Choir Concert

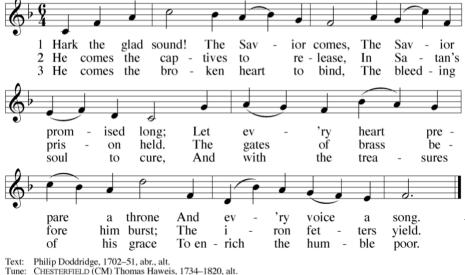
December 18, 2022

Joy!

Where do you find peace and joy? Join us for our Choir Concert as we see **Joy Lost** as sin entered the world and destroyed the peace we had with God and others. But God did not leave us lost and alone. We will hear about **Joy Promised**. And since God keeps his promises, we see **Joy Fulfilled**. Because of the work of Jesus, we have **Joy Now and Forever**.

Preservice Music (Listed on page 11)

Congregation Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes CW12:1-3



Part One Reading

Joy Lost Genesis 3:1-19

¹ 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'?"

² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³ 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."

⁴ "You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

⁶ 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.



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 ioined 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 humbly 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. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?"

¹⁰ He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

 11 And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

 12 The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

¹³ Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

M: ¹⁴ So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals!

- C: You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.
- M: ¹⁵ And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers;
- C: he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."
 - ¹⁶ To the woman he said,
 - "I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children.
 - Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."
 - ¹⁷ To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,'
 - "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life.
 - ¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field.
 - ¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food
 - until you return to the ground,
 - since from it you were taken;

for dust you are

and to dust you will return." (NIV)



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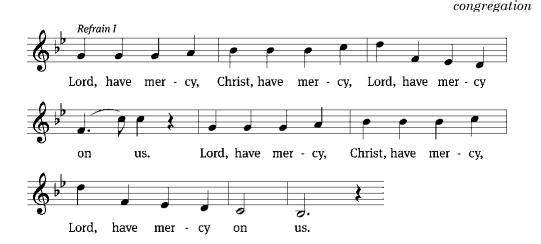
Lord Have Mercy

Hymn 652 - New Hymnal

small choir

For what we have done and left undone We fall on your countless mercies. For sins that are known and those unknown We call on your name so holy. For envy and pride, for closing our eyes; For scorning our very neighbor. In thought, word, and deed We've failed you, our King; How deeply we need a Savior.

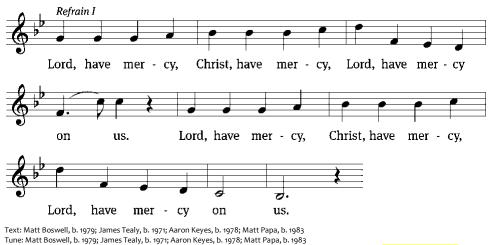
Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on us. *choir* Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on us.



For what you have done, your life of lovesmall choirYou perfectly lived, we praise you.small choirThough tempted and tried, you fixed your eyes;You finished the work God gave you.And there on the tree, a King among thieves,You bled for a world's betrayal.You loved to the end, our merciful friend;How pure and forever faithful.

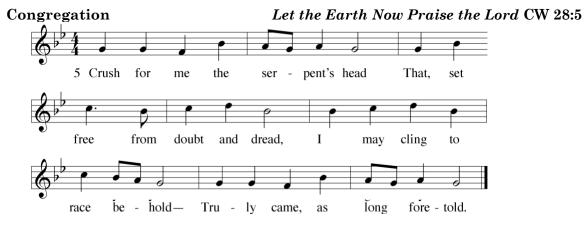
Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on us. *choir* Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on us.

congregation



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M: God promised Adam and Eve after they first sinned to send a Savior to crush the work of the devil, and to defeat the power of sin and death. The Prophets foretold and the Scriptures testify about Jesus, who fulfilled the prophesies, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.



Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (77 77) *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524.

Part Two

Reading

Matthew 1:18-25 ¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be

married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"[Isaiah 4:7] (which means "God with us").

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus. (NIV)

When Emmanuel Has Come

All the world is waiting for a savior. All the world is waiting for a king. Soon we will behold what the prophets have foretold. Soon we will receive the gift He brings.

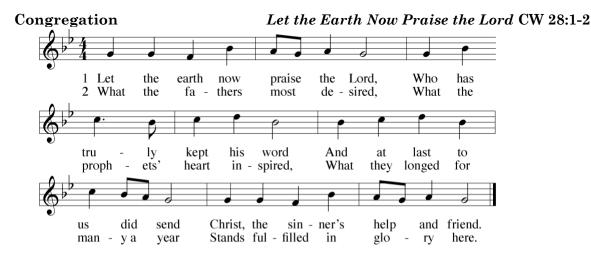
All the world is waiting for Messiah. All the world is waiting for God's Son. Soon He will appear for the time is drawing near. Soon we all will greet the Promised One.

There will be joy, joy, joy when Emmanuel has come. Heaven will rejoice and praise His name. There will be joy, joy, joy when Emmanuel has come. And the world will never be the same.

All the world is waiting for an answer. All the world is waiting for a light. Soon it will be dawn and the darkness will be gone. Soon a king will come to make things right.

There will be joy, joy, joy when Emmanuel has come. Heaven will rejoice and praise His name. There will be joy, joy, joy when Emmanuel has come. And the world will never be the same. We will never be the same.

Choir



Part Three

Joy Fulfilled

Stand

Reading

Luke 2:4-15

⁴ 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. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son.

- **M:** She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.
- C: ⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.
- M: 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them,
- C: "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.
- M: "¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,
- C: ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."
- **M:** ¹⁵ 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." (NIV)

Be Seated

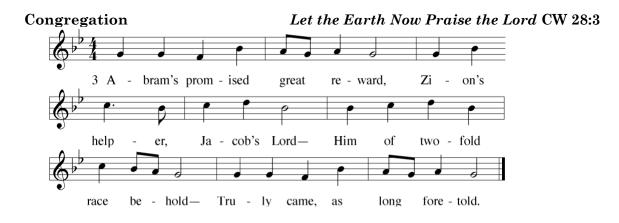
Love Came Down

Junior Choir

Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine; Love was born at Christmas, star and angels gave the sign. Love shall be our token, love be yours and love be mine; Love to God and all men, love for plea and gift and sign.

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.

The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay. Love came down at Christmas, Christmas day.



A Celtic Noel

Choir

The first noel, the angels did say, was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay: In fields where they lay their keeping their sheep on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel!

They looked 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, Noel! Sing noel, noel. Born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star three wisemen came from country far, And then they all in one accord sang praises to our heav'nly Lord! Noel, born is the King of Israel! Sing noel! Joy Has Dawned (Hymn 352 - New Hymnal) Choir and Junior Choir Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Joy has dawned upon the world, promised from creation; God's salvation now unfurled, hope for ev'ry nation. Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of glory, But a humble gift of love: Jesus born of Mary.

Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the songs of angels As the mighty Prince of Life shelters in a stable. Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in darkness, Cling now to a mother's breast vuln'rable and helpless.

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!

Shepherds bow before the Lamb, gazing at the glory; Gifts of men from distant lands prophesy the story. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Sing gloria in excelsis Deo!



Offering

Prayer

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.

Part FourJoy Now and ForeverReadingIsaiah 9:1-7

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan-² The people walking in darkness have seen a great light: on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. ³You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. ⁴ For as in the day of Midian's defeat, vou have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders. the rod of their oppressor. ⁵ Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning. will be fuel for the fire. 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. ⁷ 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. (NIV)



Peace, Peace

Choir

Peace, peace, peace on earth and good will to all. This is a time for joy, this is a time for love. Now let us all sing together of peace, peace on earth.

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, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Hallelujah Chorus, From "The Messiah"ChoirHallelujah! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.The kingdom of the world is become the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ.And he shall reign forever and ever.Forever and ever, Hallelujah!King of Kings, and Lord of Lords,And he shall reign forever and ever.King of Kings, forever and ever.And he shall reign forever and ever.King of Kings, forever and ever.Hallelujah!Hallelujah!Hallelujah!

Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes CW 12:4 **Closing Hymn** 4 Our Prince of Peace, Your wel - come glad ho - san nas, shall pro - claim, And heav'n's nal e ter arch ring With vour be - lov ed name. es _ Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–51, abr., alt. Tune: CHESTERFIELD (CM) Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820, alt.

Music by the Church Band

Preservice Music

Joyful and Triumphant Christmas Gloria I Wonder as I Wonder Lullaby for Christmas And the Angels Sing Trilogy of Carols

Musical Offering

Christmas Joy

Postlude

Joy



means "Prince of Peace"

Isaiah 9:6, '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...Prince of Peace.'

God With Us, born into the heart of our darkness, given into the midst of our strife with one another and the midst of our enmity toward God—born and given into this context as our Peace.

Bearing in Himself the fullness of the animosity between man and man, and the fullness of humanity's hatred for God, and the fullness of divine wrath against sinful humanity, bearing all these in love (as True Man and True God) in His Body on the cross and harmonizing all of these in His Body by the resurrection, He reconciles man to man and man to God in Himself, so becoming our Peace and Joy.

May we be given the grace to remember and to feel in our life, through all we face, that our Peace is supremely a Person. Our peace and is not found in the removal of this pain or this threat or this trial, it is not found in the answer we are hoping for, it is not found in the relationship we are longing for, it is not found in any change of circumstance—internal or external. Peace is an objective Person and to know Him, to belong to Him, to be united as one flesh to His Body by the Spirit and simply to 'be' in this place of merciful, mastered, transformative belonging—is our experience of Peace and Joy.

So, may the crucified and risen Jesus—in whom we know the God of all reality in truth and so as Peace—be deep and sustaining peace to His Bride in this season.

Picture and explanation (with some edits) from Full of Eyes