

**Welcome to Worship: December 18, 2022**

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**Rundle Memorial United Church, Banff**

**Worshiping with**

**Ralph Connor Memorial United Church, Canmore**

**Prelude**

**Words of Welcome, and Passing the Peace**

**Opening Carol: Voices United #43**

**“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”**

*~John Wesley Work II – African American spiritual~*

*Public Domain*

*1. Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere,  
Go, tell it on the mountain,  
that Jesus Christ is born.*

While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light.

*2. Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere,  
Go, tell it on the mountain,  
that Jesus Christ is born.*

The shepherds feared and trembled  
when lo, above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Saviour's birth!

***3. Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere,  
Go, tell it on the mountain,  
that Jesus Christ is born.***  
**Down in a lonely manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent our salvation that blessed  
Christmas morn....**

*... Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere,  
Go, tell it on the mountain,  
that Jesus Christ is born.*

**-end-**

## Call to Worship

1. When life is messy and not going well,
2. remember that God is with you and come to worship.

1. When people are blaming you for something you haven't done,
2. remember that God is with you and come spend time in God's community. >>>

*Call to Worship continued...*

1. When you step in the muck or hit your thumb with a hammer,

2. take a deep breath and remember that God is with you.

1. Come find comfort today in this gathering of God's people.

**All: We know that God is with us. That's why we're here to worship.**

**A time of quiet reflection: our  
Contemplative Advent.**

**Chant (seated): Voices United # 67**  
**“Silent Night”** *(verse 1 only)*

*~ Joseph Mohr/Franz Gruber : Public Domain~*

**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**

**-end-**

# THE PAGEANT

Prayer of the Day

Carol: Voices United #59

“Joy to the World”

*~Isaac Watts, 1719 – G.F. Handel, 1742~ Public Domain*

**1. 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.**

**2. Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns:  
let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods,  
rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**3. 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.**

4. He rules the earth 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. **-end-**

**Scripture: Luke 1: 26-39**

**Mary's Monologue**

**Carol: Voices United #55**

**“In the Bleak Midwinter”**

*Christina Georgia Rosetti – Gustav Theodor Holst~*

*Public Domain*

**1. In the bleak midwinter,  
frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron,  
water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.**

**2. Our God, heaven cannot hold him,  
nor earth sustain;  
heaven and earth shall flee away  
when he comes to reign;  
in the bleak midwinter  
a stable place sufficed  
the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.**

**3. Enough for him, whom cherubim  
worship night and day,  
a breast full of milk, and a manger  
full of hay.**

**Enough for him, whom angels  
fall down before,  
the ox and ass and camel which adore.**

**4. What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him - give my heart.**

**- end -**

**Scripture: Matthew 1: 18-25**

**Scripture: Luke 2: 8-16**

**Shepherd's Monologue**

**Carol: Voices United #60**

**“O Come, All Ye Faithful”**

*~Latin: Adeste Fideles, 1743~ Public Domain*

**1. O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant!**

**O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!**

**Come and behold him, born the King of angels;**

**O come, let us adore him,**

**O come, let us adore him,**

**O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

**2. God of God, Light of Light,  
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;  
Very God, begotten, not created;**

**O come, let us adore him,**

**O come, let us adore him,**

**O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

**3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:  
“Glory to God in the highest!”**

**O come, let us adore him,**

**O come, let us adore him,**

**O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

**4. See how the shepherds  
summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;**

**O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

5. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing;  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

**-end-**

**Scripture: Matthew 2: 1-12**

**Wise One's Monologue**

**Carol: Voices United #74**

**“What Child is This?”**

*~William Chatterton Dix: Public Domain~*

1. 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.*

2. Why lies He in such mean estate,  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear, for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
*This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary.*

**3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come, one and all, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone him.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary.     -end-**

*\*\*All of the children are invited to come to the barn, and sing Away in a Manger\*\**

**Carol: Voices United #69**

**“Away in a Manger?”**

*Traditional/ William James Kirkpatrick  
Public Domain*

**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 fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

~this ends the **PAGEANT**  
portion of the service!~

**We present our Offering**

**Anthem: “This Child, Emmanuel”**

*~Walton~*

**Prayers of the People: a series of petitions ending,**  
“and so we pray”,  
“May all the world know your love  
and peace, O God”.

**The Lord's Prayer**

*(Beloved, in whom is heaven...)*

**Carol: Voices United #38**

**“Angels We Have Heard on High”**

*French Traditional, tr. James Chadwick*

*Public Domain*

1. Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains;  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains.

*Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o*

*Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o*

2. Shepherds, why this Jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?  
*Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o*  
*Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o*

**3. Come to Bethlehem and see  
Christ whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
*Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o*  
*Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o***

4. See him in a manger laid,  
Whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
While our hearts in love we raise.

*Glo-ori-a In excelsis de-o*

*Glo-ori-a in excelsis de-o*

**-end-**

# Commissioning and Benediction

Chorus: Voices United #43

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

*~John Wesley Work II – African American spiritual~*

*Public Domain*

*... Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere,  
Go, tell it on the mountain,  
that Jesus Christ is born.*

**-repeat several times!-**

## Please join us on Christmas Eve!

5:00 – Community service with Pageant  
Canmore Creekside Seniors' Centre

7:00 – Carols and Readings – Rundle Memorial,  
Banff

8:00 – Carols and Readings – Ralph Connor,  
Canmore

and Christmas Day

10:00 AM – simple Communion – Ralph Connor,  
Canmore