

ADVENT CHORAL VESPERS

And Glory Shone Around

Sunday, December 7th, 2025
6:30 PM



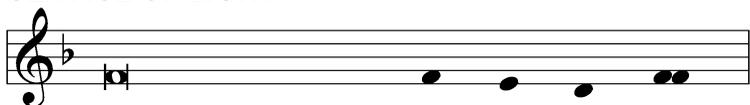
St. John's Lutheran Church and School
Chaska, MN

AND GLORY SHONE AROUND

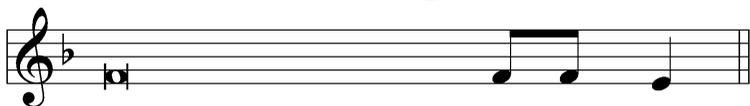
We see God's glory in the beauty of nature--majestic mountains, roaring oceans, and countless stars--and in His power, wisdom, and love. Jesus is the ultimate manifestation of God's glory in His birth in Bethlehem, His earthly life, and His death and resurrection. Tonight's theme, "And Glory Shone Around," draws on Old Testament prophecies that God would show His glory by sending a Savior and points us to the fulfillment of that promise in Jesus' birth. Through readings and choral anthems, God's Word is proclaimed. In the congregational hymns, all are invited to respond in praise and reflection to the great news that Jesus is born!

SERVICE OF LIGHT

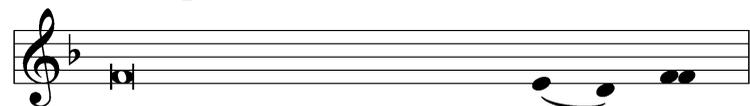
LSB 243



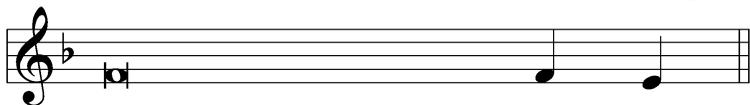
L Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,



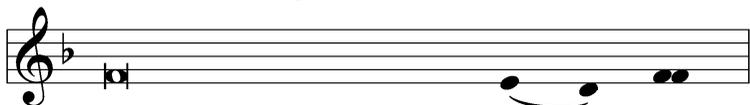
C the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



L Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve - ning,



C and the day is almost o - ver.



L Let Your light scatter the dark - ness



C and il - lu - mine Your Church.

PHOS HILARON – HYMN OF LIGHT

LSB 244



L Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



C of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the



set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.



We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:



You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -



ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:



the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

LSB 245

Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



☐ A - men.

HYMN

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

LSB 341, vv. 1-2

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near;
The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation He doth bring;
Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise
Your joyful songs of praise.

Text: Public domain

A righteous Helper comes to thee;
His chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness,
His scepter, pity in distress.
The end of all our woe He brings;
Therefore the earth is glad and sings.
To Christ the Savior raise
Your grateful hymns of praise.

READING

Psalm 24:7
Isaiah 40:3-5

CHORAL ANTHEM

“Who Is This King of Glory?”
Jubilate, Messengers of Praise,
Festival Choir

Douglas E. Wagner

RESPONSE HYMN “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” LSB 341, vv. 4-5

Fling wide the portals of your heart;	Redeemer, come and open wide
Make it a temple set apart	My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!
From earthly use for heav’n’s employ,	O enter with Thy grace divine;
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.	Thy face of mercy on me shine.
So shall your Sov’rign enter in	Thy Holy Spirit guide us on
And new and nobler life begin.	Until our glorious goal is won.
To God alone be praise	Eternal praise and fame
For word and deed and grace!	We offer to Thy name.

Text: Public domain

READING

**Haggai 2:6-7, Psalm 130:6-7,
Revelation 22:20**

CHORAL ANTHEM

“Savior of the Nations, Come”
Messengers of Praise, Festival Choir

Lloyd Larson

RESPONSE HYMN

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

LSB 357, v. 6

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death’s dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Text: Public domain

READING

Luke 1:26-32, 38

CHORAL ANTHEM

“The Angel Brought the News to Mary”
Jubilate
Soloist: Elizabeth Hennen

**William and Anne
McNair**

CHORAL RESPONSE

“Unto Us”
6th-8th Grade Choir

Mark Patterson

READING

Matthew 2:1-12

CHORAL ANTHEM

“Love’s Perfect Light”
*Quartet: Elsa Mierow, Katie Rolf,
Chris Mundahl, Jon Thom*

Lloyd Larson

RESPONSE HYMN

“What Child Is This”

LSB 370, v. 3

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary!

Text: Public domain

PRAYER

LSB 249

In peace let us pray to the Lord:

The image shows musical notation for the prayer. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. It contains four measures of music, each with a single chord: Bb2, D3, F3, and Bb2. The bass staff also has a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. It contains four measures of music, each with a single chord: Bb2, D3, F3, and Bb2. Below the treble staff, the lyrics "Lord, have mer - cy." are written, with a square symbol in the first measure.

Choir and congregation hum the final chord during each petition.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

Humming stops. The prayers then continue:

For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

C Al - le - lu - ia.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

C To You, O Lord.

The image shows a musical score for two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music consists of four measures of chords. The lyrics 'To You, O Lord.' are written below the first measure, with a square 'C' time signature symbol to its left.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.

READING

**John 1:14
Isaiah 40:5**

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 252

Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The image shows a musical score for a single staff in treble clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The music consists of four measures of a simple melody. The lyrics 'Thanks be to God.' are written below the first measure, with a square 'C' time signature symbol to its left.

BENEDICTION

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.



C A - men.

CLOSING ANTHEM AND HYMNS

6th-8th Grade Choir:

*Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing...*

All:

**He rules the world with truth and grace;
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love...**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore Him...**

Text: Public domain

"The Glory of the Lord"

Lloyd Larson

**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,
Hark! the Herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new— born— King!"**

All Choirs:

Gloria! To God sing gloria!

Christ is born!

Rejoice, sing gloria to God on high!

Please join us for a reception following the service.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgist: Pastor Snow

Cantor and Choir Director: Dr. Katie Rolf

Readers: Julie Bruce, Chris Mundahl

Pianist: Kristin Johnson

Choirs: 6th-8th Grade Choir, Jubilate, Messengers of Praise, Festival Choir

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Usher Team: Jay Molnau

Welcome Team: Gayle Degler

Tech Crew: Hunter Krueger, Claire and Sara Buesgens

RECEPTION

Serving: Lloyd and Pat Haack

Helping: Luanne Anderson, Deb Lenz, LuAnn Sampson, Jodi Christiansen, JoAnn Schaefer

ABOUT THE CHOIRS

6th-8th Grade Choir includes all students grades 6-8 at St. John's Lutheran School. This choir meets once per week and sings for worship services and school events.

Jubilate (which means "Rejoice!") is St. John's auditioned school choir for grades 5-8. This choir meets once per week before school and sings for worship services and school and community events.

Messengers of Praise is the Adult Choir at St. John's Lutheran Church. This choir meets weekly on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm and sings 2-3 times per month for worship.

Festival Choir is comprised of singers who join Messengers of Praise for special services, such as Advent Choral Vespers, a few times per year.

Please contact Katie Rolf, kathryn.rolf@stjohns-chaska.org, for more information or to join a choir.

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Advent and Christmas at St. John's

Sundays in Advent

December 14, & 21
8:00am, 9:30am, & 10:45am

Midweek Advent Worship

December 10 & 17
4:15pm & 6:30pm

No Advent meals due
to renovation

Christmas Services

December 24 (Christmas Eve)
Worship with Communion
2:00pm, 4:00pm, & 10:00pm (candlelight)

December 25 (Christmas Day)
Worship with Communion
9:30am

New Year's Eve Service

December 31
Worship with Communion
5:00pm

Sunday School & Day School Christmas Services & Programs

Time to Grow Christmas Program
Thursday, December 11 at 6:30pm

1st – 6th Grade Sunday School Service
Sunday, December 14 at 11:00am

K – 8th Grade Christmas Service
Thursday, December 18 at 6:30pm
(Streamed LIVE on our church website)