

# Advent Midweek 1

## “Favorite Christmas Hymns”

December 4, 2024

### As We Gather

Tonight’s service focuses on six Christmas hymns, identified in a survey conducted last year as among the favorites of the people of St. John’s. This is the third year we have done this, so we will not be looking at the 12 songs that we focused on the last two years. Before singing each one, we will consider its background, meaning, and message for us today.

### Welcome & Announcements

### Invocation

### Prayer

### Introduction of Christmas Hymn #6

#### **"See Amid the Winter's Snow" LSB 373**

1 See amid the winter's snow,  
Born for us on earth below,  
See, the gentle Lamb appears,  
Promised from eternal years.

#### **Refrain:**

Hail, O ever-blessed morn!  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem:  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

2 Lo, within a stable lies  
He who built the starry skies,

He who, throned in height sublime,  
Sits amid the cherubim. [Refrain]

3 Sacred Infant, all divine,  
What a tender love was Thine,  
Thus to come from highest bliss  
Down to such a world as this! [Refrain]

4 Teach, O teach us, holy child,  
By Thy face so meek and mild,  
Teach us to resemble Thee  
In Thy sweet humility. [Refrain]

### Introduction of Christmas Hymn #5

#### **"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" LSB 359**

1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming,  
As prophets long have sung.  
It came, a flow'ret bright,  
Amid the cold of winter,  
When half spent was the night.

2 Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
The rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it,  
The virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
She bore to us a Savior,  
When half spent was the night.

3 This flow'r, whose fragrance tender  
With sweetness fills the air,  
Dispels with glorious splendor  
The darkness everywhere.  
True man, yet very God,  
From sin and death He saves us  
And lightens every load.

4 O Savior, child of Mary,  
Who felt our human woe;  
O Savior, King of glory,  
Who dost our weakness know:  
Bring us at length we pray  
To the bright courts of heaven,  
And to the endless day.

#### Introduction of Christmas Hymn #4

##### “We Three Kings”

1 We three kings of Orient are;  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.

3 Frankincense to offer have I;  
Incense owns a Deity nigh;  
Prayer and praising, voices raising,  
Worshiping God on high. [Refrain]

##### Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of light,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light.

4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [Refrain]

2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
Gold I bring to crown Him again,  
King forever, ceasing never,  
Over us all to reign. [Refrain]

5 Glorious now behold Him arise;  
King and God and sacrifice:  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Sounds through the earth and skies.  
[Refrain]

#### Introduction of Christmas Hymn #3

##### “The First Noel”

1 The first Noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds  
In fields as they lay,  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

2 They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.  
[Refrain]

##### Refrain:

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel  
Born is the King of Israel.

3 And by the light of that same star  
Three wise men came from country far;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.  
[Refrain]

4 This star drew nigh to the northwest;  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
And there it did both stop and stay,  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.  
[Refrain]

5 Then entered in those wise men three,  
Full reverently upon their knee,  
And offered there in his presence

Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.  
[Refrain]

6 Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
That hath made heaven and earth of  
naught,  
And with his blood our life hath bought.  
[Refrain]

## Introduction of Christmas Hymn #2

### "Go Tell It On the Mountain" LSB 388

#### Chorus

Go tell it on the mountain  
Over the hills and ev'rywhere  
Go tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born.

1 While Shepherds kept their watching  
O'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold, throughout the heavens,  
There shone a holy light. **Chorus**

2 The shepherds feared and trembled  
When lo, above the earth,  
Rang out the angel chorus  
That hailed our Savior's birth. **Chorus**

3 Down in a lowly manger  
The humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn. **Chorus**

## Introduction of Christmas Hymn #1

### "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" LSB 357

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

#### Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who ord'rest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go. [Refrain]

3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,  
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height  
In ancient times didst give the Law  
In cloud and majesty and awe. [Refrain]

4 O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,  
Free them from Satan's tyranny  
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,  
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. [Refrain]

5 O come, thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heav'nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery. [Refrain]

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.  
[Refrain]

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,  
And be Thyself our King of Peace. [Refrain]

## Offering

## Prayers

### The 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.

## Benediction

## Offering

<http://stjohnslutheran.net/give/>

You may also mail your offering to St. John's (3521 Linda Vista, Napa, CA 94558)

## Serving in Worship Today

Preacher	Rev. Michael A. Schmid
Lay Reader	Erin Blackwood
Sound Technicians	Tyler Koen
Worship Preparation Team	Doris & Bob Klein, Betsy Gewirz
Organist	Erin Blackwood
Usher	Penni Cremen
Streaming Technician	Joshua Wright
Projection Technician	Martin Meissenhalter