



LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST

**Come Home for Christmas:
The Light of Home**

Sunday, January 2, 2022
Second Sunday After Christmas
www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Prelude

He Is Born the Divine Christ Child

French Carol

Welcome

† **Opening Music**

The First Noel

UMH 245

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.

Refrain

Noel, Noel,

Noel, Noel,

born is the King of Israel.

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

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

Noel, Noel,

Noel, Noel,

born is the King of Israel.

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

Noel, Noel,

Noel, Noel,

born is the King of Israel.

5. Then entered in those Wise Men three,
full reverently upon the knee,
and offered there, in his presence,
their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

Refrain
Noel, Noel,
Noel, Noel,
born is the
King of Israel.

Blessing for Children

Celebration of Holy Baptism

Prayers of the People

*A Pastor will begin a time of prayer and name those for whom our congregation is praying.
A time of silence will indicate when you may share one name or very short phrase to add.*

Pastoral Prayer

WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Scripture

John 1:10-18 (CEB)

John 1:1-18

The light was in the world,
and the world came into being through the light,
but the world didn't recognize the light.
The light came to his own people,
and his own people didn't welcome him.
But those who did welcome him,
those who believed in his name,
he authorized to become God's children,
born not from blood
nor from human desire or passion,
but born from God.
The Word became flesh
and made his home among us.
We have seen his glory,
glory like that of a father's only son,
full of grace and truth.

John testified about him, crying out, "This is the one of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is greater than me because he existed before me.'"

From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace;
as the Law was given through Moses,
so grace and truth came into being through Jesus Christ.
No one has ever seen God.
God the only Son,
who is at the Father's side,
has made God known.

Scriptural Response

Liturgist: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Carol

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

UMH 224

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
News, news! Jesus Christ is born today!

Ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today,
Christ is born today!

2. Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
News, news! Jesus Christ was born for this!

He hath opened heaven's door,
and ye are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this,
Christ was born for this!

3. Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
News, news! Jesus Christ was born to save!

Calls you one and calls you all
to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save,
Christ was born to save!

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST**Response in the World****Invitation to the Offering****Offertory**

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston

† Doxology*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH 94

Confession, Assurance, and Peace

All: The presents have been opened. The cookies have been eaten. The celebrations have left us exhausted. Yet your Spirit comes again, guiding us toward true joy. In all of our busy celebrations, remind us that you desire righteousness and justice for a world in need of generous hearts. May the light of Jesus Christ, the world's true light, live among us and turn our lives from oppressive power toward liberation and hope. Amen.

Liturgist: Like rain that falls upon the grass, like showers that water the earth, may righteousness and peace abound in our lives and in our world. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Thanksgiving and Holy Communion

Communion elements have been placed in the pews before the beginning of Worship for in-person worshipers. Online worshipers are invited to select elements including bread and juice (or similar). Please wait until directed before receiving your elements.

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. Amen.

WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

† **Closing Music**

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

UMH 251

Refrain

Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
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 shown a holy light.

Refrain

Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.

2. The shepherds feared and trembled,
when lo! above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed the Savior's birth.

Refrain

Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.

3. Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain,
that Jesus Christ is born.

Benediction

Postlude

Swiss Noel, with Variations

Louis Claude Daquin

Organist: Bob Wuertz

Ushers: The Gentlemen's Usher Team

Audio Visual Team: Dave Flores, Emilio Valente, Cam Rhodes

Liturgical elements from *The Abingdon Worship Annual*

LJUMC Ministry Team

Rev. Bob Rhodes, Lead Pastor; Rev. Derek Nguyen, Pastor of Spiritual Development;
Bob Wuertz, Music Ministries Director; Theresa Erb, Administrative Assistant;
Joyce Drozda, NS & Church Accountant; Emilio Valente, Information Technology Director;
Bridget Musante, NS Executive Director