The Song of the Angels - Midweek 3





3721 N. 21st St., Milwaukee, WI., 53206 Church: (414)873-5770 School:(414)873-8240 www.siloahlutheran.org

Wednesday December 17, 2025

Preaching and Presiding: Rev. Dr. Paul Steinberg

PSteinberg@ACityForGod.org 414.530.0476

Jesus Christ is the light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening, and the day is almost over.

Be our light and scatter the darkness, and hear our evening prayer and praise.

61 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

CW '93 61



- 1 Hark! The her ald an gels sing, "Glo ry to the new born King;
- 2 Christ, by high est heav'n a dored, Christ, the ev er last ing Lord,
- 3 Hail, the heav'n ly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness!



peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!" late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir-gin's womb. Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na-tions rise, join the tri-umph of the skies; Veiled in flesh the God-head see, hail th'_in-car-nate De - i - ty! Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,



with th'_an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth-le - hem!"

Pleased as man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im-man-u - el!

born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec-ond birth.



Hark! The her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!" Be seated

Prayer Lord God, grant us your Holy Spirit that we may hear and believe your Word. Cleanse our minds and renew our hearts that we may live for you here and hereafter; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Reading

Psalm 57

¹Have mercy on me, my God, have mercy on me, for in you I take refuge.
I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed.

 ²I cry out to God Most High, to God, who vindicates me.
 ³He sends from heaven and saves me, rebuking those who hotly pursue me— God sends forth his love and his faithfulness.

4I am in the midst of lions;
I am forced to dwell among ravenous beasts—
men whose teeth are spears and arrows,
whose tongues are sharp swords.

⁵Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.

⁶They spread a net for my feet—
I was bowed down in distress.
They dug a pit in my path—
but they have fallen into it themselves.

7My heart, O God, is steadfast, my heart is steadfast;
 I will sing and make music.
 8Awake, my soul!
 Awake, harp and lyre!
 I will awaken the dawn.

9I will praise you, Lord, among the nations; I will sing of you among the peoples. 10For great is your love, reaching to the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

ⁿBe exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Give Glory to the Glorious God with the Angels

Sermon Text Luke 2:8–14

⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

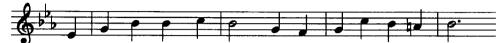
¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Tune: MISSIONARY HYMN



- 1 To God on high be glo ry and peace to all the earth,
- 2 O Lamb of God ex alt ed, you take all sin a way



for God has shown his fa - vor in Je-sus' ho - ly birth! ex - tend to us your mer - cy and hear us as we pray.



Al - might-y God and Fa - ther, our hum-ble thanks we bring; With God the Ho-ly Spir - it, at God the Fa-ther's throne,



we wor-ship you, we bless you, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. you reign, O Christ, for - ev - er, for you are Lord a - lone!

Text: Michael D. Schultz

Tune: Lowell Mason

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Love Offerings and Generous Donations



63 Angels We Have Heard on High

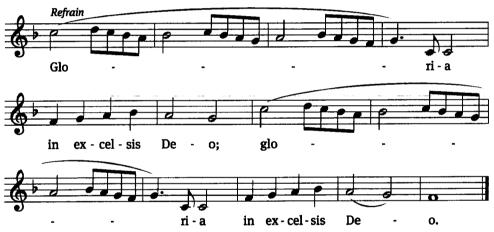
CW '93 63



- 1 An gels we have heard on high, sweet ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
- 2 Shep-herds, why this ju bi lee? Why your joy ous strains pro long?
- 3 Come to Beth le hem and see him whose birth the an gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re-ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains. What the glad-some ti - dings be which in-spire your heav'n-ly song? come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Text: French; tr. The Crown of Jesus, Part 2, 1862, alt. Tune: French Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.

Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords. Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical and emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. [Especially bless... here name the person and the cause of the petition.] Pour out your compassion on the grieving and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.

Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory. **Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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 forever and ever. Amen.

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen.

Be seated

School Christmas Program w/ Party in Hoffmann Hall: Sunday December 21 10 AM

His Way Band Christmas
Community Concert @ Siloah:
Sunday December 21 6 PM

Christmas Eve: 4 PM Christmas Day: 10 AM

