

ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION AND WORSHIP OF GOD

December 24, 2017

GATHERING SONGS: “Arise, Shine, For Your Light Has Come”

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of God is on you.
Arise, see when the earth grows dark that the Lord will arise upon you;
The Lord will arise upon you.

Chorus 1: Nations will come to your light, lift up your eyes and see.
We'll gather together and come to you, and your love will be all that we know;
Your love will be all that we know.

Arise, come to the open gates for the Father is welcoming you.
Fear not for the Lord brings peace and redemption to all who believe;
Redemption to all who believe. (chorus 1)

Chorus: The sun will not shine 'cause you'll be all the light that we need,
And violence will end all the wars that we wage will cease.
Oh, The sun will not shine cause you'll be all the light that we need,
And violence will end all the wars that we wage will cease.

We will glorify your name. We will glorify your name.
We will glorify your name. We will glorify your name.

Jerred McKenna. *Canticles*. (c) 2013

“From His Heavenly Throne”

From his heavenly throne on high, Christ is born and has drawn nigh.
Now in this world let darkness cease; shines forth his light and brings us peace.

Chorus: God with us – Immanuel; radiant Light – good news to tell,
Of how lost sinners may be saved. Christ is born on Christmas Day
And conquers death and grave.

Oh, my sorrowing soul rejoice; join with the angels in one voice.
From Bethlehem, both meek and small, came the ruler of us all. (chorus)

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: John 1:1-14 (Advent reading 4)

Jeremy Morrison

HYMN: # 214 “Angels We Have Heard on High”

PRAYER

HYMN: # 213 “What Child is This”

HYMN: # 220 “From Heaven High I Come to You”

CONFESSION OF FAITH: *It pleased God, in His eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, His only begotten Son, to be the Mediator between God and man, the Prophet, Priest, and King, the Head and Savior of His Church, the Heir of all things, and Judge of the world; unto whom He did from all eternity give a people, to be His seed, and to be by Him in time redeemed, called, justified, sanctified and glorified* (The Westminster Confession of Faith, chapter 8, section 1).

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 1:26-56

HYMN: # 230 “Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor”

PRAYER

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

CHILDREN DISMISSED TO CHILDREN’S CHURCH

MESSAGE: “Blessed Among Women”

HYMN: “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

Gentle Mary laid her child in a lowly manger;
There hthe undefiled, to the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place, can he be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race who have found his favor.

Chorus: Son of God of humble birth, beautiful the story;
Praise his Name in all the earth, hail the King of glory!

Angels sang about his birth, Wise men sought and found him;
All the stars shone brightly forth, glory all around him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, and they heard the angels sing;
All the plains were lit that night, all the hills were ringing. (chorus)

Gentle Mary laid her child in a lowly manger;
He is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger. (chorus)

BENEDICTION

