



# 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

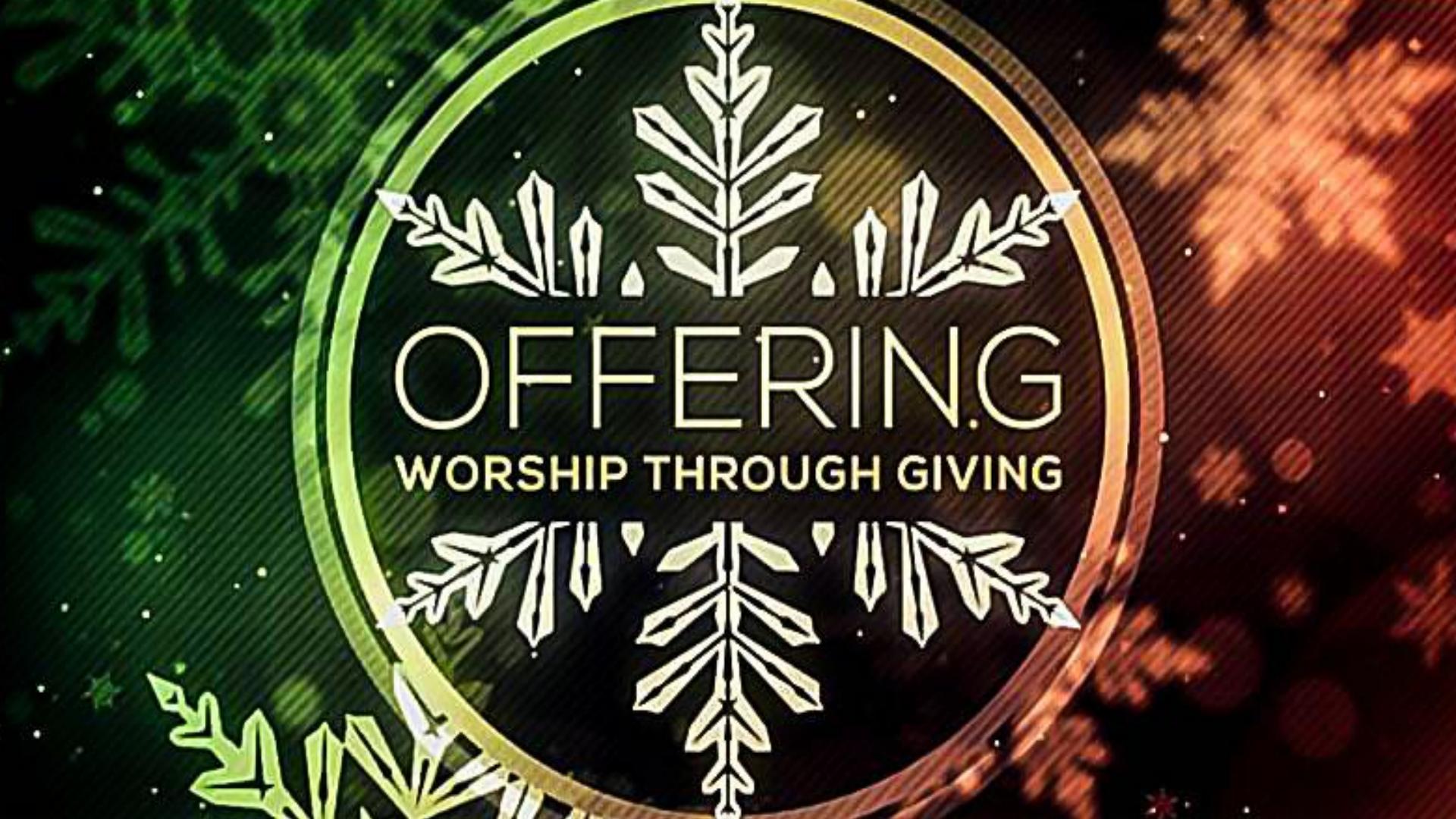
Blessed assurance, Jesus is  
mine! Oh, what a foretaste of  
glory divine!

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! ♦



# Go in Peace

THANKS FOR COMING