



*When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." [Matthew 2:1-2](#)*

The Magi were most likely from Persia, modern-day Iran. They were men who regularly engaged in a study of the stars. They were not Jewish but were most likely aware of the popular belief of the Jewish people that a king would be born who would save them. These Magi were called by God to encounter the Savior of the World. Interestingly, God used something very familiar to them as an instrument of their calling: the stars. It was among their belief that when someone of great importance was born, this birth was accompanied by a new star. So when they saw this new, bright and brilliant star, they were filled with curiosity and hope. One of the most significant aspects of this story is that they responded. God called them through the use of a star, and they chose to follow this sign, embarking on a long and arduous journey. God often uses those things most familiar to us that are part of our daily life to send forth His calling. Recall, for example, that many of the Apostles were fishermen, and Jesus used their occupation to call them, making them "fishers of men." He especially used the miraculous catch of fish to clearly indicate to them that they had a new calling. In our own lives, God is constantly calling us to seek Him out and worship Him. He will often use some of the most ordinary parts of our lives to send forth that calling. How is He calling you? In what way is He sending you a star to follow? Many times when God speaks, we ignore His voice. We must learn from these Magi and diligently respond when He calls. We must not hesitate and must seek to daily be attentive to the ways that God invites us to deeper trust, surrender and worship. Reflect, today, upon God's call in your life. Are you listening? Are you responding? Are you ready and willing to abandon all else in life so as to serve His holy will? Seek Him, wait on Him and respond. Doing so will be the best decision you ever make.

*Lord, I love You and pray that I will be open to Your guiding hand in my life. May I always be attentive to the countless ways that You call to me each and every day. And may I always respond to You with all my heart. Jesus, I trust in You.*

Readings 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 15 January 2023  
Isaiah 49:3, 5-6; Psalm 39:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Corinthians 1:1-3  
John 1:29-34

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

### **O Come All Ye Faithful**

Adeste fideles,  
laeti triumphantes,  
venite, venite in Bethlehem.  
Natum videte Regem angelorum.  
**Venite adoremus,  
venite adoremus,  
venite adoremus Dominum!**

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.**

Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing all ye citizens of heav'n above.  
Glory to God in the highest. **R**

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning  
Jesus to thee be glory given.  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing. **R**  
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## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

### **What Child is this (sung)**

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 worship and angels sing.  
Haste, haste to bring him praise,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Come, have no fear, God's Son is here,  
his love all loves exceeding.  
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through  
the cross be borne for me, for you.  
Hail, hail, the Saviour comes  
the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,  
all tongues and peoples own him,  
the King of kings salvation brings,  
let ev'ry heart enthrone him.  
Raise, raise your song on high  
while Mary sings a lullaby,  
joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary.  
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## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
You are the Christ everlasting,  
born for us all of a Virgin.  
You have conquered death,  
opened heaven to all believers.  
**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
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## GIFTS PROCESSION

### **Away in a Manger**

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.

The cattle are lowing,  
the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus,  
no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus,  
look down from the sky  
and stay by my side  
until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus,  
I ask thee 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.  
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## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your  
Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

## COMMUNION PROCESSION

### **While Shepherds Watched their Flocks**

While shepherds watched  
their flocks by night,  
all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down,  
and glory shone around.

"Fear not," said he, for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind,  
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to you and all mankind.

To you, in David's town this day,  
is born of David's line  
a Saviour who is Christ the Lord,  
and this shall be the sign,

The heavenly Child  
you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
all meanly wrapped  
in swaddling bands,  
and in a manger laid."

Thus spoke the seraph,  
and forthwith appeared  
a shining throng of angels  
praising God, who thus  
addressed their joyful song,

"All glory be to God on high  
and to the earth be peace.  
Goodwill henceforth  
from heaven to all,  
begin and never cease."  
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### **Hark the Herald Angels Sing**

Hark! The herald angels sing  
"Glory to the newborn King,  
peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all you nations rise,  
join the triumph of the skies,  
with th'angelic host proclaim  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."

**Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold Him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see,  
hail the incarnate Deity.  
Pleased as man with us to dwell  
Jesus, our Emmanuel. **R**

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace.  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness.  
Light and life to all he brings,  
ris'n 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. **R**  
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### **Angels We Have Heard on High**

Angels we have heard on high  
sweetly singing over the plains,  
and the mountains in reply,  
echoing their joyous strains.

**Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Shepherds, why this Jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be  
which inspire your heav'nly song? **R**

Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing.  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. **R**  
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## REFLECTION HYMN

### **Silent Night**

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.

Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight,  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia!  
Christ the Saviour is born!  
Christ the Saviour is born!"

Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace Jesus,  
Lord, at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.  
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## RECESSIONAL HYMN

### **Joy to the World**

Joy to the world! The Lord is come.  
Let earth receive her King.  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
and heav'n and nature sing  
and heav'n and nature sing  
and heav'n and heav'n  
and nature sing

Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns  
let us our songs employ.  
While fields and floods,  
rocks, hills and plains  
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,