

Hymn

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant, Oh,
 2 God from true God, and Light from Light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion;
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, oh, come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 Born of a vir - gin, to earth he comes,
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove.
 Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n,



Come and be - hold him, Born the King of an - gels.
 On - ly be - got - ten Son of God the Fa - ther.
 Glo - ry to God, all Glo - ry in the high - est.
 Word of the Fa - ther, Now in flesh ap - pear - ing.

Refrain



Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Oh, come, let us a - dore him,



Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Text: John F. Wade, c. 1711-86; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-80, alt.
 Tune: ADESTE FIDELES (Irregular) John F. Wade, c. 1711-86, alt.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Lift up your heads, you gates;

Children: be lifted up, you ancient doors,

C: that the King of glory may come in.

M: Who is this King of glory?

Children: The LORD strong and mighty,

C: the LORD mighty in battle.

**Morrison Zion
 Evangelical
 Lutheran Church**

Wisconsin Evangelical
 Lutheran Synod



Our mission is to
Glorify God
 as we
Gather
 around the Gospel
 to help people
Grow
 in the Gospel
 and
Go
 with the Gospel

Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

If your children need to leave worship, please take them to the basement. A TV broadcasts the service in the basement.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

M: Lift up your heads, you gates;

Children: lift them up, you ancient doors,

C: that the King of glory may come in.

M: Who is he, this King of glory?

All: The LORD Almighty—he is the King of glory.

Introduction

McKayla Mathies: Have you ever had a person tell you that someone is coming to visit, but doesn't reveal the visitor's name? Instead, you're given descriptions or clues to the visitor's identity. As long as the identity is unknown, one question is foremost in mind: Who is he or she? We will look at some of the descriptions, or clues, God gave to his people about a man who was to come into the world. His identity is important to us too. So we also ask, "Who is he?"

Sermonette

Part 1

Who Is He? The Promised One

Isaiah Muchka: In Genesis chapter 1 we read,

Grades 7-8: God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day (Genesis 1:31).

Isaiah Muchka: God created a perfect world for humankind. And he put the crown of his creation—humans—in the Garden of Eden, where he had placed the Tree of Life. When they ate from this tree, it gave them eternal life. God intended for them to live in his perfect creation forever. But God also placed another named tree in the garden, and with it came a command.

Grades 7-8: The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die" (Genesis 2:15-17).

Isaiah Muchka: For a time, Adam and Eve obeyed this command. However, the devil came and led Adam and Eve into sin by enticing them to eat from the forbidden tree.

Grades 7-8: Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die'" "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it (Genesis 3:1-6).

Sabrina Schmidt: Adam and Eve disobeyed God’s command. And because of their sin, they would die. They had separated themselves from God, but God, out of great love for his creation, did not abandon them. He had a plan, already from eternity, that would save the human race from its sin. God promised to send a Savior.

Grades 7-8:“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel” (Genesis 3:15).

Sabrina Schmidt: Who is he? All we know is, God promised that when this man came, he would destroy the power of the devil.

Grades 7-8

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

- 1 On Christmas night all Christians sing To hear the news the angels bring;
On Christmas night all Christians sing To hear the news the angels bring,
News of great joy, news of great mirth, News of our merciful King’s birth.
- 2 When sin departs before your grace, Then life and health come in its place.
When sin departs before your grace, Then life and health come in its place.
Angels and saints with joy may sing All for to see the newborn King.
- 3
- 4 From out of darkness we have light Which made the angels sing this night.
From out of darkness we have light Which made the angels sing this night:
“Glory to God and peace to men Now and forever more. Amen.”

Part 2

Who Is He? The Promised One

Trenton Schuettpelez: From God’s description of the one who was to come, given in the Garden of Eden, believers could not yet answer exactly the question, “Who is he?” So throughout the Old Testament, God gave further descriptions concerning this Promised One. God inspired the prophet Micah to reveal where this man would be born.

Grades 5-6: “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times” (Micah 5:2).

Trenton Schuettpelez: Through Jeremiah and Isaiah, God foretold that this man would belong to the line of King David and would reign on his throne forever.

Grades 5-6: “The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior” (Jeremiah 23:5,6).

Grades 5-6: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this (Isaiah 9:6,7).

Bryce Dobberpuhl: Isaiah also reveals that this man would suffer for us.

Grades 5-6: Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all (Isaiah 53:4-6).

Bryce Dobberpuhl: Who is he? We still do not have a complete description of this man. However, these prophecies fill in greater detail about him and his mission.

Grades 5- 6

Behold, a Branch Is Growing

1. Behold, a Branch is growing Of loveliest form and grace,
As prophets sang, foreknowing; It springs from Jesse's race
And bears one little flow'r In midst of coldest winter,
At deepest midnight hour.
2. Isaiah had foretold it In words of promise sure,
And Mary's arms enfold it, A virgin meek and pure.
Through God's eternal will This child to her is given
At midnight calm and still.
3. The shepherds heard the story Proclaimed by angels bright,
How Christ, the Lord of glory, Was born on earth this night.
To Bethlehem they sped And in the manger found him,
As angel heralds said.
5. O Savior, Child of Mary, Who felt our human woes,
O Savior, King of glory, Who conquered all our foes,
Bring us at last, we pray, To the bright courts of heaven
And to the endless day.

Part 3

Who Is He? The Newborn One

Andrew Wegner: For thousands of years, God provided prophecy after prophecy about the one he had promised to send to save humankind from their sin. The world was now ready. Peace prevailed in the Roman Empire. God sent his angel to a virgin named Mary, a descendant of King David's family who was living in the lowly town of Nazareth, to give her some wonderful news.

Grades 3-4: In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end" (Luke 1:26-33).

Grades 3- 4

My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord

- 1 My soul now magnifies the Lord; My spirit shall in God rejoice.
My humble state he did regard, Exalting me by gracious choice.
- 2 Hence-forth shall people call me blest, For great things he has done for me.
The mighty God is now my guest; The Holy One has set me free.
- 5 He helped his servant Israel, Remembering the external grace,
As from of old he did foretell To Abraham and all his race.
- 6 So praise with me the Holy One, Who comes in all humility.
To our Redeemer, God's own Son, Be glory in eternity.

Andrew Wegner: Mary lived in Nazareth, about 90 miles from Bethlehem where the Promised One was to be born. But God used the Roman emperor to get Mary to Bethlehem so she would give birth to the Savior there, just as Micah had prophesied.

Grades 3-4: In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them (Luke 2:1-7).

4K- 5K: Who is this tiny baby, This child so small and new?
We see him in a manger. What will this baby do?
Who is this tiny baby, This child so sweet and small?
His name is Baby Jesus. He'll die to save us all!
Who is this tiny baby, This child who loves us so?
He is our precious Savior. With him to heaven we'll go!

4K- 5K

Away in a Manger

- 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 side until morning is nigh.
- 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care, And take us to heaven to live with you there.

Seth Wittig: The one promised in the Garden of Eden finally came into this world! But how would people know that he had come? There were no news agencies to get the word out. The message could not be tweeted to the world in an instant. But God had a plan. He sent an angel to a small band of shepherds to announce the birth of the Savior.

Grades 1-2: There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their

flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger” (Luke 2:8-12).

Grades 1-2: Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger (Luke 2:13-16).

Congregation

Silent Night! Holy Night



1 Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is
 2 Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep - herds
 3 Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of



calm, all is bright, Round yon vir - gin
 quake at the sight. Glo - ries stream from
 God, love's pure light Ra - diant beams from



moth - er and child. Ho - ly In - fant, so
 heav - en a - far; Heav'n - ly hosts sing,
 thy ho - ly face With the dawn of re -



ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly
 Al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy



peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848, abr.; tr. John F. Young, 1820–85.
 Tune: STILLE NACHT (Irregular) Franz X. Gruber, 1787–1863, alt.

Brylie Zirbel: The Savior had come. And what wondrous news this was! The shepherds believed the message of the angel. So they left their sheep to see their Savior. They were so excited that the long-awaited one had finally come! And they could not help but tell everyone they met what they had witnessed.

Grades 1-2: When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told (Luke 2:17-20).

Grades 1-2

Love Has Come

- 1 Love has come, a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high!
- 2 Love is born! Come share in the wonder. Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother; what is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers. Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.

Joshua Zirbel: Now we have the answer to the question “Who is he?” He is Jesus—Christ the Lord come to save us from our sins. That is good news! Like the shepherds, we want to share that news with others so that they also may have the peace the angel spoke of—peace between God and sinners. Jesus himself tells us how, and what, we are to share.

All Children: Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you (Matthew 28:19,20).

Children

Who Is He? (by Matthew Manthe)

- 1 Who is he that brings us here on the same night ev’ry year?
Who is he we give our praise all our nights and all our days?
Refrain: ’Tis the Lord, O wondrous story! ’Tis the Lord, the King of glory!
At his feet we humbly fall, crown him, crown him, Lord of all!
- 2 Who is he whom at the Fall God has pledged to save us all?
Who will crush the serpent’s head and remove all fear and dread? *Refrain*
- 3 Who is he whom men of old by their prophecies foretold?
Who will set all people free as he dies upon the tree? *Refrain*
- 4 Who is he of whom hosts sing, “Glory to the newborn King?”
Who is he, this newborn one, shepherds rush to look upon? *Refrain*
- 5 Who is he, this babe so small, yet the Savior of us all?
Who is he who tells us, “Go!” that the world his name may know? *Refrain*

Text: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House

M: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light.

Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his glory in the life to come; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The Lord's Prayer

M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And



earth re - ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry
 all their songs em - ploy, While fields and
 thorns in - fest the ground; He comes to
 makes the na - tions prove The glo - ries



heart pre - pare him room And heav'n and
 floods, rocks, hills, and plains Re - peat the
 make his bless - ings flow Far as the
 of his right - eous - ness And won - ders



na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And
 sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -
 curse is found, Far as the curse is found, Far
 of his love, And won - ders of his love, And



heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 as, far as the curse is found.
 won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.
 Tune: ANTIOCH (CM with Repeat) George F. Handel, 1685-1759, adapt.