



WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE TODAY

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather today in great hope,
Longing to see the glory of the Lord.

**The Almighty has done great things
for us.**

Holy is God's name.

May our worship strengthen our hands,
our trembling knees, and our fearful
hearts.

**The Almighty has done great things
for us.**

Holy is God's name.

Knowing that God is near, let us be patient
with the times and with one another.

**The Almighty has done great things
for us.**

Holy is God's name.

To all who ask about our joy, let us tell the good news of what we have seen and heard.

The Almighty has done great things for us.

Holy is God's name.



Jesus, Name Above All Names

TFWS 2071

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Reader: In the midst of our waiting and longing for God to make the world right again, we cling to the truth that God has saved, God is saving, and God will save. So today, we join our voices with the prophet Isaiah, who calls us to live in the joy of the truth of God's salvation.

All: We choose to believe that the day is coming when “the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.”

Reader: We light this candle of joy as a sign of Truth that sets us free to live in joy as we wait and work for the day when all creation will flourish together.

**Joyful, Joyful,
We Adore Thee**

UMH 89

**Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of Love;
Hearts unfold like flowers
before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.**

**Melt the clouds of sin and
sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!**

**All Thy works with joy
surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy
rays,
Stars and angels sing around
Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.**

**Field and forest, vale and
mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing
fountain,
Call us to rejoice in Thee. ♦**



Lord, Hear Our Prayer

**Joyful and patient God,
You break into our Advent busyness
with Your extravagant promise of
glory and joy.**

**Fire up our imaginations with holy trust
in Your goodness.**

**Inspire us with a patience
that sees beyond our longing for past
glories.**

**Move us beyond our criticisms
of one another and of ourselves.
Open our eyes and help us see Your
compassion, already at work in our
world: healing, restoring,
strengthening, and telling the good
news that You are near.**

**Make us signs of your everlasting joy
for Your people and for all the world.
Amen.**



Joy to the World

UMH 246

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.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks,
hills, and plains

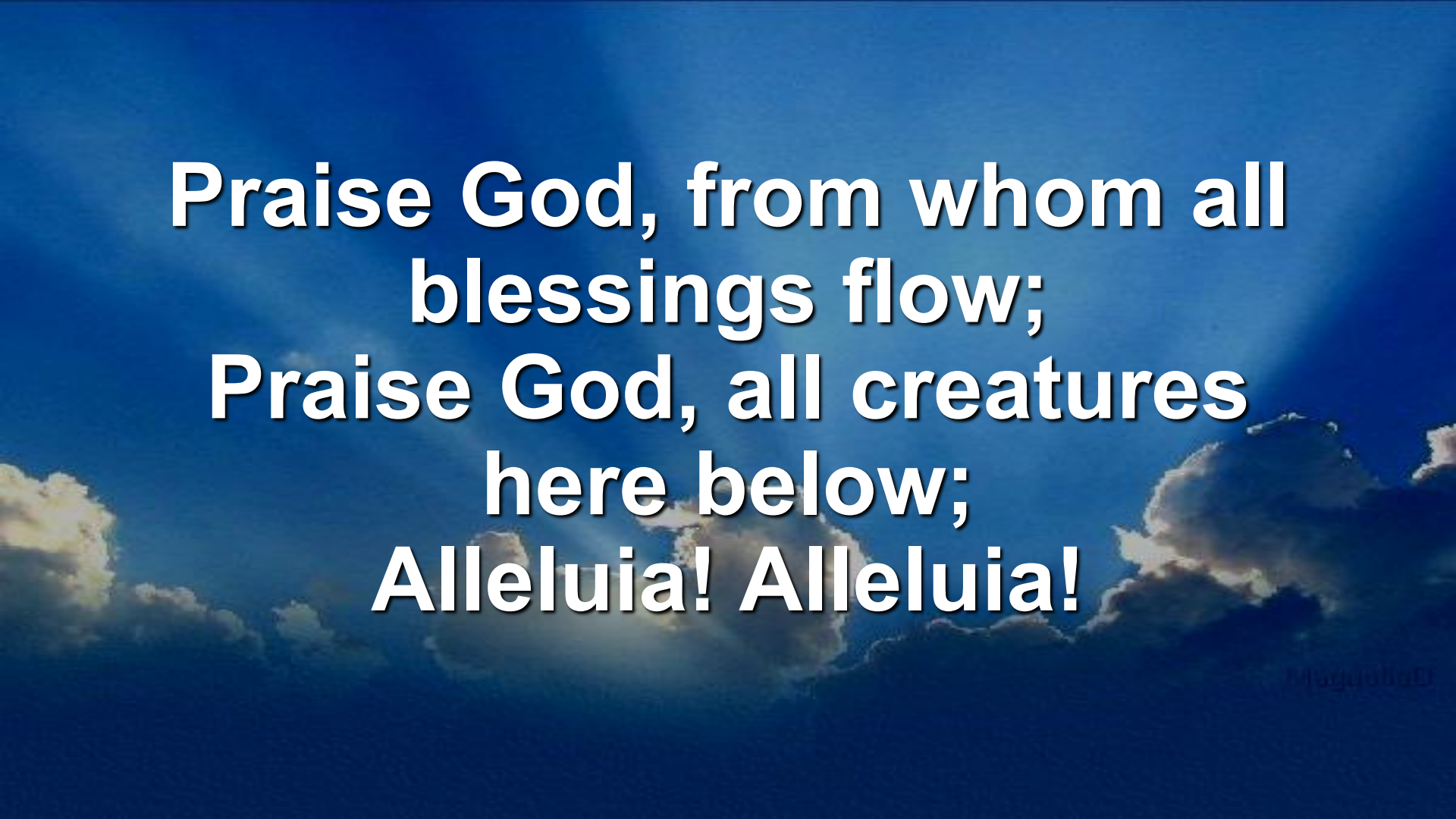
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world 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. ♦



OFFERING

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING



**Praise God, from whom all
blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures
here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise God, the source of
all our gifts!**

**Praise Jesus Christ, whose
Power uplifts!**

**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! ♦**



Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

UMH 240

Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!

Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Hail the heaven-born Prince of
Peace! Hail the Son of
Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings.

Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!” ♦

HOLY SCRIPTURE

James 5:7-10

SPECIAL MUSIC

Down From His Glory

Signs and Truth

LUKE 1:46b-55



Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH 196

Come, Thou long-expected
Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release
us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel's strength and
consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom
bring.

By Thine own eternal spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious
throne. ♦

A festive still life composition featuring two lit candles in glass holders, holly leaves, and berries arranged on a dark wooden surface. The candles are lit, casting a warm glow. The holly leaves are green with red berries. The wooden surface is dark and textured.

Go in Peace

THANKS FOR COMING