

The Stars of Christmas

The Star of David

December 20, 2023

Prelude

Bell

Welcome

We Greet Each Other

(stand)

Invocation and Opening Responses

P In the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night,

C **and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give lights on the earth."**

All **And it was so.** [Gen.1:14-16]

P When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and stars, which you have set in place

C **what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?**

All **You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor."** [Ps.8:3-5]

P (God) took (Abraham) outside and said, “Look up at the heavens and count the stars – if indeed you can count them.”

C Then (God) said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

All Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness
[Gen.15:5-6]

P A star will come out of Jacob;

C a scepter will rise out of Israel.

All A ruler will come out of Jacob.... [Num.24:17,19]

P To David God promised, “...the LORD himself will establish a house for you...

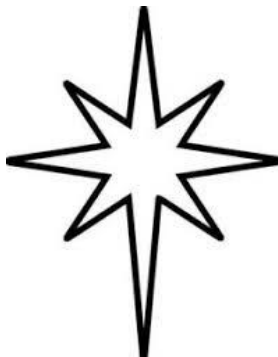
C “I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.”
[2 Sam.7:11, 13]

All The angel said to (Mary), “Do not be afraid...you will give birth to a son.....The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever.” [Lk.1:30,32-33]

P The Magi asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?

C “We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.” [Matt.2:2]

All We too are here, O Lord, to worship You, for we believe You are “the Root and the Offspring of David, the bright Morning Star.” [Rev.22:16]



817 Earth and All Stars

1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets! Sing to the
7 Chil - dren of God, Dy - ing and ris - ing, Sing to the

Lord a new song! Oh, vic - to - ry! Loud shout - ing
Lord a new song! Heav - en and earth, Hosts ev - er -

ar - my! Sing to the Lord a new song!
last - ing, Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain

He has done mar - vel - ous things.

I too will praise Him with a new song!

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves. The first staff has two lines of lyrics. The second staff has two lines of lyrics. The third staff has two lines of lyrics. The fourth staff is the start of the refrain with one line of lyrics. The fifth staff is the end of the refrain with one line of lyrics. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with many half and quarter notes.

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Prayer

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

Shine down on us, O God, with the light of Your love and truth.
Pour into our hearts the knowledge of Your Son, Jesus Christ,
as well as the passion of His heart so we may let our lights
shine before others, so they may see our good works and give
You all the honor and glory;

All **through the true Star of creation and redemption, Your
Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

(sit)

Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-17

God's Covenant with David

Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"' Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him a father,

and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.” In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.

Children’s Message

350 Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come



1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for
 2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and
 3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -
 4 Hail! Ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear our

sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!
 Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,
 ceive, I pray Thee; Ev - er - more, as best I can,
 sup - pli - ca - tion! Let Thy king - dom, scep - ter, crown,

O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty
 Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es
 Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay Thee, And in faith I
 Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion, That for - ev - er

let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.
 will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!
 will em - brace, Lord, Thy mer - it through Thy grace.
 we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our King.

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Message

“The Star of David”

2 Samuel 7:1-17

Offering

936 Sing Praise to the God of Israel



1 Sing praise to the God of Is - ra - el! Sing praise for His
2 God spoke by the proph - ets long a - go, His prom - ise on
3 You, child, will go on be - fore the Lord As proph - et, His
4 O bright, ris - ing Sun, now shine on us In need of il -



vis - i - ta - tion! Re - deem - ing His peo - ple from their sin,
oath re - call - ing— To A - bra - ham made in for - mer years:
way pre - par - ing; To speak on be - half of God Most High,
lu - mi - na - tion; Come scat - ter the shades of sin and death



Ac - com - plish - ing their sal - va - tion, Up - rais - ing a
Of van - quish - ing foes ap - pall - ing, That those He de -
His coun - sel of truth de - clar - ing: Rich mer - cy and
And shat - ter their dom - i - na - tion. Be guid - ing our



might - y horn with - in The house of His ser - vant Da - vid!
liv - ered from their fears Might glad - ly and tru - ly serve Him.
grace for all where - by In - iq - ui - ty is for - giv - en.
foot - steps on the path Of peace, in Your pres - ence dawn - ing!

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Prayers

from LSB “Evening Prayer” pp.244f

P Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
C **the light no darkness can overcome.**
P Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
C **and the day is almost over.**

P Let Your light scatter the darkness

C and illumine Your church.

P Joyous light of glory:

C of the immortal Father, heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ. We have come to the setting of the sun, and we look to the evening light. We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever.

P O Son of God, O Giver of life:

C the universe proclaims Your glory.

- special petitions may be spoken here -

P Blessed 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

All and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit Amen.

Lord's Prayer

All 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.

Blessing

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the +Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

C **Amen.**

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from
5 O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen

cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y
wide our heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that

ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
leads on high, And close the path to mis - er - y.

Refrain

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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Announcements

Postlude