## Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church



**CHRISTMAS EVE 2025** 

Merry Christmas and welcome! We invite you to worship with us often, and ask if you need any assistance! If you are visiting us today, please sign the Guest Register in the Narthex, please include your address and phone number. Please place your offering envelope in the plate in the Narthex. Thank You!

**Today we share in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.** We invite everyone to the Lord's table who recognizes Christ's presence in His holy sacrament. We will be communing using the continuous method today. When the time comes, the ushers will direct you forward-simply receive the bread from the Pastor and move to the side to the communion server to receive the wine (or grape juice). When you have received both elements, please return to your seat by the side aisle.

### Remember in your prayers:

Lynn Wolfgang, Oscar & Angie Smith, Erika Zaiser, Brandon Stauffer, Betty Moore, Barbara Stewart, Kathy Gamler, Bill Brensinger, Richard Eck, Becky Yescavage, BillyRay Pearce, Sr., Kathy Sell, Dennis Brooke, Donna Day, Linda Allmendinger, Elaine Dotterer, Jeff Reitnauer, Ralph Rothenberger, Anna Spencer, RuthAnn Goode, Pete Schmoyer, John Logan, Carole Mest, Bob McElwee, Tammy Strunk, Mary Snyder, Wendy Bowers, Linda Bewley, Sherri Schaeffer, Tammy Kemp, Mike Wyda, Marcia Auge, Millie Merkel and Sandy Schaffer.

## Friends & Family:

Michelle Hiriak, Linda Stark, Martha Van Parys, Joyce Kemp, Linda Gilbert, Dennis Weller, Dennis Groves, Ariel Kim, Tanner Antalosky, David Turner, Scott Thomas, Rev. Michael Ware, Robert McCarron and Glenn Monesmith.

#### Families of:

Donald Hays, John Moore and Jean Daily.

## Also members, relatives and friends in the community who are serving in the military including:

Christopher Heffner, BillyRay Pearce, Jr., Noah Heydt, Ben Rhode, Steven Herbst, David Crews, Jeff Lydic, Seth Kurtz, Clinton Bowen, Eli Abner and Johnne Knepp.

Our sister congregation, the Marienkirche in Borna, Germany. (Website: Kirche-bornaer-land.de)

#### December 24, 2025 - Christmas Eve

The Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God by Mr. & Mrs. Richard Leiby, in Honor of their Children and also by Bill & Sheila Eddinger, in Honor of those who are away from their families this holiday season.

The Bulletins are presented to the glory of God, by Sara Wagner, in Loving Memory of Husband LCDR Fernley R. Wagner, Jr. USN-Retired and also in Loving Memory of Son, Col. Glenn L. Wagner, USMC-Retired.

The Eternal Flame Candle is presented to the glory of God by Chester Heydt, in Memory of Esther, Lester & Janet Heydt.

PLEASE BE CAREFUL NOT TO GRAB HOLD OF THE POLES OF THE PEW CANDLES.

## Christmas Eve Worship Assistants 3:00PM

Assisting Minister: Diane McElwee

Server: Jenn McCarron

Ushers: Kay McGowan\* & Randy Kehl

Lector: Mardell Blanford
Acolyte: Jenn McCarron
Crucifer: Bob McElwee

Pole Candles: Rich Deskie & Dennis Schaeffer

Banner Bearer: Mark Sheetz

### Christmas Eve Worship Assistants 8:00PM

Assisting Minister: Erika Zaiser

Server: Diane McElwee

Ushers: Dennis Schaeffer\* & Bob McElwee

Lector: Sheila Eddinger

Acolyte: Vicki Mest
Crucifer: Bob McElwee

Pole Candles: Connor & Drevyn Deskie

Banner Bearer: Jenn McCarron

• (those who are able may stand)

### Prelude - Harp Selections by Betsy Chapman

#### Hand Bell Choir

"Carol of the Bells (3PM)
"Still, Still, Still"(8PM)

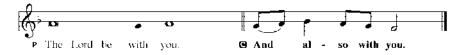
#### A Word of Welcome

 Processional Hymn w/Kurt Yescavage - Trumpet (3:00PM)

LBW# 45 - "Oh, Come All Ye Faithful"

- Greeting
- P The grace and loving kindness of our Savior Lord Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, born of the Virgin Mary, be with you all. Virgin Mary, be with you all.
- C And also with you.
- **Hymn of Praise**LBW# 71

  "Angels We Have Heard on High"
- Prayer of the Day



P Let us Pray . . .

C Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

Originally, this poem was written to celebrate either the birth or the coronation of a new Davidic king. After the fall of Jerusalem, this poem came to be viewed as an expression of the hope that eventually God would raise up a new ruler who would possess the qualities described in the text.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness--on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

## Piano & Organ Selection by Jenn McCarron & LaRue Sheetz (3:00PM)

Senior Choir Anthem "Celtic Christmas Lullaby" J. Raney (8:00PM)

"Oh, Come, Oh Come, Emmanual"

LBW# 34

#### SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

The brief letter to Titus is concerned with matters regarding church leadership. Here the letter cites an early confession of faith as an example of sound Christian doctrine.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

#### Gospel Hymn

LBW# 55

"Good Christian Friends Rejoice" (v. 1)

#### Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter



### Presentation of the Gospel by Heart

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see–I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>4</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

[<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

P The Gospel of the Lord



Gospel Hymn

LBW# 55

"Good Christian Friends Rejoice" (v.2)

Vocal and Harp Selection by Rebecca Shoemaker & Betsy Chapman (3:00PM)

Vocal Duet by Connor & Drevyn Deskie (8:00PM)

Christmas Message

Flute Selection by Jennifer McCarron (3:00PM)

Senior Choir Anthem "Love Has Come" French Carol
(8:00PM)

- **Hymn of the Day**"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"
- Apostles Creed
- I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
  He was conceived by the power of the Holy
  Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
  He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
  was crucified, died, and was buried.
  He descended into hell.
- On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

### • The Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God, in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

After each portion of prayers:

P Lord, in your mercy.

C hear our prayer

## The prayers conclude:

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

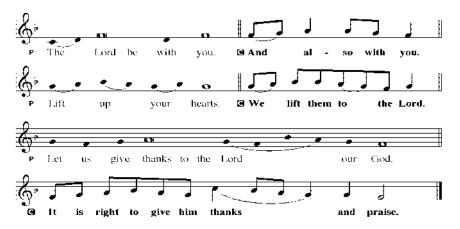
C Amen.

## Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

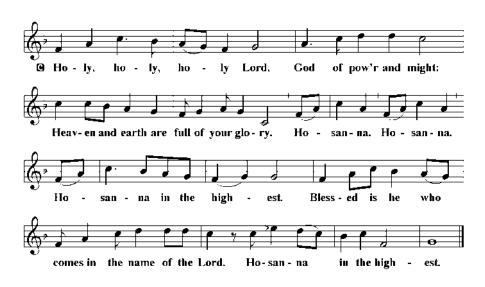
C: And also with you.

#### • The Great Thanksgiving



## • The Proper Preface

P It is indeed right and salutary... (Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding) ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



#### • Eucharistic Prayer

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

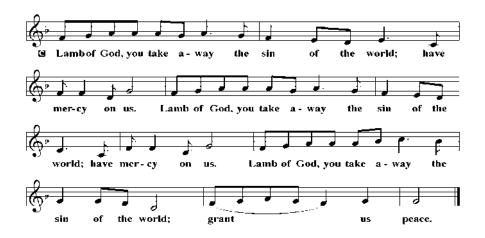
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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



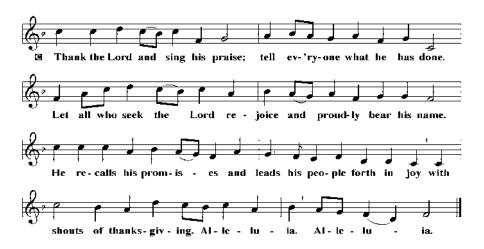
#### Communion

### • Post-communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

#### C Amen

#### Post-Communion Canticle



#### • Post-Communion Prayer

P God of light, with our eyes we have seen your salvation in this holy feast you have prepared for us. Send forth into the world to be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### C Amen

Candle Lighting Ceremony "O Holy Night"
Solo By Rebecca Shoemaker

• Candle Lighting Hymn LBW# 65 "Silent Night"

• Christmas Prayer

(following the prayer, please
 extinguish your candles.)

- Recessional Hymn LBW# 39 "Joy to the World"
- Dismissal
- P Go in peace, serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Caroling, Caroling"

A. Burt

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A Special Thank You to the Hand Bell Choir,
Senior Choir, Betsy Chapman,
Connor & Drevyn Deskie, Jennifer McCarron,
Rebecca Shoemaker, Kurt Yescavage, Pastor Gene &
Erika Zaiser for sharing their talents with us
this day.

Thank you to everyone who purchased poinsettias and luminaries and helped decorate the church for Christmas.

THANK YOU to Dennis Brooke and Shelly Fullwood and Family for sponsoring the Christmas Tree in Memory of Ruth Brooke and in Honor of Brady, Sallyann, and William Fullwood.

Thank You to Bobby Eshbach, Howard Shafer, and Dennis Schaeffer for transporting and setting up the tree and to everyone who helped to decorate the church for Christmas.

Please join us for an Encore Presentation of our Christmas Cantata, under the direction of our Music Director LaRue Sheetz on Sunday, January 4th at 3:00PM, followed by light refreshments.

Please join us on Monday, January 5 at 6:00PM to take down Christmas decorations.





# The Poinsettias which adorn our sanctuary are presented to the Glory of God and.....



## In Honor Of ....

My Grandchildren Gavin, Nathan and Sarah Freese By Linda Bewley

Justin and Megan Miller By Mardell & Tim Blanford

Children and Grandchildren Jenn, Drew, Adam, Brennen, Tim, Rebekah, Nick and Katie

By Bill & Sheila Eddinger

Sons Jacob and Bradley
By Robert Eshbach

Daughter and Son-In-Law Michelle and Thomas Hiriak By Lois Schwager

Son and Daughter-In-Law Michael and Dani Schwager By Lois Schwager

Grandchildren Samantha, Nathan, Matthew, Olivia, Cora, Faythe and Elizabeth

By Lois Schwager

Grandson Mark
By Janice Sheetz

Granddaughter Desiree By Janice Sheetz

Our 7 Grandchildren
By Grams & PopPop Yarnall

3 Children and Their Spouses By Sandy & Mark Yarnall



# The Poinsettias which adorn our sanctuary are presented to the Glory of God and.....



## In Memory Of ....

Royden and Grace Eddinger, Stanley and Sue Stoudt, Stuart Stoudt and Jeffrey Kulp

By Bill & Sheila Eddinger

Parents Robert and Cynthia Eshbach By Robert Eshbach

James Eshbach
By Robert Eshbach

Our Son Ricky Farrington
By Rick & Kathy Farrington

Loved Ones

By Eileen Heffner

Esther Heydt

By Chester Heydt

Lester Heydt

By Chester Heydt

Janet Heydt

By Chester Heydt

Martha Kehl

By The Family

Susan K. Kehl

By Randy

Our Kristin Kuser

By Dan & Kathy Kuser

Andrew Kuser

By Dan & Kathy Kuser



# The Poinsettias which adorn our sanctuary are presented to the Glory of God and....



## In Memory Of..

Daniel Ritter
By Wife Linda & Family

My Mother, Gladys Baker By Carol Rothermel

Grandson Colin Hiriak By Lois Schwager

Husband Ronald Schwager By Lois Schwager

Ted Sheetz, Sr. By Janice

Robert Wolfgang
By Wife Louise Wolfgang

Loved Ones
By Mike & Maddy Wyda

Karl Zimmermann By Kurt, Heidi & Bradley

Carl Yescavage
By Kurt, Heidi & Bradley

Donald Hays By Pastor Gene & Erika Zaiser

Hans Hahn and Gerhard Hahn By Pastor Gene & Erika Zaiser

Oscar Smith's Mother, Father and Sisters By Oscar Smith

Angie's Mother By Oscar Smith





## In Honor Of...

Clarence and Teresa Bauer By Bill & Sheila Eddinger

Ramona Peifer By Bill & Sheila Eddinger

Neil & Cindy Eddinger By Bill & Sheila Eddinger

The Cantata Choir By Lori & Brett Moyer

Katie MacDonald By Jennifer McCarron

Pastor Zaiser and The Trinity Staff By Kay McGowan

## Prayers....

For World Peace By Mike & Maddy Wyda

## In Memory Of ....

Parents, Dorothy and Carroll Bewley By Linda Bewley

J. Keith Freese By Linda Bewley

James Eshbach By Robert Eshbach





## In Memory Of...

Roert and Cynthia Eshbach By Robert Eshbach

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Eshbach By Mardell & Tim Blanford

James Eshbach
By Mardell & Tim Blanford

Ricky Farrington
By Rick & Kathy Farrington

John Graef By Lori & Bob Graef

Greg Miller By Lori & Bob Graef

Larry Swavely By Lori & Bob Graef

Susan K. Kehl By Randy Kehl

Martha Kehl By Randy Kehl

Andrew Kuser
By Dan & Kathy Kuser

Kristn Kuser
By Dan & Kathy Kuser

Melvin Kuser By Dan & Kathy Kuser





## In Memory Of...

Virginia Kuser
By Dan & Kathy Kuser

Alice Weller By Dan & Kathy Kuser

Paul Weller By Dan & Kathy Kuser

William & Sharon Miller By Jennifer McCarron

Ward Smith
By Jennifer McCarron

Jean Daily
By Jennifer McCarron

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond A. McGowan By Kay McGowan

Michael McGowan By Kay McGowan

Mr. & Mrs. Karl F. Haas By Kay McGowan

Daniel Ritter By Linda Ritter

Thelma Stauffer By Lori & Brett Moyer

Raymond Stauffer By Lori & Brett Moyer

Brian Stauffer
By Lori & Brett Moyer





## In Memory Of...

Sandy Smith By Lori & Brett Moyer

John Paul Moyer By Lori & Brett Moyer

Grandson, Colin Hiriak By Lois Schwager

Husband, Ronald Schwager By Lois Schwager

Ralph and Sarah Wolfgang By Louise Wolfgang

Roger and Ruth Yoder By Louise Wolfgang

Bobby Gephart
By Mike & Maddy Wyda

Donald Hays
By The Zaiser's

Gerhard Hahn
By The Zaiser's

Hans Hahn
By The Zaiser's



# Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Rev. Dr. Eugene C. Zaiser, DMin.,
Pastor

Ms. LaRue Sheetz, Director of Music
Mrs. Karen J. Smith, Parish Secretary
Mrs. Catherine M. Yoder, Sexton
The Members of this Congregation are its
Ministers

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (Or by Appointment)

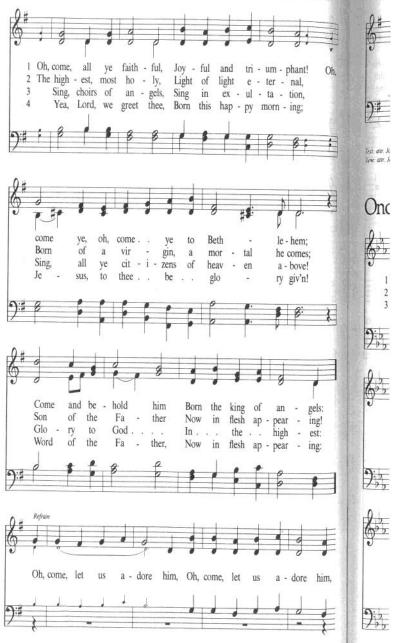
1749 South Main Street, Bechtelsville, PA
19505
610-369-1281

Church Office E-Mail: trinitybech@outlook.com

Pastor Zaiser's E-Mail: pastorzaiser@outlook.com

Website: www.trinitybech.com

## Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful



Text: Paul G Tune: Johan

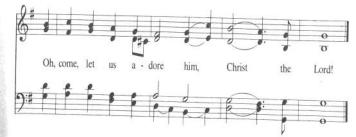




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Text: attr. John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786; tr. composite Tune: attr. John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786

ADESTE FIDELES irregular



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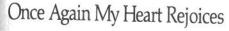
- ing:





dore him,





46



1 Once a - gain my heart re-joic - es As I hear, far and near, 2 Hark! A voice from yon-der man - ger, Soft and sweet, does en-treat.

2 Hark! A voice from yon-der man - ger, Soft and sweet, does en-treat, 3 Come, then, let us has-ten yon - der; Here let all, great and small,



Sweet-est an - gel voic - es; "Christ is born," their choirs are sing - ing, "Flee from woe and dan - ger; Come and see; from all that grieves you kneel in awe and won - der; Love him who with love is yearn - ing;

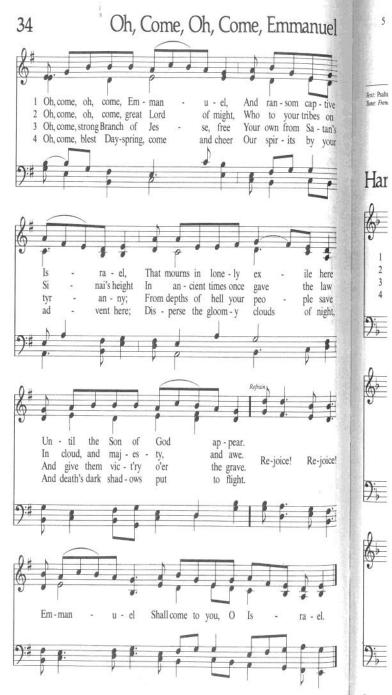


let: Paul Gerhardt, 1637-1676; sr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt. Ture: Johann Criiger, 1598-1662

FRÖHLICH SOLL MEIN HERZE SPRINGEN 866 866







Text: Philip Tune: attr.



ap - tive

ibes on Sa - tan's your

ile here the law ple save of night,





Re-joice!







5 Oh, come, O Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery. Refrain

Text: Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt. Tune: French processional, 15th cent.

VENI, EMMANUEL 88888

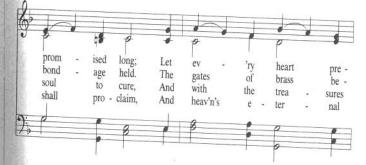
35

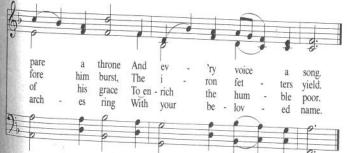




- 1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav ior comes, The Sav ior 2 He comes the pris 'ners to re - lease. In Sa tan's
- 3 He comes the bro ken heart bind, The bleed ing 4 Our glad ho san nas, Prince of Peace, Your wel come



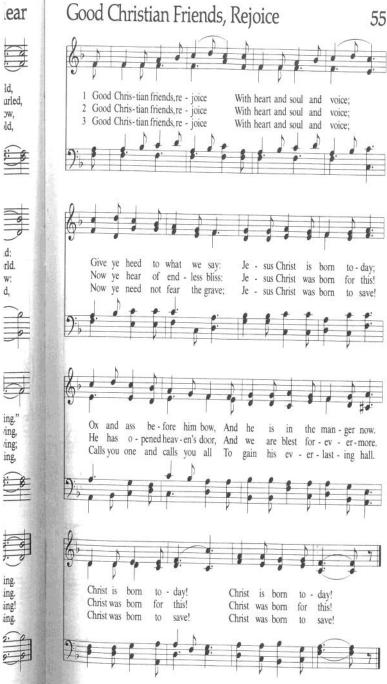


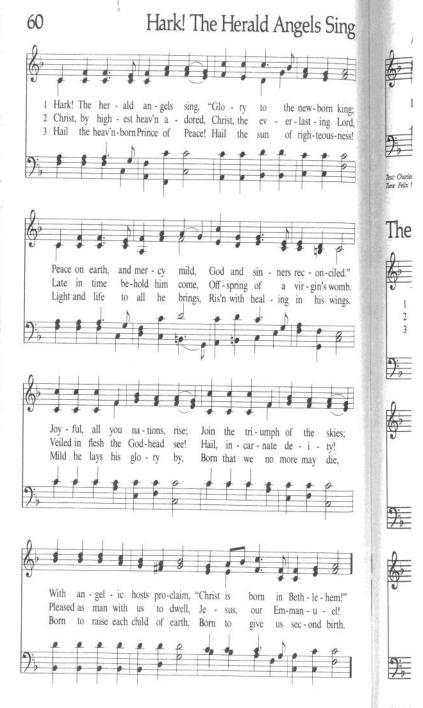


Text: Philip Doddbidge, 1702-1751 Time: attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

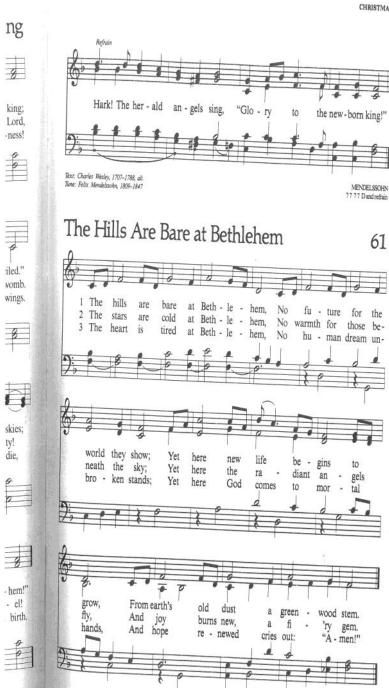
CHESTERFIELD

CM





PROSPECT



Text: Royce J. Scherf, b. 1929, alt. Time: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835 **Vest** 



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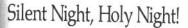
ght.

nen

5 All glory for this blessed morn To God the Father ever be; All praise to you, O Virgin-born, And Holy Ghost, eternally. Amen

Text: Coelius Sedulius, d. c. 450; tr. John Ellerton, 1826-1893, alt. Time: Sarum plainsong, mode 111

A SOLIS ORTUS CARDINE



65



- ho - lent night, ly night! All is calm, all is bright Round yon 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at
- the sight; Glo ries 3 Si - lent night, ho ly night! Son of God, love's pure light Ra - diant



vir - gin moth - er and child. Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, stream from heav - en a - far, Heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, Al - le - lu - ia! beams from your ho-ly face, With the dawn of re-deem - ing grace,

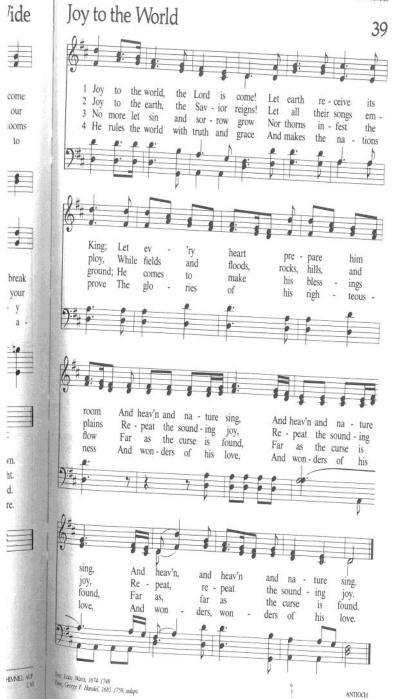


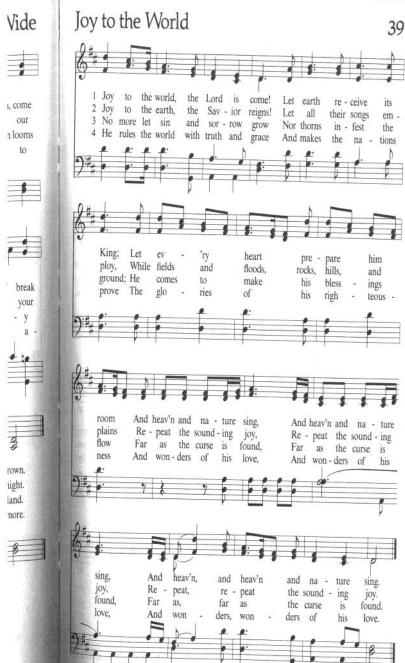


In Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885 Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

STILLE NACHT irregular

ANTIOCH CM and repeat





DIE HIMMEL ALF

Lata: Watts, 1674–1748

The George F. Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.

ANTIOCH C Mand repeat