



(All of the hymns for this evening's service can be found at end of this bulletin.)

Lessons & Carols from **First Congregational Church of Tallmadge**

"Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2.10 & 11

The Prelude

Harp: Roseann Canfora Cello: Dan Hild

***The Invitation to Bethlehem**

- L: I bring you news of great joy! Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord.
- C: Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing which has taken place!

- L: What kind of hope can endure this world?
C: **The hopes and fears of all the years are met right here tonight!**
L: How can we speak peace when the world is at war?
C: **Tonight, there will be heavenly peace and mercy mild; God and people reconciled.**
L: Where is the joy of celebration when so many are hungry and hurting?
C: **All heaven and nature sing; the weary world rejoices.**
L: When will love come and save us?
C: **The wonders of God's love are made flesh tonight. The angels sing "gloria," and we have nothing to fear.**

*** Processional Carol**

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" #182

***The Prayer for Christmas Eve**

God of hope, Joyful Spirit, Prince of Peace, and Lord of Love, we wait for you to come live among us. Tonight, we learn a new name for you: God with us, Immanuel. It is as old as the ages and as new as a new-born baby's cry. We wait, believing what all your prophets told us is true: that your grace is sufficient and that your love will transform the world. Amen.

Special Music

"In The Bleak Midwinter"/ "Still, Still Still" - Holst/German Traditional

Harp: Roseann Canfora Cello: Dan Hild

Welcoming the Light into the World

The Light of Hope

Lesson: Isaiah 11.1-9

Lighting the Candle of Hope

Reflection

Anthem

“Let the Christ Child In” — Althouse & Albrecht

Chancel Choir Director: Nancy Lynn Robinson

C. MCMXCIV by Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. All rights reserved.

The Light of Joy

Lesson: Isaiah 9.2-7

Lighting the Candle of Joy

Reflection

Christmas Carol

“Joy to the World” # 179

(During the carol, please bring forth your manger animals.)

The Light of Peace

Lesson: Luke 1.46-55

The Annunciation/The Magnificat—Marty Haugen *

Soloists: Rev. Daniel Doty & Erin Hoffman

Lighting the Candle of Peace

Reflection

* c. 1990 by G I A Publications, Inc. (from Holden Evening Prayer Service). All rights reserved

Christmas Carol

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" vs. 1-4

Children's Christmas Storytime

"Christmas Farm"

The Light of Love

Lesson: Luke 2.1-7

Lighting the Candle of Love

(At this time, please bring forth Mary, Joseph, and Jesus.)

Reflection

Anthem

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" — Cornish

Chancel Choir Director: Nancy Lynn Robinson

C. 2019 by Hal Leonard LLC. All rights reserved.

The Christ Candle

Lesson: Luke 2.8-20

Lighting the Christ Candle

Reflection

Christmas Carol

"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" #185

(During the carol, please bring forth shepherds and angels.)

The Response to Christ's Coming

The Christmas Offering

An Offering of Music

"O Holy Night" – A. Adam

Solo: Daniel Doty, Tenor

Sharing the Light

Lesson: John 1.1-5, 14 (Alt. DJD)

Reflection

Christmas Carol

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" #191

The Christmas Prayer

Loving God, once again you bring us to this celebration of the birth of Jesus. Tonight, we shared in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of all creation. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. May tomorrow's Christmas morn make us happy to be your children, and its Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

The Sharing of Light

(When the light is passed, tip your unlighted candle to receive it; likewise, hold your lighted candle straight up as the person next to you receives the light from you.)

*** Carol**

"Silent Night"

*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, 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, 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, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.*

***The Benediction**

***The Postlude**

Harp: Roseann Canfora Cello: Dan Hild

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH OUR SERVICE TODAY

Technical Team: Anne Pertick, Diana Fiocca, & Vince Scovern.

Ushers: Colin Ickes, Marcus Hoffman, Lauren Scovern, Larry Robinson, Ken Caldwell, Gary Myers

Readers: Camryn Ickes, Tapanga Ross, Amelia Ross, Jim West, Melissa Scherer



GUEST MUSICIANS

***Roseann Canfora** has performed for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at the First Congregational Church of Tallmadge for 12 years. She is the principal player of Celestial Strings, a popular music ensemble known for its unique blending of harp with flute, violin and cello in classical, traditional and popular arrangements. Her Celestial Strings Duo, Trio and Quartet perform at weddings, parties and special events throughout north-east Ohio. In addition to her busy performance schedule, Dr. Canfora works full-time at Kent State University where she is a Professional in Residence in the College of Communication and Information and an Assistant Professor of Media and Journalism.*

***Dan Hild** is principal cellist in the Celestial Strings Ensemble. After graduating from the Baldwin Wallace College Conservatory of Music, Dan earned a Master's degree in performance from Miami University's School of Fine Arts. He performs annually with the Symphony Concert Series at Lakeside's Summer Chautauqua Orchestra. Beyond his work as one of Cleveland's finest cellists, Dan is professional roller skater and teacher and an accomplished vocalist who has performed with Cleveland Opera. For more than 25 years, Dan has performed in numerous musical theater productions at the Beck Center.*

Thanks to everyone who so generously gave to the Special Music Fund in December. I appreciate your generosity in helping to support our guest musicians for Christmas Eve and Easter.

- Nancy Lynn Robinson

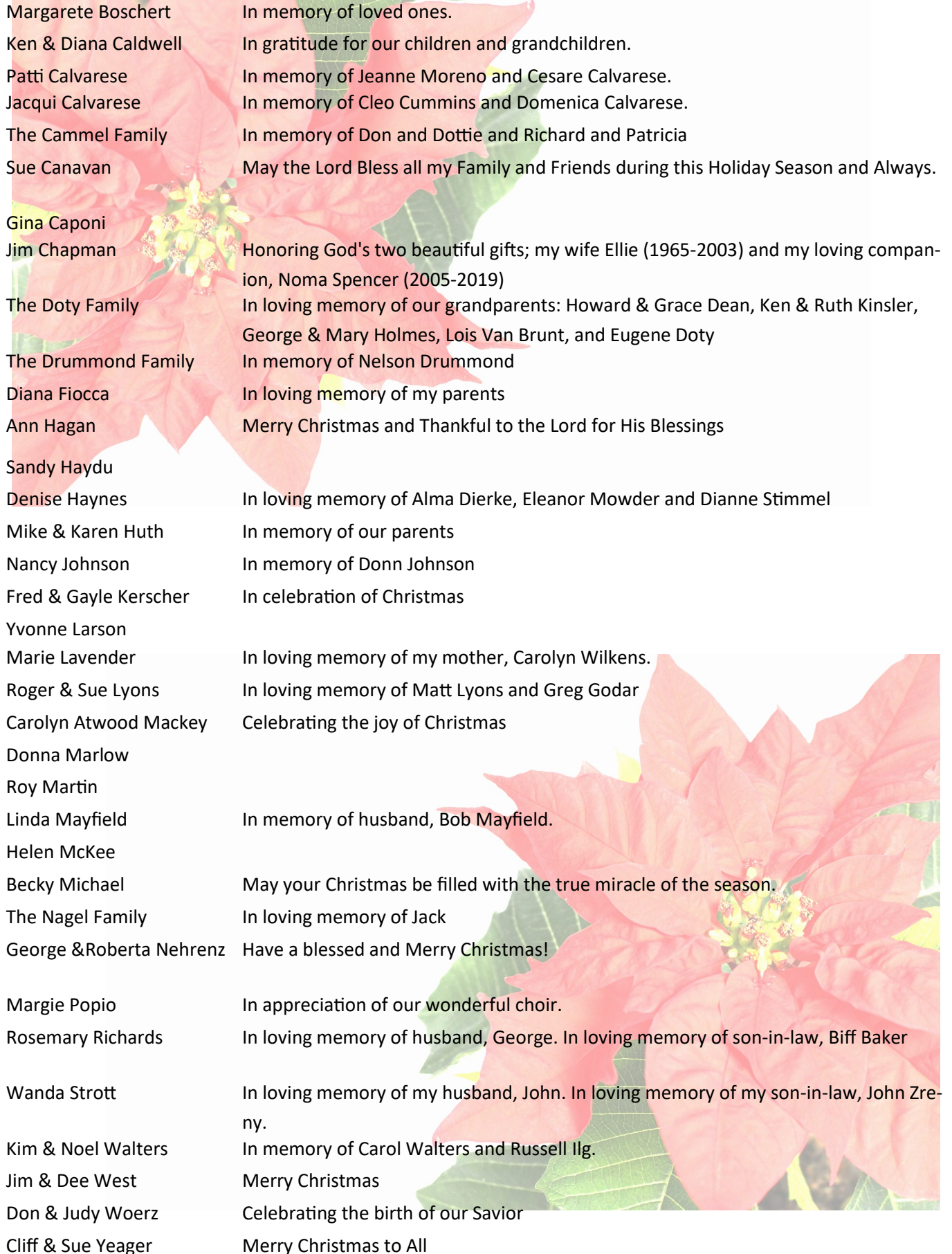
**Our church office will be closed the week between Christmas and New Year's,
Dec. 25th-Jan. 3rd. Merry Christmas everyone!**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Wishing you every blessing this festive season!

Love— Dan, Wendy, Nancy Lynn, Teresa, Cathy, Anne, and Bill

Poinsettia Donations 2024



Margarete Boschert	In memory of loved ones.
Ken & Diana Caldwell	In gratitude for our children and grandchildren.
Patti Calvarese	In memory of Jeanne Moreno and Cesare Calvarese.
Jacqui Calvarese	In memory of Cleo Cummins and Domenica Calvarese.
The Cammel Family	In memory of Don and Dottie and Richard and Patricia
Sue Canavan	May the Lord Bless all my Family and Friends during this Holiday Season and Always.
Gina Caponi	
Jim Chapman	Honoring God's two beautiful gifts; my wife Ellie (1965-2003) and my loving companion, Noma Spencer (2005-2019)
The Doty Family	In loving memory of our grandparents: Howard & Grace Dean, Ken & Ruth Kinsler, George & Mary Holmes, Lois Van Brunt, and Eugene Doty
The Drummond Family	In memory of Nelson Drummond
Diana Fiocca	In loving memory of my parents
Ann Hagan	Merry Christmas and Thankful to the Lord for His Blessings
Sandy Haydu	
Denise Haynes	In loving memory of Alma Dierke, Eleanor Mowder and Dianne Stimmel
Mike & Karen Huth	In memory of our parents
Nancy Johnson	In memory of Donn Johnson
Fred & Gayle Kerscher	In celebration of Christmas
Yvonne Larson	
Marie Lavender	In loving memory of my mother, Carolyn Wilkens.
Roger & Sue Lyons	In loving memory of Matt Lyons and Greg Godar
Carolyn Atwood Mackey	Celebrating the joy of Christmas
Donna Marlow	
Roy Martin	
Linda Mayfield	In memory of husband, Bob Mayfield.
Helen McKee	
Becky Michael	May your Christmas be filled with the true miracle of the season.
The Nagel Family	In loving memory of Jack
George & Roberta Nehrenz	Have a blessed and Merry Christmas!
Margie Popio	In appreciation of our wonderful choir.
Rosemary Richards	In loving memory of husband, George. In loving memory of son-in-law, Biff Baker
Wanda Strott	In loving memory of my husband, John. In loving memory of my son-in-law, John Zrenny.
Kim & Noel Walters	In memory of Carol Walters and Russell Ilg.
Jim & Dee West	Merry Christmas
Don & Judy Woerz	Celebrating the birth of our Savior
Cliff & Sue Yeager	Merry Christmas to All

Special Music Donations 2024



Rick & Cindie Anderson	Happy Birthday Jesus!
Margarete Boschert	In memory of loved ones.
Ken & Diana Caldwell	Emmanuel! Christmas Blessings to All!
The Cammel Family	Praise the Lord!
James Chapman	Good Music southes the soul
Suzanne Creswell	
The Drummond Family	Peace and Love year round!
Jim and Elaine Engle	A Merry, safe, healthy Christmas for All.
Sandy Farabee	May your heart be filled with the sounds of the season.
Diana Fiocca	In loving memory of my parents
Kim Fulton	Glory!
Ann & Patrick Hagan	Our Savior is with us!
Denise Haynes	Glory to God!
John & Jane Huffman	Blessings to All
John & Fay James	Joy to the World
Fred & Gayle Kerscher	Merry Christmas!
June Kolb	
Ken & Glenna Kreitzburg	Merry Christmas
Yvonne Larson	
Chris & Carol Law	May the music of Christmas bring you peace, happiness, and gratitude!
Mike & Cherrie LeBarre	Peace on Earth
Sharon Harms Letzler	For unto us a child is born. ISAIAH 9:6
Carolyn Atwood Mackey	The Joy of Voices
David & Sandra Marconi	
Jackie Mohr	Merry Christmas!
Margie Popio	In appreciation to everyone who contributes to our musical program
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Robinson	In honor of our parents
Connie Stone	
Don & Judy Woerz	Thankful for our Lord and Savior
Cliff & Sue Yeager	In memory of Dick and JoAnn Wood
Ken Zach	

O Come, All Ye Faithful

182

G Am G D F# G D F# G C G D Em

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 3 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,

A7 D A D G D G D A A7 D

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove;
 Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry given;

G B Am G D7 A G D F# G Em Am C D

come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

Refrain

G D G D7 G D G D7 G D

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

G D7 A G D A7 D G B C G D G

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord.

WORDS: Attr. John F. Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880)
 MUSIC: John F. Wade's *Cantus Diversi*, 1751

ADESTE FIDELES
 Irregular

Joy to the World!

D Em D A7 D D G A
 G A F#

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth re - ceive her
 2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns; let all their songs em -
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

D G D G D
 D D D

King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness,

D A

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 (1) and heaven and na - ture sing,

A7 D G D D Em D A7 D
 G A G

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.
 heaven and na - ture sing,

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

Trad.
arr. Christian Morris

I heard the bells on Christ-mas day Their old fa-mi-liar
I thought how, as the day had come, The bel-fries of all
And in des-pair I bowed my head: "There is no peace on
Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God is not dead, nor
Till, ring-ing, sing-ing, on its way, The world re-volved from

ca-rols play, And wild and sweet the words re-peat Of
Chris-ten-dom Had rolled a-long th'un-bro-ken song Of
earth," I said, "For hate is strong and mocks the song Of
doth he sleep; The wrong shall fail, the right pre-vail, With
night to day, A voice, a chime, a chant su-blime, Of

1. 2. 3. 4. | 5.

peace on earth, good will to all.
peace on earth, good will to all.
peace on earth, good will to all.
peace on earth, good will to all.
peace on earth, good will to all!

It Came upon the Midnight Clear 191

B \flat B \flat $\frac{E\flat}{B\flat}$ B \flat $\frac{F9}{A}$ B \flat E \flat $\frac{E\flat}{G}$ $\frac{C7}{G}$ C7 F

1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo-rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo-ven skies they come, with peace-ful wings un-furled,
 3 For 'lo, the days are has-tening on, by proph-ets seen of old,

N.C. B \flat B \flat $\frac{E\flat}{B\flat}$ B \flat $\frac{F9}{A}$ B \flat $\frac{B\flat}{D}$ E \flat F7 B \flat

from an-gels bend-ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heaven-ly mu-sic floats o'er all the wea-ry world;
 when, with the ev-er-cir-cling years, shall come the time fore-told,

N.C. D $\frac{D}{C}$ $\frac{Gm}{B\flat}$ D Gm $\frac{Gm}{B\flat}$ $\frac{F}{C}$ C7 F

"Peace on the earth, good-will to all, from heaven's all gra-cious King":
 a-bove its sad and low-ly plains they bend on hov-ering wing,
 when peace shall o-ver all the earth its an-cient splen-dors fling,

F7 B \flat B \flat $\frac{E\flat}{B\flat}$ B \flat $\frac{F9}{A}$ B \flat $\frac{B\flat}{D}$ E \flat F7 B \flat

the world in sol-emn still-ness lay to hear the an-gels sing.
 and ev-er o'er its Ba-bel sounds the bless-ed an-gels sing.
 and all the world give back the song which now the an-gels sing.

WORDS: Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876)
 MUSIC: Richard S. Willis (1819-1900)

CAROL
 C.M.D.

185 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

F $\frac{F}{C}$ C $\frac{F}{A}$ F $\frac{F}{C}$ C $\frac{F}{A}$ Am B \flat 2 $\frac{Gm}{B\flat}$ $\frac{F}{C}$ C F

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King:
 2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!

F $\frac{F}{C}$ C Dm $\frac{F}{C}$ $\frac{G9}{B}$ $\frac{G7}{B}$ Am $\frac{G}{B}$ C $\frac{C}{E}$ Fmaj7 G7 C

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of the Vir - gin's womb:
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

N.C. $\frac{F}{A}$ $\frac{C7}{E}$ F $\frac{F}{C}$ C N.C. $\frac{F}{A}$ $\frac{C7}{E}$ F $\frac{F}{C}$ C

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

B \flat B \flat maj9 $\frac{Gm}{B\flat}$ D7 Gm $\frac{C}{B\flat}$ $\frac{F}{A}$ F $\frac{F}{C}$ C F

with th'an - gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

B \flat B \flat maj9 $\frac{Gm}{B\flat}$ D Gm $\frac{Gm}{F}$ $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{C}{B\flat}$ $\frac{F}{A}$ F $\frac{F}{C}$ C7 F

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King."

Silent Night! Holy Night!

186

B \flat F7 B \flat

1 Si - lent night! ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
 2 Si - lent night! ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight,
 3 Si - lent night! ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light,

E \flat B \flat E \flat B \flat

'round yon vir - gin moth-er and child; ho - ly in-fant, so ten-der and
 glo - ries stream from heav-en a - far, heav-en-ly hosts sing al - le - lu -
 ra - dant beams from thy ho-ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing

F7 B \flat B \flat / $\overline{\text{F}}$ F F7 B \flat

mild, sleep in heav-en - ly peace, sleep in heav-en - ly peace.
 ia; Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

WORDS: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John F. Young (1820-1885)
 MUSIC: Franz Gruber (1787-1863)

STILLE NACHT
 Irregular