

THE LIGHT OF CREATION

NARRATOR: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and empty. Darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. *(Gen. 1:1-13 NIV)*

“Carols of Hope and Light”

Rejoice, rejoice, your Light will come on Christmas day, on Christmas day.
Rejoice, rejoice, and greet the Son on Christmas day in the morning.
Rejoice, rejoice, prepare the way for Christmas day, for Christmas day.
Rejoice, rejoice, declare your praise on Christmas day in the morning.

Arise and shine! Your Light will come, and God will send His chosen one.
Arise and shine! Your Light will come. Rejoice and see what the Lord has done.
Come raise your songs of joy and mirth. Sing of the Promise come to earth.

Let all creation lift its voice with heart and soul and voice. Give ye heed to what we say: “News! News! Soon the Lord will come to stay. To a lowly cattle stall, God will give a gift to all.” Lift a song of praise! Lift a song of praise!

Alleluia! Sing to God a jubilant song! Rejoice, rejoice, your Light will come on Christmas day, on Christmas day. Let all the people sing! Let steeples ring, for on Christmas day, Light will come!

THE LIGHT OF PREPARATION

NARRATOR: The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted; and every mountain and hill brought low. The crooked places shall be made straight, and the rough places smooth. The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.” *(Isaiah 40:3-5)*

NARRATOR: I, the Lord, have called you to righteousness. I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles. *(Isaiah 42:6)*

“Longing for the Light”

Come, O come, Emmanuel. Come and ransom Israel. Come with pow’r and majesty. Loose our bond and set us free. Come, O come, Thou Wisdom from on high. Come and bring Your guiding light. Guide us with Thy mighty hand. Bring us to the promised land.

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
Rejoice, rejoice! The Light will come, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Come, O come, great Lord of grace. Come, inhabit all of our praise. Fill us with Your peace and light; death’s dark shadows put to flight.

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. Rejoice, rejoice! The Light will come, the Babe, the Son of Mary. Come, O come, Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

THE LIGHT OF THE ANTICIPATION

NARRATOR: Hear this promise from Scripture: The desert and the parched land will be glad. The wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom. It will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. All will see the glory of the

Lord, and the splendor of our God. *(Isaiah 35:1-2)*

“An Advent Garden”

A tender rose is blooming, a flower pure as snow. The winter air perfuming, the graceful winds will blow. The gift of love sent from above will like a garden grow.

The desert sands will come alive as streams begin to flow. The barren lands will bloom and thrive. The hills will be made low. In ev’ry place, God’s gift of grace will like a garden grow.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the earth lift its voice; for a new rose is blooming in Zion. Let the garden rejoice.

The lion and the lamb will rest. The bear will feed on straw. In Zion, hope will reign at last. A Child will lead them all. The gift of peace will be released and like a garden grow. Then peace, like a garden, will grow.

THE LIGHT OF THE ANNUNCIATION

NARRATOR: Hear the word of the Prophet: Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a sign: the virgin will be with Child and will give birth to a Son and will call Him Immanuel. *(Isaiah 7:14)*

Now hear the words from the gospel of Luke: God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored, the Lord is with you.”

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary. You have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a Son, and you are to call Him Jesus. He will be great, and He will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever. His kingdom will never end. *(Luke 1:26-33)*

“The Holy Child of Mary”

The Holy Child of Mary, O Son of perfect grace, You are peace and love sent from above. You are worthy of our praise. The stars that shine in heaven, the snow upon the trees are pure and bright and filled with light, but none compares with Thee.

Ev’ry valley is exalted, each mountain made low. The crooked and broken are now all made whole. The wonder of heaven has come to our night. The Son of Mary is God’s perfect light. Noel, noel. The Son born of Mary is God’s perfect light.

O holy night of wonders, O night when Christ cam down, let the earth rejoice with tuneful noise and a jubilation sound. Alleluia! Christ is born! Rejoice!

THE LIGHT OF INCARNATION

NARRATOR: In those days, Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. So, Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem, the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the Baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn – a Son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. *(Luke 2:1:7)*

“Jesus, Jesus Rest Your Head”

Refrain: Jesus, Jesus rest Your head, You have got a manger bed. All the evil folk on earth sleep in feathers at their birth. Jesus, Jesus rest Your head, You have got a manger bed.

Have you heard about our Jesus, have you heard about His fate? How His mother went to the stable on that Christmas Eve so late? Winds were blowing, cows were lowing, stars were glowing, glowing, glowing. *(Refrain)*

To the manger came the wise men, bringing things from hin and yon, For the mother and the father, and the blessed little Son. Milkmaids left their fields and flocks and sat beside the ass and ox. *(Refrain).*

NARRATOR: For unto us a Child is born. Unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.*(Isaiah 9-6)*

“O Wondrous Night”

O wondrous night, the stars on high are singing. This is the night of our dear Savior’s birth. O glorious night, the angel choirs are singing, bringing the news of peace to all the earth. Rejoice! This is the time for worship! Lift up your voice and tune your heart for praise.

O wondrous night that brought the gift of Jesus. O wonderous night that saw the light of grace.

O wondrous night, the heavens shine with glory, beaming with light, love paints the shadows gold; and from the heights, the angels share the story, “Glory to God,” they shout with voices bold. Rejoice! This is the time for worship! Lift up your voice and tune your heart for praise.

O wondrous night that brought the gift of Jesus. O wondrous night that saw the light of grace.

THE LIGHT OF THE DECLARATION

NARRATOR: There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them. They were terrified!

But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today, in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a Baby wrapped in cloths, lying in a manger.”

And suddenly, a great company of the heavenly hosts appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to all people on whom His favor rests.” *(Luke 2:8-14)*

“A Celtic Noel”

Noel, noel! The heavens are ringing. Creation is singing as angels take wing. Noel, noel! Let great jubilation resound through creation to welcome the King. Sing alleluia! Gloria! Glory to God! Noel, noel! The song is beginning with praise and thanksgiving. Sing “Jesus is born. ”

Noel, noel! The angels are praising. The shepherds are raising their voices to the sky. Noel, noel! Lay gifts now before Him. Come kneel and adore Him, the Savior divine. Sing alleluia! Gloria! Glory to God. Noel, noel! God’s light is upon us. His Word is among us, for Jesus is born.

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold: “Peace on earth, good will to all, for heav’ns all gracious King.” The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the glorious angels sing!

Sing Noel! The heavens are ringing; creation is singing as angels take wing. Noel, noel! Let great jubilation resound through creation to welcome the King. Sing alleluia! Gloria! Glory to God. Noel, noel! The song is beginning with praise and thanksgiving. Sing gloria! Glory to God. Sing noel!

THE LIGHT OF THE REVELATION

NARRATOR: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and His glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and the kings to the brightness of your dawn. *(Isaiah 60:1-3)*

NARRATOR: After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star when it rose, and we have come to worship Him.?” *(Matthew 2:1-2)*

“Carols of the Quest”

Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine. Love was born at Christmas. Star and angel gave the sign.

Christ came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all: and His shelter was a stable and His cradle was a stall. With the poor, and meek, and lowly, lived on earth, our Savior holy.

O sing a song of Bethlehem, of seekers from afar who traveled through the wilderness, inspired by heaven’s star. The light that shone on Bethlehem fills the earth today, of Jesus’ birth and peace on earth the angels sing always.

So, most gracious Lord, may we ever more be led by Thee.

O star of wonder, star of might, shine down on us we pray. As with gladness, kings of old did the guiding star behold. Burn bright your hopeful message clear in ev’ry heart today. As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright.

O Morning Star, rise in our lives and lead us to Love’s place, and teach us to be stars of light and people of Your grace. Make us people of Your grace.

THE LIGHT OF THE PROCLAMATION

NARRATOR: You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. *(Matthew 5:14-16)*

“A Celtic Gloria!”

Give praise all creation. Rejoice ev’ry nation. With glad jubilation sing, “Jesus is born!” The stars all are singing. The bells all are ringing. The people are bringing their praise to the Lord! Sing “Gloria! Jesus is born!” The music is swelling. The heavens are telling with songs, so compelling, that “Jesus is born!”

The angels on high raise a jubilant “Gloria! Jesus is born!” They soar through the heavens with shouts clear and strong! Come celebrate joy all you people of Light! The Savior is born on this glorious holy night!

A new day is breaking. A new hope is waking. God’s promise is taking our darkness away. The day shines with glory as dawn tells the story, for this is the morning Dod wakes us with grace. Sing, “Gloria! Jesus is born!” Give praise all creation. Rejoice ev’ry nation. With glad jubilation sing, “Jesus is born!”

THE LIGHT OF THE CONSECRATION

NARRATOR: Then Jesus spoke to the people, He said, “I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” *(John 8:12)*

“Bethlehem Light”

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see the lie! Above thy deep and dreamless slip, the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark street shineth the everlasting Light; and all the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend on us we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in. Be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell. O come, O come to us. Abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel.

THE LIGHT OF THE CELEBRATION

NARRATOR: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made. Without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of all people. *(John 1:1-4)*
NARRATOR: Let us therefore rejoice, for God, through Christ, has made us His children of Light. We are now a reflection of His glory. As we forsake the darkness of this world, we freely choose the illumination of God’s truth and grace. Let us now shine our light before all people, so that by the light of our love, they may see the glory of God in all we say and do.

“Carols of Celebration”

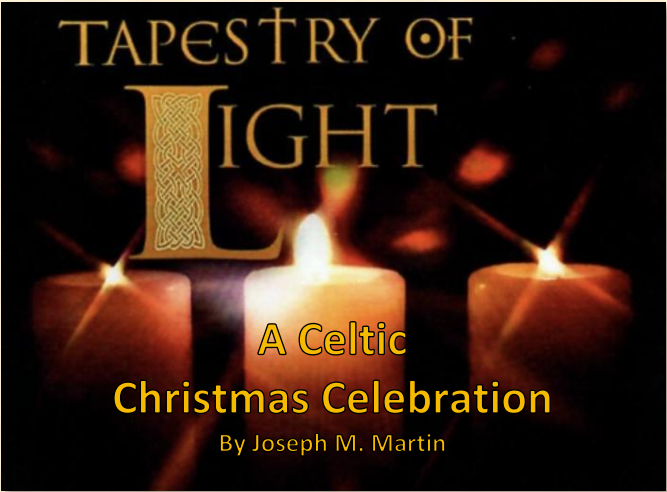
Rejoice, rejoice all ye people of faith. Shout with the angels in jubilant refrain. In jubilant refrain, give thanks now and sing. Rejoice let alleluias ring. Awake, awake for the morning is nigh. Dawn breaks with singing and everlasting, light. God sent us His Son. Rejoice, rejoice for Jesus has come.

Come and hear the gladsome song that fills the earth with grace. Gather at the manger and bring a gift of praise! Sing for joy! Praise the Lord! Let your music be restored! Sing for Joy! Tell the happy news that Christ is born today. Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place; and with true love and brotherhood, each other now embrace; for Christ is born in Bethlehem and comes to bring us grace. O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy. O tidings of comfort and joy.

Good Christians now rejoice with heart and soul and voice. Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today. Ox and ass before Him bow, and He is in the manger now. Christ is born today!

Rejoice! Rejoice! Your Light has come on Christmas day, on Christmas day. Rejoice! Rejoice! Now greet the Son on Christmas day in the morning.

O come let us adore Him. O come let us adore Him. O come let us adore Him, Christ, Christ the Lord!



Sunday, December 7, 2025
Presented by the FPC Choir
Edna Broadhurst, Dir., Music Mins.

Narrators – The Rev. Dr. Skip Baker-Smith & Elder Diane Griffin

Instrumentalists: Edna Broadhurst, piano, Amanda McCormick, flute; Corey McCormick, percussion; & Clair Morgan, trumpet

Soprano	Ann Davis, Sofia Calicchio, Kim McCormick, and Oralie Wilhite
Alto	Gabrielle Goodrich, Sylvia Hutson, Jennifer Patgorski, and Gail Pittman
Tenor	Clair Morgan, Skip Baker-Smith, and Todd Taylor
Bass	Michael Broadhurst, Tanner Furman, and Raymond Rodrigues

Movements

“Carols of Hope and Light”	Sofia Calliccio, soloist
“Longing for the Light”	Gabrielle Goodrich & Todd Taylor, soloists

“An Advent Garden”	
“The Holy Child of Mary”	Ann Davis, soloist
*“Jesus, Jesus Rest Your Head”	Ann Davis, soloist
“O Wondrous Night”	Michael Broadhurst & Gail Pittman, soloists

“A Celtic Noel”	Sylvia Hutson & Skip Baker-Smith, soloists
“Carols of the Quest”	Kim McCormick & Ramond Rodrigues, soloists

“A Celtic Gloria”	
“Bethlehem Light”	Oralie Wilhite, soloist
“Carols of Celebration”	Michael Broadhurst, Tanner Furman, Gabrielle Goodrich, & Jennifer Patgorski, soloists

*American Folk Carol