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom.

Leader: He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness

People: From this time onward and forevermore.

Invocation Rev. Dr. Stacks

Hymn O Holy Night

(see page 15)

Offertory Prayer Leta Huntsinger

Presentation of the Offering

CRANHAM

As our offering is presented back to God, we will sing the following doxology:

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man, I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give him; give him my heart.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Wesley Spears-Newsome

We affirm each prayer with the following response:

Leader: Lord, in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

We conclude the Prayers of the People with 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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-20

Rev. Dr. Stacks

Anthem

Thou Who Wast Rich

Ordinary Time

Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor,
All for love's sake becamest poor;
Thrones for a manger didst surrender,
Sapphire-paved courts for stable floor.
Thou who wast rich beyond all splendor,
All for love's sake becomes poor.

Thou who art God beyond all praising, All for love's sake becamest man; Stooping so low, but sinners raising Heavenwards by thine eternal plan. Thou who art God beyond all praising, All for love's sake becamest man.

Thou who art love beyond all telling,
Savior and King, we worship thee.
Emmanuel, within us dwelling,
Make us what thou wouldst have us be.
Thou who art love beyond all telling,
Savior and King, we worship thee.

Homily Silent Night? Rev. Efird

Celebration of Communion

Rev. Efird

Prayer of Confession

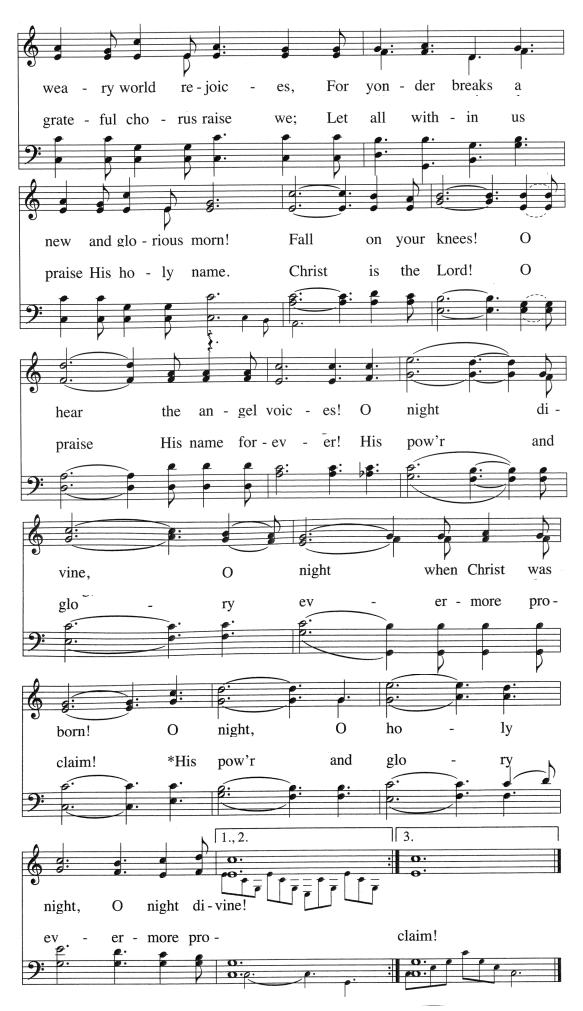
Merciful God, we confess that we have not always loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be obedient disciples. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we've not loved our neighbors, and we've not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us for what we have done and for what we've left undone, and free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mystery of Faith

Leader: Together we proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.





Hymn

Silent Night, Holy Night



Benediction Rev. Efird

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