

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

For you know the grace  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
that though He was rich,  
yet for your sakes He became poor,  
that you through His poverty might become rich.

*II CORINTHIANS 8:9*

IMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 24, 2012 421 North Second Street • Mankato, MN 56001 Volume 75, Number 69

- Infant Holy, Infant Lowly -

IMMANUEL BAND

BELLS

OPENING ANTHEM

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And Heaven and nature sing.*

*See, in yonder manger low, born for us on earth below.  
See, the gentle Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.  
Hail! The ever-blessed morn! Hail! Redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem: "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

*Come, Desire of nations, come,  
Fix in us Thy humble home;  
Oh, to all Thyself impart,  
Formed in each believing heart!  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

*(Please stand.)*

**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, Christ the Lord.**

**The highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,  
born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;  
Son of the Father, now in flesh appearing!**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
glory to God in the Highest!**

**Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!** (Please be seated.)

WELCOME ..... Preschool  
We welcome you in the name of Jesus Christ, our newborn Savior and King!

*Once again it's Christmas over all the earth  
and we join to tell of our dear Savior's birth.*



1. As each hap - py Christ - mas dawns on earth a - gain,  
2. He comes with His bles - sings in - to ev - ry home,



Je - sus, our dear Christ - child comes to hearts of men.  
and He guides our foot - steps as we go and come.

LUKE 1:26-35 ..... Grades 5 and 6

Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!"

But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was.

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

*An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth  
to a woman whose name was Mary.*

*The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you.  
You shall bear a Child and His name shall be Jesus,  
the Chosen One of God Most High."*

*And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do Your will."*

#### REFRAIN

*My soul proclaims Your greatness, O God,  
and my spirit rejoices in You,  
You have looked with love on Your servant here  
and blessed me all my life through.*

*Great and mighty are You, O Holy One,  
strong is Your kindness, evermore.  
How You favor the weak and lowly one  
humbling the proud of heart.  
You have cast the mighty down from their thrones,  
and uplifted the humble of heart,  
You have filled the hungry with wondrous things,  
and left the wealthy no part.*

ALL:

**Great and mighty are You, O Faithful One,  
strong is Your justice, strong Your love,  
as You promised to Sarah and Abraham,  
kindness forevermore.**

**My soul proclaims Your greatness, O God,  
and my spirit rejoices in You,  
You have looked with love on Your servant here  
and blessed me all my life through.**

LUKE 2:1-7 ..... Kindergarten

And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria.

So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child.

So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

*Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed  
where a mother laid her Baby in a manger for a bed;  
Mary was that mother mild; Jesus Christ her little Child.*

*He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all.  
And His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall.  
With the poor and mean and lowly lived on earth, our Savior holy.*

ALL:

**Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,  
shall we see Him, but in heaven,  
set at God's right hand on high.  
Then like stars, His children crowned,  
all in white His praise will sound.**

LUKE 2:8 -14 ..... Grades 3 and 4

Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men!"

*Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains, in reply,  
echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
which inspire your heav'nly song?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

ALL:

**Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing.  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

ENSEMBLE HYMN ..... Grades K-8

*Low in a humble manger, little Lord Jesus lay,  
watched by the virgin mother, there on a bed of hay,  
keeping her loving vigil, far from the worldly throngs,  
when, through the night came ringing glorious angel songs.*

*“Glory to God!” the angels sing.*

*Praises to Christ, the newborn King!*

*Peace to the earth, goodwill to men;*

*hear we the angels sing again:*

*“Glory to God!” the angels sing.*

*Praises to Christ, the newborn King!*

*Peace to the earth, goodwill to men, goodwill to men.*

ALL:

*(Please stand.)*

**Little the loving mother, dreamed of its meaning then,  
how He would die on Calv’ry, die for the sins of men,  
Down through the weary ages, out from that manger bed,  
streams all the light of heaven, soon o’er the world to spread.**

REFRAIN:

**“Glory to God!” the angels sing.**

**Praises to Christ, the newborn King!**

**Peace to the earth, goodwill to men;**

**hear we the angels sing again:**

**“Glory to God!” the angels sing.**

**Praises to Christ, the newborn King!**

**Peace to the earth, goodwill to men, goodwill to men.**

REPEAT REFRAIN

*(Please be seated.)*

LUKE 2:15-20 ..... Grades 1 and 2

So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us."

And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child.

And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

*Infant holy, Infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;  
oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the Babe is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging, angels singing, Noels ringing, tidings bringing:  
"Christ the Babe is Lord of all."*

*Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new;  
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a Gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:  
"Christ the Babe was born for you."*

ALL:

**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 cradle till morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray;  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.**

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

*(Please stand.)*

**Silent night! Holy night! All is calm! All is bright!  
Round yon virgin mother and Child;  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild. Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar;  
Heavenly hosts sing “Alleluia, Christ the Savior is born!”**

**Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light.  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace.  
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.**

*(Please be seated.)*

THE OFFERING

MATTHEW 2:1-12 ..... Grades 7 and 8

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship him.”

When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

*“But you Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you shall come a Ruler who will shepherd My people Israel.”*

Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared.

And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me that I may come and worship Him also.”

When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.

And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

*What Child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.*

*Why lies He in such mean estate where oxen now are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spears, shall pierce Him through, the cross He'll bear for me, for you;  
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary.*

**ALL:**

**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.**

## SELECTED SCRIPTURES AND HYMNS

“But you Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
though you are little among the thousands of Judah,  
yet out of you shall come forth the One to be Ruler in Israel,  
whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting.  
Micah 5:2

**Away in a Manger ..... Kindergarten, Grades 1 and 2**

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.*

---

“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign:  
“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son,  
and shall call His name Immanuel.”  
Isaiah 7:14

**Where Shepherds Lately Knelled ..... Grades 7 and 8**

*In that unlikely place I find him as they said:  
sweet newborn Babe, how frail! And in a manger bed,  
a still small voice to cry one day for me.*

---

Then a certain scribe came and said to Him,  
“Teacher, I will follow You wherever You go.”  
And Jesus said to Him,  
“Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests,  
but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.”  
Matthew 8:19,20

**It Seems So Strange to Human Minds ..... Grades 3 and 4**

*It seems so strange to human minds, a mystery for all;  
how that the King of heaven’s throne should be born in a stall.  
The living Word of God descends and deigns to dwell on earth,  
yet finds no home among His own, in quiet virgin birth.*

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:  
God was manifested in the flesh,  
justified by the Spirit, seen by angels,  
preached among the Gentiles, believed on in the world,  
received up in glory.  
I Timothy 3:16

**Meekness and Majesty ..... Grades 5 and 6**

*Meekness and majesty, manhood and deity,  
in perfect harmony, the Man who is God.  
Lord of eternity dwells in humanity,  
kneels in humility and washes our feet.  
Oh, what a mystery! Meekness and majesty!  
Bow down and worship, for this is your God.*

---

Let this mind be in you,  
which was also in Christ Jesus,  
who, being in the form of God,  
did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,  
but made Himself of no reputation,  
taking the form of a bondservant,  
and coming in the likeness of men.  
And being found in appearance as a man,  
humbled Himself and became obedient unto death,  
even the death of the cross.  
Therefore God have also highly exalted Him  
and given Him a name above every name  
which is above every name,  
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
of those in heaven, and of those on earth,  
and of those under the earth,  
and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Philippians 2:5-11

Jesus, the One and Only ..... All Grades

Who was born Son of God, yet Son of Man?  
And who laid down His life and rose to live again?  
Who rides the clouds of glory? Whose kingdom never ends?  
There is no other name.

Jesus, the one and only,  
faithful, true and holy.  
He's the Son of righteousness, worthy of the glory;  
Jesus Christ, the one and only.

Let ev'ry voice in earth and heaven offer praise,  
and ev'ry heart become a holy hiding place.  
Let ev'ry knee bow down,  
and ev'ry tongue confess the name  
of Jehovah's only Son, the Risen One!

ALL:

*(Please stand.)*

**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 shone a holy light. REFRAIN**

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

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

PRAYER

Lord God, You make this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light, Your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that as we ponder the mysteries of our Savior here on earth, we may also come to know the fullness of His joys in heaven, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BENEDICTION

**CLOSING HYMN**

*(Please be seated.)*

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And Heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found.**

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

*Please join us for our Christmas Day Festival Service  
at 9:30 a.m.*

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***WELCOME to Immanuel! All who worship with us tonight** may feel free to speak with the Pastor after the service, or phone Pastor Nolting (387-7035), Pastor Eichstadt (344-0898) or the church office (345-3027) at your convenience.*

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*- SERVING US THIS EVENING -  
Immanuel Lutheran School students  
Immanuel Sunday School students  
Pastor Wayne C. Eichstadt  
Deacon Paul Bade  
Christmas Eve Director: Michael Wheaton  
Accompanists: Lane Fischer, Karla Olmanson  
Immanuel Lutheran Church Choir  
Immanuel School Band  
Immanuel Brass  
Sound: Andy Hagen  
Head Usher: Mark Geiger  
Assistant Usher: Nathan Olmanson*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**Holden Evening Prayer: Annunciation and Magnificat;** Marty Haugen  
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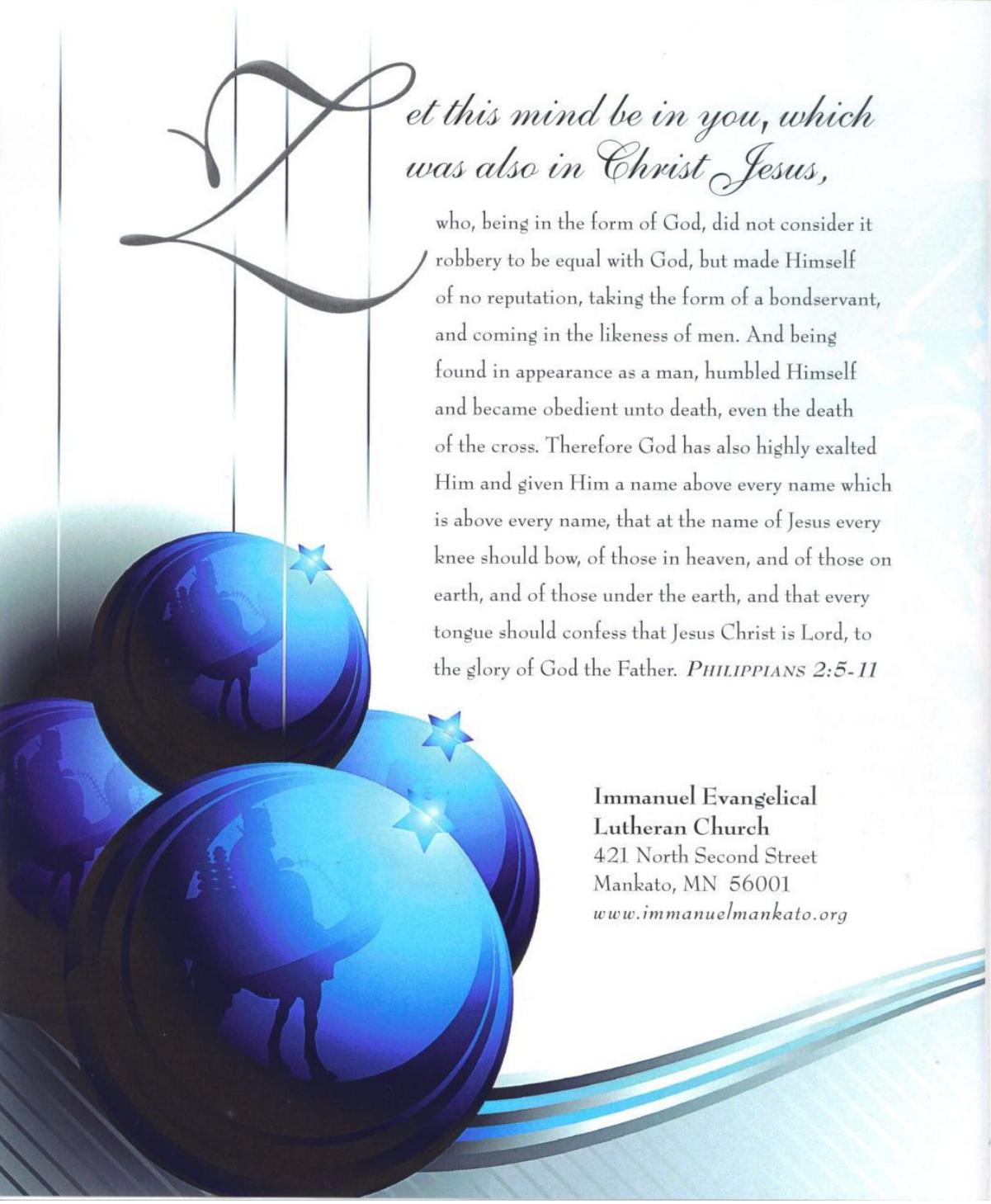
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**Where Shepherds Lately Knelt** text by Jaroslav J. Vajda  
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**Joy to the World** text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748); tune: George F. Handel (1685-1759), adapted  
**See in Yonder Manger Low** text: Edward Caswall (1814-1878); tune: John Goss (1800-1880)  
**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing** text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), tune: Felix Mendelssohn, (1809-1847)  
**O Come, All Ye Faithful** text and tune: John Wade (1711-82)  
**As Each Happy Christmas** text: J. Wilhelm Hey (1789-1854), alt. tune: Johann C.H. Rink (1770-1846)  
**Annunciation and Magnificat** text and tune: Marty Haugen  
**Once in Royal David’s City** text: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895); tune: Henry J. Gauntlett (1805-1876)  
**Angels We Have Heard on High** French text (translated in 1862); French carol  
**Glory to God the Angels Sing** Georg Kessel and Carl Wacker  
**Infant Holy, Infant Lowly** text and tune: Polish carol  
**Away in a Manger** text: North American carol; tune: James R. Murray, (1841-1905)  
**Silent Night** text: Franz Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tune: Franz Xavier Grüber (1787-1863)  
**What Child is This** text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, tune: English ballad, 16th century  
**Away in a Manger** text: North American carol; tune: James R. Murray, (1841-1905)  
**Where Shepherds Lately Knelt** text: Jaroslav J. Vajda (1919-2008); tune: Carl F. Schalk  
**It Seems So Strange to Human Minds** text: Nicolai Grundtvig (1783-1872)  
**Meekness and Majesty** text and tune: Graham Kendrick  
**Jesus, the One and Only** text and tune: Babbie Y. Mason  
**Go, Tell It On the Mountain** John W. Work II (1873-1925), African American spiritual  
**Prayer: “God, You Made . . .”** Collect for Christmas Eve  
**Joy to the World** text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), tune: George F. Handel (1685-1759), adapted

The background features several large, overlapping blue spheres with a gradient from dark blue to light blue. Each sphere contains a white silhouette of a person riding a horse. Small, five-pointed white stars are scattered around the spheres. The overall design is clean and modern, with a light blue and white color palette.

*Let this mind be in you, which  
was also in Christ Jesus,*

who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has also highly exalted Him and given Him a name above every name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. *PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11*

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