



WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE TODAY

CALL TO WORSHIP

The signs are there: God's love comes again,
showering us with the light of Christ!

**O Lord God of hosts, let Your face shine,
that we may be saved.**

With anticipation of the divine, we remain
expectant and marvel at the steadfast faith of
Mary and Joseph.

O Lord of hosts, let Your face shine, that we may be saved.

The time is nearly upon us.

Preparations are almost complete.

Are we ready for change?

O Lord of hosts, let Your face shine, that we may be saved.

Worship and praise God for these signs of hope and love!

**O Lord of hosts, let Your face shine, that we
may be saved.**



O Little Town of Bethlehem

UMH 230

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Reader: Today, we come face to face with the scandal of Advent: Mary, the unmarried mother; God Incarnate growing in Mary's womb as a vulnerable baby; Joseph contemplating leaving Mary because of her pregnancy;

God's love at work in ways that society and propriety could not understand; God calling Mary and Joseph to faithfulness despite the fear of disgrace.

All: With Mary and Joseph, we choose to wait, watch, and listen for the way of Love instead of responding in fear to the world's judgment.

Reader: We light this candle of love as a sign of our faithfulness as we seek, find, and follow Emmanuel, God with us.

Angels from the Realms of Glory

UMH 220

**Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship,
Come and worship,
Worship Christ, the
newborn King.**

**Saints, before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear;
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear:
Come and worship,
Come and worship,
Worship Christ, the
newborn King. ♦**



Lord, Hear Our Prayer

**In this season of love, hope and family,
grant us joy and peace this day.**

**You offered signs to Joseph and Mary long
ago-**

**signs that their Son would be the Messiah,
Emmanuel.**

**May Your light shine on us here,
that we might understand the signs in our
lives.**

**We come with open hearts and minds
to hear of Your love coming into the world.
We come to hear of a young woman with
child, a foster father with trust in God,
a match You made in heaven
to shepherd a tiny boy to His destiny.
Holy God, show us Your peace
as we make ready for Your light in the
world!**

Blessed Assurance

UMH 369

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is
mine! Oh, what a foretaste of
glory divine!**

**Heir of salvation, purchase of
God, born of His Spirit, washed
in His blood.**

**This is my story, this is my
song,
Praising my Savior all the day
long;**

**This is my story, this is my
song, praising my Savior all
the day long.**

**Perfect submission, all is at
rest,
I in my Savior am happy and
blest;
Watching and waiting, looking
above, filled with His
goodness, lost in His love.**

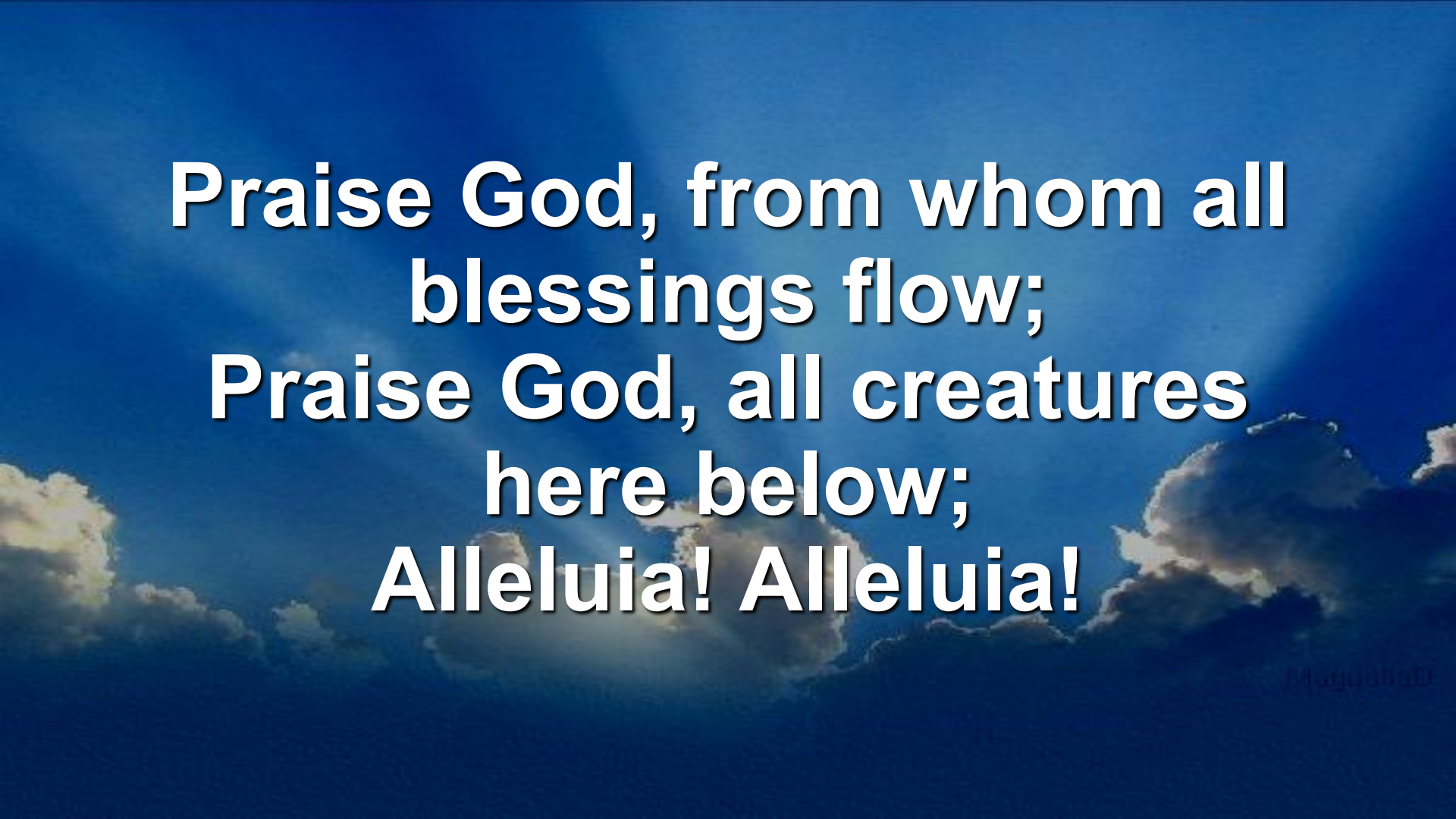
**This is my story, this is my
song,
Praising my Savior all the day
long;**

**This is my story, this is my
song, praising my Savior all
the day long. ♦**



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! ♦**

**His Name Is
Wonderful**

UMH 174

**His name is wonderful,
His name is wonderful,
His name is wonderful,
Jesus, my Lord.**

**He is the mighty King,
Master of everything;
His name is wonderful,
Jesus, my Lord.**

**He's the great Shepherd,
The Rock of all ages,
Almighty God is He;**

**Bow down before Him,
Love and adore Him,
His name is wonderful,
Jesus, my Lord. ♦**

HOLY SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 7:10-16

SPECIAL MUSIC

Come, Thou Long- Expected Jesus

Signs and Faithfulness

MATTHEW 1:18-25



The First Noel

UMH 245

**The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
In fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay
keeping their sheep, on a cold
winter's night that was so
deep.**

**Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel!**

**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, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of
Israel! ♦**

A festive still life composition featuring two lit candles in glass holders, holly leaves, and berries arranged on a dark wooden surface. The scene is dimly lit, with the warm glow of the candles illuminating the surrounding foliage and the wood grain. The overall mood is cozy and celebratory.

Go in Peace

THANKS FOR COMING