



North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church



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A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
January 2, 2022 - 11:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

One: The Word became flesh and lived among us.

Many: **We have seen his glory.**

One: The true light that enlightens everyone has come into the world.

All: **Glory to God who has blessed us in Christ. Glory to God forever!**

***Hymn (#634)**

To God Be the Glory

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Holy God,

We confess that we are a distracted people and forgetful of your love.

**We make selfish choices, hurt each other,
and perpetuate injustice in your world.**

We have sinned against you and are deeply sorry.

We repent of our disregard of you, each other, and your creation.

By the power of your Spirit,

forgive, restore, and strengthen us

to live in your light and walk in your truth;

through Christ our Lord. (Silence)

***Responsive Assurance of Pardon**

One: As children of the Holy One, God forgives us and loves us eternally.

All: **By the power of God's Spirit,**

may we forgive ourselves and others

just as God in Christ has forgiven us. Amen.

***Congregational Response (#113, Refrain)**

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Jeremiah 31:7-14

(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Many: Thanks be to God.)

Sharing Faith with God's Children

Special Music

Second Scripture Lesson Ephesians 1:3-14

(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Many: Thanks be to God.)

Sermon

A Mighty Big Plan

Rev. Steve Snipes

WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

***Hymn (#145)**

What Child Is This

***Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy
Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the
dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the
Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead;
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of
saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life
everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*Congregational Response (#606)

Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Responsive Prayer of Dedication

One: Lord Jesus Christ:

Many: **Your goodness to us is beyond the reaches of our imagination,
a fullness of love that embraces all of life.**

One: From you we have received grace upon grace.

Many: **Accept our offering for the sake of the world.**

One: All that we have is yours.

Many: **All that we return to you is but a reflection of your love for us.**

One: In Jesus' name we pray.

All: **Amen.**

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*Hymn (#136)

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

***Please rise, in body or spirit.**

634 To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!
2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,
but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the peo - ple re - joice!

O come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son,

and give him the glo - ry: great things he has done!

What Child Is This



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?
 3 So bring him in-cense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.



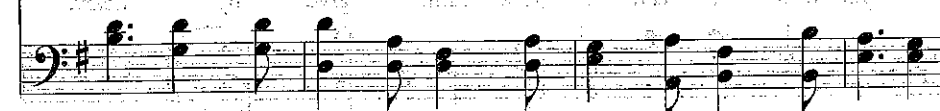
Whom an-gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?
 Good Chris-tian, fear, for sin-ners here the si-lent Word is plead-ing.
 The King of kings sal-va-tion brings; let lov-ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
 Nails, spear, shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you.
 Raise, raise the song on high. The vir-gin sings her lul-la-by.



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar-y!
 Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar-y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar-y!



This Victorian text gains scope and power by having the original second halves of stanzas two and three restored. They give a stark forward glimpse of what lies ahead for this "babe, the son of Mary!" The tune is much older, dating from Tudor England.

136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain ♩ = ♩'

Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

Fine

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
 3 Down in a low - ly man-ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

be - hold, through-out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light
 rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

to Refrain

Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.