

Children's Christmas Pageant



Sunday, December 22, 2024 at 10:15 am
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
West Des Moines, Iowa

Prelude

Welcome

Please stand as you are able.

Opening Carol

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Gather 359

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see the lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in the dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to all on earth.
3. How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still
The dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy child of Bethlehem!
Descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!

Please be seated.

The Christmas Pageant

The Animals' Christmas

written by Sarah Bunch

Carols During the Pageant

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gather 361

1. Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
Which inspire your heav'nly song.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
3. Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore, on bended knee,
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Away in a Manger

Gather 365

1. *Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his
sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down
where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.*
2. *The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.*

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Gather 357

1. *O come, all ye faithful, joyful and
triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of
angels;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord!*
2. *Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him...*
3. *Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy
morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore him...*

Please stand for the singing of "Joy to the World" as the pageant participants depart.
As the wise men come forward, we invite you to bring your own Angel Tree gifts forward and place them at the altar.

Joy to the World

Gather 353

1. *Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.*
2. *Joy to the world! the Savior reigns:
Let us, our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*
3. *No more let sin and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.*
4. *He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.*

The Peace

Priest The Peace of Christ be always with you.
People And also with you.

Liturgy of the Table

Offertory

Joy Has Come Down

Fettke

Please stand as you are able.

Doxology

to the tune of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

The Great Thanksgiving

Priest The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Priest Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Celebrant

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious
God, source of life abundant.

From before time you made ready the creation. Your
Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into
being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters;
and every living thing. You made us in your image, and
taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled
against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a
mother cares for her children, you would not forget
us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness
of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the
chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our
voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

Sanctus

Hymnal S130

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the Name of the
Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.
To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to
reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor
upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might
conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of ten systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant continues

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.

Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said:

"Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Communion

You do not need to be a member of this church or of any church to receive communion.

*To receive the sacrament, come forward and stand or kneel at the rail. The wine is received by intinction, by dipping the wafer into the chalice. Please let the clergy know if you require a **gluten-free wafer**; to indicate that you would prefer a **blessing only**, cross your arms across your chest.*

If you are unable to come forward, please notify an usher and the sacrament will be brought to you.

Carols at Communion

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Gather 377

1. **Infant holy, Infant lowly,
For his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, Little knowing
Christ the babe is lord of all.
Swift are winging, Angels singing
Noels ringing, Tidings bringing
Christ the babe is Lord of all.**

2. **Flocks were sleeping: Shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, Heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, Free from sorrow,
Praises voicing Greet the morrow;
Christ the babe was born for you.**

1. *Of the Father's love begotten,
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending he,
And the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore.*
2. *O that birth for ever bless-ed,
When the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Spirit blest conceiving,
Bore the Savior of our race;
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
First revealed his sacred face,
Evermore and evermore!*
3. *Let the heights of heav'n adore him;
Angel hosts, his praises sing;
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before him,
And extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Ev'ry voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore!*
4. *Christ, to you with God the Father,
Spirit blest eternally,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
And unending praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore!*

Please stand as you are able.

Prayer after Communion

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Carol

The First Nowell

Gather 388

1. *The first Nowell, the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they
lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*
2. *They look-ed up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*
3. *And by the light of that same star
Three wisemen came from country far,
To seek for a king was their intent,
And follow the star wherever it went.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*
4. *Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord;
Who with the Father we adore
And Spirit blest for evermore.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*

Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia! Alleluia! As we once again welcome Christ into our lives, let us remember that we are his hands and feet and voice in this world.

People We will with God's help. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

MINISTERS OF THE SERVICE

Presider

The Rev. Kyle Carswell

Deacon

The Rev. Jeanie Smith

Organist

Don Agee

Acolyte

Maggie Luft

Chalice Bearer

Lyndy Wells, Elizabeth Slocum

Oblation Bearers

Wade Kramer, Marley Kramer,
Nina Kramer

Ushers

Darin Krantz, OPEN

Altar Guild

Annie Waskom, Marty Wells

Livestream Coordinator

Joe Rounceville

Vestry Representative

Mary Bartusek

Pageant Cast

Narrator

Lucy Luft

Joseph

Thomas Leemkuil

Angel Gabriel

Caitlin McManus

Angels

Elizabeth Crann, Mujo Along,
Bwogo Along, Lillie McManus

Shepherds

Kayla Crann, Helena Bueschking

Wise People

Luke Luft, Joseph Crann,
Mason Pettit

Young Star

Annie Leemkuil

Cow

Millie Luft

Donkey

Francie Kochneff

Lamb

Maggie Luft

Thank you to Sarah Bunch and all of the adults who had a hand in creating and producing our pageant!

2nd OFFERING



The Angel Tree & St. Timothy's Faith & Food Fund

Thank you to everyone who purchased an Angel Tree gift for one of the nine families we adopted!

Financial gifts collected in our 2nd Offering will go to our Faith & Food Fund, which allows us to assist individuals with immediate needs throughout the year. If you would like to help support this ministry financially, you can do so at:

sttimothyiowa.org/donate

COMING UP

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 | 5 PM & 9 PM

We will ring in the joy of Christmas with two Christmas Eve services filled with carols, the reading of the Christmas story from Luke's Gospel, communion, and concluding with the traditional singing of "Silent Night" by candlelight. The 5 pm service will be more kid-friendly, with fewer readings and a children's sermon alongside a shortened "adult" sermon. The 9 pm service will include the full set of readings, full sermon, and a full choir.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE AT ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 | 10 AM

We will not hold a Christmas Day service at St. Timothy's this year. Instead, we encourage those interested in attending a service on the 25th to attend worship at St. Paul's, Des Moines (815 High Street).

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28 | 5 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29 | 10:15 AM

On the weekend after Christmas we will conduct our service using the Book of Common Prayer rather than a bulletin.

EPIPHANY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 | 10:15 AM

Start the year off right by celebrating the arrival of the magi at Epiphany.

At 9 am we will gather for our First Sunday Breakfast, and in place of our regular Children's Formation, there will be Epiphany-related activities for kids, including crafts, cookie decorating, and chalking the door.

****Services at St. Timothy's will be live-streamed. Visit our YouTube channel for all of our streamed worship!**
[@StTimothysIowa](#)**

CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 25 THROUGH DECEMBER 30.

Calls and emails will be monitored for pastoral care needs.
All others will be returned when the office re-opens on December 31.

THE COMING WEEK

Friday, Dember 27

10 am BBB

Saturday, December 28

9 am Centering Prayer

5 pm Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 29

9:45 am Childcare Available

10:15 am Holy Eucharist

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 **ST. TIMOTHY'S**

WE ARE CHRIST'S HANDS • FEET • VOICE IN THE WORLD

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