



December 24, 2023

# West Valley Presbyterian Church

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## *Christmas Eve Candlelight Service*

### **O Come All Ye Faithful** \*

Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant  
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem  
Come and behold him Born the king of angels

*Oh, come, let us adore him  
Oh, come, let us adore him  
Oh, come, let us adore him  
Christ, the Lord*

God of God, Light of Light  
Lo he abhors not the virgin's womb  
Very God, begotten, not created

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above  
Glory to God all glory in the highest

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing

### **Reading: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7**

*<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.*

*<sup>6</sup>For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.*

\* Please stand if you are able

## **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary,  
and gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars together,  
proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to men on earth!

How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous Gift is given;  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of His heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming,  
but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him still,  
the dear Christ enters in.

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!

## **Reading: Luke 1:26-38**

*<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored*

one, the Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup> But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

<sup>34</sup> And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup> And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup> And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

### **Hark The Herald Angels Sing \***

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th'angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

*Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time, behold Him come,  
Offspring of the virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail th'incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.

**Reading: Luke 2:1-7**

*<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup>And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup>to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.*

**What Child Is This? \***

What Child is this who, laid to rest  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom Angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and Angels sing;  
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate,  
Where ox and lamb are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you.  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,  
Come peasant, king to own Him;  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise a song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby.  
Joy, joy for Christ is born,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

**Reading: Luke 2:8-20**

*<sup>8</sup>And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. <sup>10</sup>And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup>For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"*

*<sup>15</sup>When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup>And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.*

**Angels We Have Heard on High \***

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly swinging o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains

*Gloria In Excelsis Deo  
Gloria In Excelsis Deo*

Shepherds why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him Whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King

See within in a manger laid  
Jesus Lord of heav'n and earth  
Mary, Joseph lend your aid  
With us sing our Savior's birth

*Gloria In Excelsis Deo*  
*Gloria In Excelsis Deo*

## **Christmas Message: Responding to Christmas**

### **Joy to the World** \*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come,  
Let earth receive her King  
Let every heart prepare Him room  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns,  
Let men their songs employ  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy

No more let sins 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

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

**Lighting of Candles** \* - *Parents, please assist children. Please deposit candles in boxes by the exit on your way out.*

**Silent Night** \*

Silent night, holy night  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child  
Holy Infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace x2

Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight  
Glories stream from heaven afar  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior is born x2

Silent night, holy night  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth x2

Silent night, holy night  
Wondrous star, lend thy light  
With the angels let us sing  
Alleluia to our King  
Christ, the Savior is born x2

**Benediction: Isaiah 9:2** \*

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given. Go in the Light of the Son.*

Thank you for joining us! Our Sunday worship is at  
10:00am (Sunday School at 9:00am).

*Visit [westvalleypres.org](http://westvalleypres.org) for more information.*

### Contact Information

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Our mission:  
*Growing disciples of Jesus  
at home, at work and in our communities  
through the Word, prayer, and mutual encouragement*

#### **Meeting Location**

10:00am at 1208 Brookside Rd, Wescosville  
(Bethany's Wescosville Campus)

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\*all quotations from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*

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