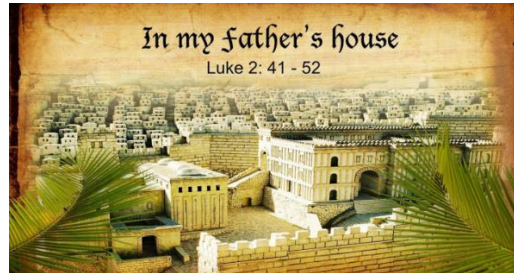




**CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



January 2, 2022

9:55 am

Welcome to worship! Whether you are here with us in person or joining us online we welcome you to worship. Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

*An asterisk (\*) next to a part of our worship outline means that we invite everyone for whom it is comfortable to rise to their feet for that portion of worship.*

## RINGING OF THE CHIMES

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sue Koza

### HYMN

'Angels We Have Heard On High'

No. 155

*(scroll down to music)*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Children are precious to God. The child Samuel grew in God's favor and the child Jesus grew likewise.

**People: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all!**

Leader: Older adults and elders are precious to God. Young and old together praise God's name.

**People: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all!**

Leader: Creation is precious to God: cedars, mountains, snow & frost, shining stars.

**People: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all!**

### OPENING PRAYER

### A TIME FOR ALL AGES

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

O God, clothe us anew,

for we confess we do not clothe our spirits as you require.

The compassion we clothe ourselves with is conditional.

The love we clothe ourselves with is limited.

Forgiveness and gratitude: these are the garments we need to live in community, yet we rend them and fail to fit them, over and over again.

Weave us new garments which do not need mending,

clothes that protect us like suits or armor and that we can delight in like cozy sweaters.

May we outwardly show what we inwardly know: Your love has no bounds.

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

### HYMN

'Angels from the Realms of Glory'

No.149

*(scroll down to music)*

### SCRIPTURE

#### **Luke 2:41-52**

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

### SERMON

Rev. Ann-Marie Illsley

### PASTORAL PRAYER

#### **LORD'S PRAYER** *(in unison)*

**Our Creator (Father) who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done. On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

### CALL FOR OFFERINGS

Where are you searching for Christ Jesus? Don't you know Christ is attending to our Holy Parent's interests: those old and young ones suffering malnourishment & maltreatment, the Creation itself, which is suffering the same? Align, siblings in Christ, with our Redeemer. Give of your plenty that the desperate may know hope.

[www.brocktonucc.org/donate/](http://www.brocktonucc.org/donate/)

### OFFERTORY HYMN

'Infant Holy, Infant Lowly'

No. 163

*(scroll down for words)*

### \*DOXOLOGY

'Angels We Have Heard On High'

No. 155

*(scroll down for words)*

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION



## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

### THE EXTRAVAGANT WELCOME

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Holy One be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

**People: We lift them up to God!**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the God of All That Is.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Birthing God, creator of heaven and earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your holy name:

### COMMUNION HYMN

No. 111

C G7 Am F G C  
San - to, san - to, san - to. ¡Mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra! Mi  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you! My

F G7 C Am F G7 C  
co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: ¡San - to e - res Señ - or!  
heart knows how to say to you: Ho - ly are you, Lord!

### REMEMBERING THE STORY

Leader: In the midst of a time of despair, oppression, division, and fear, you came to live among us through the same birth we experienced.

And so, in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

**People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

## PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD & POURING OF THE CUP

## SHARING THE ELEMENTS

### COMMUNION HYMN

'Down to Earth'

No. 168

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(in unison)*

**We thank you, God, for breaking into our world - and for pouring into our lives and our experiences. We thank you, God, for this meal of thanksgiving - and for the stories of love, grace, and hope that it tells. Amen.**

### HYMN

'From Heaven Above'

No. 146

*(scroll down to music)*

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

### **Participating in Today's Worship Service:**

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Ann-Marie Illsley, Associate Pastor  
Murray Kidd, Music Director  
Ralph Fisher, Organist  
Alisa Cassola, Soloist  
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

<sup>1</sup>Dorsey, Stephanie. "Love Has No Bounds' *UCC Worship Ways*. <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/christmas-1c-december-26/>

<sup>2</sup>Smith, Alydia. "Advent Communion Liturgy - United-Church.ca." *United Church of Canada*, United Church of Canada, <https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/advent-communion-liturgy.docx>.

### **[WORSHIP PLANNING TEAM SIGNUP - Help Us To Plan Lent!](#)**

Have you ever wondered how worship gets planned? Are you an experienced worship planner who sometimes wishes you could flex your creative muscles again, but only for a season? Are you generally creative? Do you love worshipping with our Beloved Community here at Christ Congregational Church?

If you answered "YES" to any of these questions you should consider signing up for our first worship planning team at Christ Congregational Church! The idea is simple - a group of folks from our congregation get together to plan worship, with Pastor Jeff, for the season of Lent. Then, when the season is over, their work is over. The team will begin meeting some time in mid to late January, and we will plan to meet somewhere between 3-5 times in order to get worship planned.

*ANYONE* can join in this work - and so we hope you'll join us! To add your name to the team **[CLICK HERE](#)** and sign up.

# 155 Angels We Have Heard on High

*Descant*

4. See with - in a man - ger laid, Christ, whom choirs of

1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing  
 2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous  
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Christ, who comes in  
 4. See with - in a man - ger laid, Christ, whom choirs of

an - gels praise; Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid,  
 o'er the plains, and the moun - tains in re - ply  
 strains pro - long? What the glad - some tid - ings be  
 low - ly birth. Come a - dore on bend - ed knee  
 an - gels praise; Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid,

*Refrain*

while our hearts in love we raise. Ah!

ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
 which in - spire your heav'n - ly song? Glo - - -  
 Je - sus, joy of heav'n and earth.  
 while our hearts in love we raise.

WORDS: Traditional French carol; tr. *Crown of Jesus*, 1862, alt.  
 MUSIC: French carol melody; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937;  
 harm. Austin C. Lovelace, 1964, alt.; desc. Richard E. Gerig, 1956

GLORIA  
 77.77 w. refrain

Harm. © 1964 The United Methodist Publishing House; desc. © 1979 Hope Publishing Co.

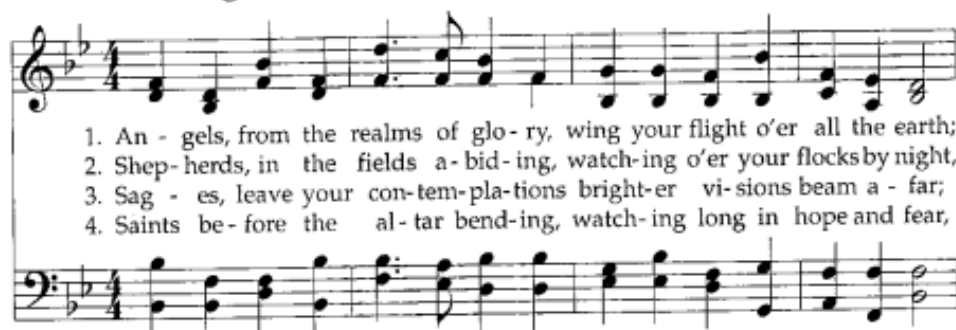
Glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o! Ah!

ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo -

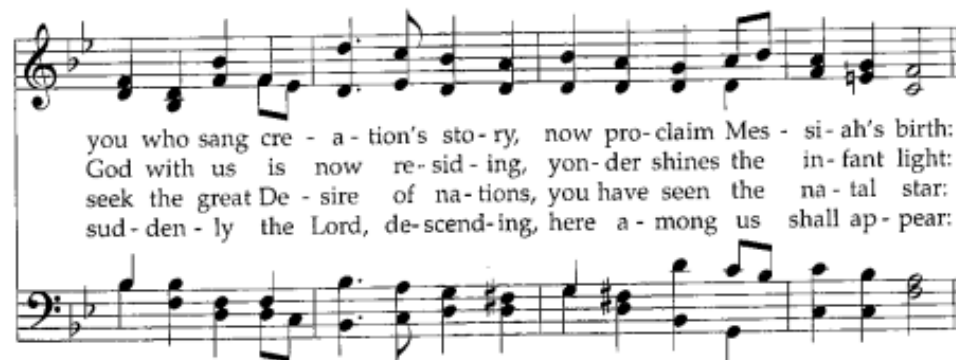
Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

# Angels, from the Realms of Glory 149

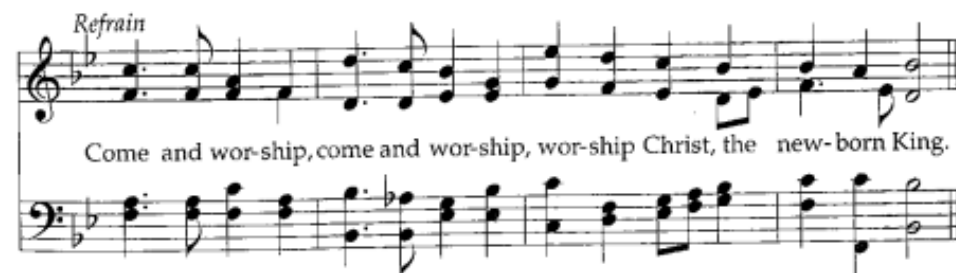


1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
2. Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
3. Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in hope and fear,



you who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light:  
seek the great De - sire of na - tions, you have seen the na - tal star:  
sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, here a - mong us shall ap - pear:

*Refrain*



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

WORDS: James Montgomery, 1816  
MUSIC: Henry T. Smart, 1867

REGENT SQUARE  
87.87.87

## Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

G D G G/B C D7 G

1. In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;  
2. Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new,

D7 G D7 G G/B C D7 G

ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing, Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry - tid - ings of a gos - pel true.

C Am D Bm Em Am Dsus D

Swift - ly wing - ing an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:  
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:

G Am D7 Em Bm G/B C G/D D7 G

Christ the babe is Lord of all, Christ the babe is Lord of all!  
Christ the babe was born for you, Christ the babe was born for you!

WORDS: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1925  
MUSIC: Polish folk melody; adapt. A. E. Rusbridge

W ZLOBIE LEZY  
87.87.88.77

Adapt. used by permission of Rosalind Rusbridge

*Unison*

1. Down to earth as a dove, came to all,  
2. This is love come to light, now is fear  
3. Je - sus Christ comes to feed hun-gry ones

ho - ly love; Je - sus Christ from a - bove bring - ing great sal - va - tion,  
put to flight. God de - feats ev - il's blight; giv - ing for our sor - rows,  
in their need; in the house there is bread: Je - sus in a sta - ble,

*Refrain*

meant for ev - ery na - tion.  
hope of new to - mor - rows. Let us sing, sing, sing, dance and spring,  
in the church a ta - ble.

spring, spring. Christ is here, ev - er near! Glo - ria in ex - cel - sis.

WORDS: Fred Kaan, 1968  
MUSIC: *Pine Cantiones*, 1582; arr. Gustav Holst, 1925

PERSONENT HODIE  
666.66 w. refrain

Words © 1968 Hope Publishing Co.; arr. © 1924, renewed, J. Curwen & Sons

$\text{♩} = 72-80$

1. From heaven a - bove to earth I come to  
 2. To you this night is born a child of  
 3. This is the Christ, God's Son most high, who  
 4. "Glo - ry to God in high - est heaven, who

bring good news to ev - ery - one! Glad tid - ings of great  
 Ma - ry, cho - sen vir - gin mild; this new - born child of  
 hears your sad and bit - ter cry; he will him - self your  
 un - to us the Christ has given." With an - gels sing the

joy I bring to all the world, and glad - ly sing:  
 low - ly birth shall be the joy of all the earth.  
 Sav - ior be and from all sin will set you free.  
 Sav - ior's birth, a glad new year to all the earth.

WORDS: Martin Luther, 1535; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978, alt.  
 MUSIC: Valentin Schumann's *Geistliche Lieder*, 1539

VOM HIMMEL HOCH  
 LM

Tr. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, used by permission of Augsburg Fortress