

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE
25 DECEMBER 2023 | 10.30AM

*Exceedingly
Great Joy*



Exceedingly Great Joy

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE

SHANGRI LA HOTEL | 25 DECEMBER 2023 | 10.30AM



PRE-WORSHIP

○ Come, All Ye Faithful
Youth Conferees 2023

PRELUDE

Bethany Orchestra

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Charles Tan
Interpreter: Ms. Tan Hwee Cheng

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Supported by the Youth Conferees 2023 and Bethany Praise Singers

Carol No. 1 What Child is this?

Carol No. 2 Silent Night! Holy Night!

Carol No. 3 Joy to the World

Christmas Worship Service 2023

CHRISTMAS TESTIMONY

Mr. Quek Shi Kui

1. Faith in God
2. Family blessed by God
3. Back to Faith in God

SPECIAL ITEM

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen
Bethany Combined Choir

MESSAGE

“Exceedingly Great Joy”
Text: Matthew 2; 1 Peter 1
Rev. Dr. Charles Tan

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

CLOSING HYMN

○ Holy Night

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Exceedingly Great Joy

PRE-WORSHIP

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

JOHN F. WADE

1. 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!

Refrain

O come, let us adore Him!
O come, let us adore Him!
O come, let us adore Him!
Christ, the Lord!

2. Sing, choirs of angels; Sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye bright hosts of Heavn'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the Highest!

Refrain

3. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n:
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

Refrain



Christmas Worship Service 2023

CAROL NO. 1

WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

WILLIAM C. DIX

1. 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?

Refrain

This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

2. Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

Refrain

3. So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Refrain



Exceedingly Great Joy

CAROL NO. 2

SILENT NIGHT! HOLY NIGHT!

JOSEPH MOHR

1. 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.

2. Silent Night! Holy Night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from Heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.

3. 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.



Christmas Worship Service 2023

CAROL NO. 3

JOY TO THE WORLD

ISAAC WATTS

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come; let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns; let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. 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, far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,
And wonders, and wonders of His love.



God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

Additional words and Music by Joshua Spacht

Arranged by Joshua Spacht / Performed by the Bethany Combined Choir

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay.
Remember, Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas Day
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray.

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our Heav'nly Father a blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Allelujah!

Now we who have this Christmas Joy, believing in His worth,
To others sing that they may too adorn our Saviour's birth.
And offer praise to His dear Name, thus filling all the earth
With tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

And joy! Joy! Joy! Comfort and joy! Joy! Joy!
Comfort and joy! Comfort and joy!



SCRIPTURE TEXT

MATTHEW 2:1-12



¹ 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, ² 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."

³ When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

⁴ 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.

⁵ So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

⁶ '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.' "

⁷ Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared.

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SCRIPTURE TEXT

⁸ 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."

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.

¹¹ 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.

¹² Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.



SCRIPTURE TEXT

1 PETER 1:3-9



³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a
living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

⁴ to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not
fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

⁵ who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation
ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need
be, you have been grieved by various trials,

⁷ that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious
than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to
praise, honour, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ,

⁸ whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not
see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of
glory,

⁹ receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of *your* souls.



Exceedingly Great Joy

CLOSING HYMN

O HOLY NIGHT!

ADOLPHE ADAM | ARRANGED BY B. B. MCKINNEY

1. O holy night; the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared and the soul felt His worth.

A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices,
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!
O night, divine! O night, O night divine!

2. Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle to stand;
Led by the light of the star so brightly gleaming,
Here came the wise men from Orient land;
The King of kings lay in a lowly manger.
In all our trials born to be our Friend;
He knows our need, He guards us from all danger.
Behold your King; before Him lowly bend.
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend.

Christ is the Lord! O praise His Name forever!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!



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