A Traditional Christmas Pageant and Holy Eucharist

December 24, 2020 4:00 p.m.

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Greeting

Hymn 56 (1 & 3)

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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 heaven above; glory to God, glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Scene 1
The Prophecy of the Coming of Christ the King

Hymn 66 Stuttgart

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us for ever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.

Scene 2
The Appearance of the Angel before the Virgin Mary

Hymn 265 (vs. 1&4)

Gabriel's Message

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; "All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born, in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn.

And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say – "Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

Scene 3 The Birth of Christ in Bethlehem

Hymn 101 (vs. 1 & 2):

Cradle Song

Away in a manger, no crib for his 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.

Scene 4
The Worship of the Shepherds

Hymn 99 (vs. 1 w/ refrain)

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere. Go tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens
There shown a holy light.

Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hill and everywhere. Got tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born.

Scene 5
The Worship of the Three Kings

Hymn 128: We Three Kings

John Henry Hopkins, Jr.

We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again, King for ever, ceasing never over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I: incense owns a Deity nigh; prayer and praising, gladly raising, worship him, God Most High.

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom; sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice; heaven sings alleluia; alleluia to earth replies.

O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright; westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

Intercessor: In peace we pray to you, O God, saying, Lord, hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For the Church throughout the world, that we may bear the Light of the Christ Child to all, we pray to you O Lord, All: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For peace and goodwill among the nations of the world, we pray to you O Lord, All: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For the sick and all who suffer, that they may feel your healing grace we pray to you O Lord, All: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: For the departed, that they may rest in peace, we pray to you O Lord, All: Lord hear our prayer.

Intercessor: In the communion of the Ever Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, St. Martin of Tours and all of the saints, we lift our hearts in thankful praise for the gift of Christ our Savior. All: To God be praise forever.

Priest: O God, You have made this most sacred night radiant with the splendor of the true light. Grant, we pray, that we, who have known the mysteries of Christ's light on earth, may also delight in Christ's joys in heaven. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Blessing and Dismissal

Hymn 100 Antioch

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

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, and wonders, wonders of his love.