Second Sunday of Christmas
04 January 2009

Following the God made known in the life and teachings of Jesus...

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Invocation

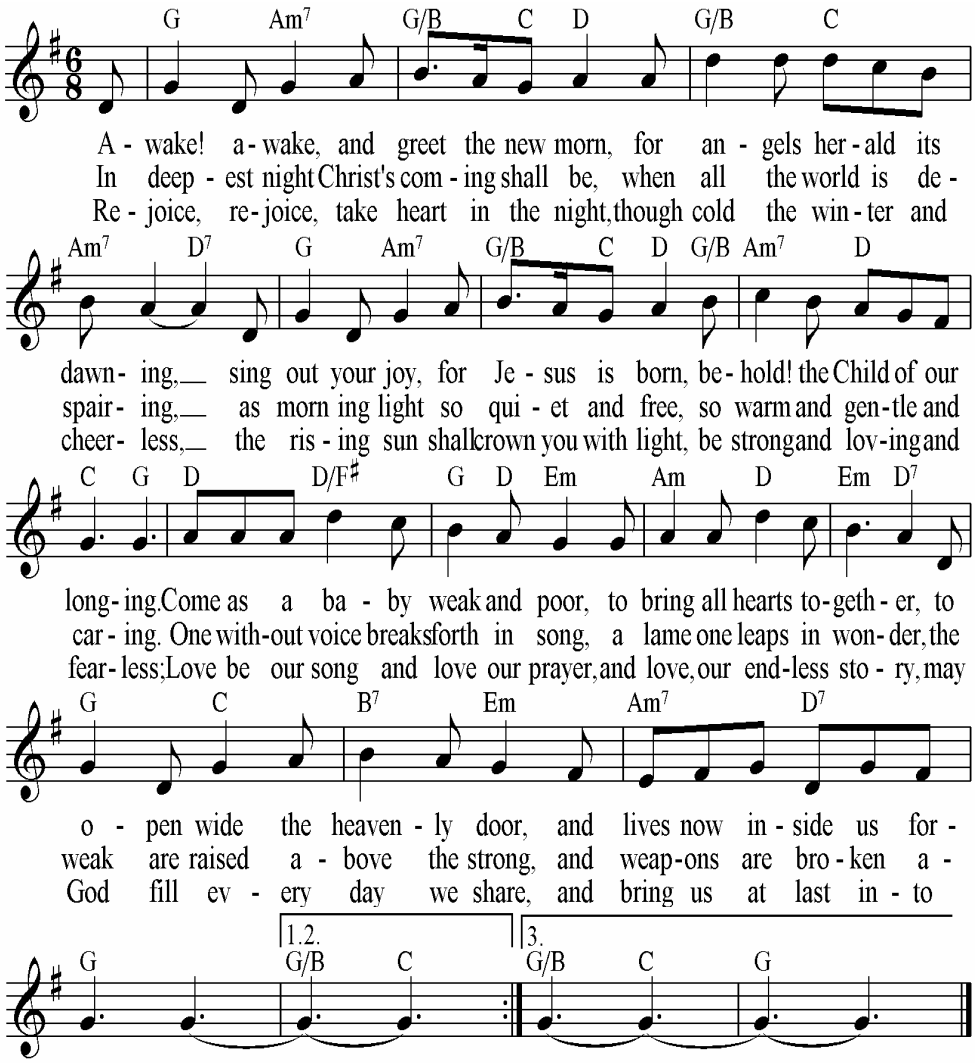
"Let there be light!"
Let it shine in dark places, in moments of pain,
in times of grief,
in the darkness of hatred, violence, oppression,
where there is discouragement and despair.

Wherever darkness is to be put to flight,
"Let there be light!"

G McKeeman

*Hymn 107 "Awake, Awake!" tune: Rejoice, Rejoice

author: Marty Haugen



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Welcome!

A word about diversity:

We strive to be a safe place for all people to worship regardless of race, creed, age, cultural background, sexual orientation or gender identity.

A word about children:

We love children, babies, and teens and we welcome all ages to share worship with us. Professional childcare is available throughout the morning for those who prefer. Activity folders (available in the Narthex) allow children of all ages to respond creatively to worship. A playtime for preschool age children is offered after the Chancel Steps at the 11:00 a.m. service.

A word about special needs:

Special seating is available as needed. We are happy to provide transportation to worship and special activities. Please let us know how we can help make this worship experience more accessible.

*An asterisk next to a section means that we stand for this part of the service.

*Litany for a New Year

One: What a year this has been!
Many: So many things have happened.
Some of them have been wonderful; others very sad.

One: In all of this our Lord has been with us,
guiding, healing, comforting, and rejoicing.
Many: Thanks be to God for God's continual presence with us.

One: Now we are on the threshold to a new tomorrow.
Many: We don't know what it will hold for us.

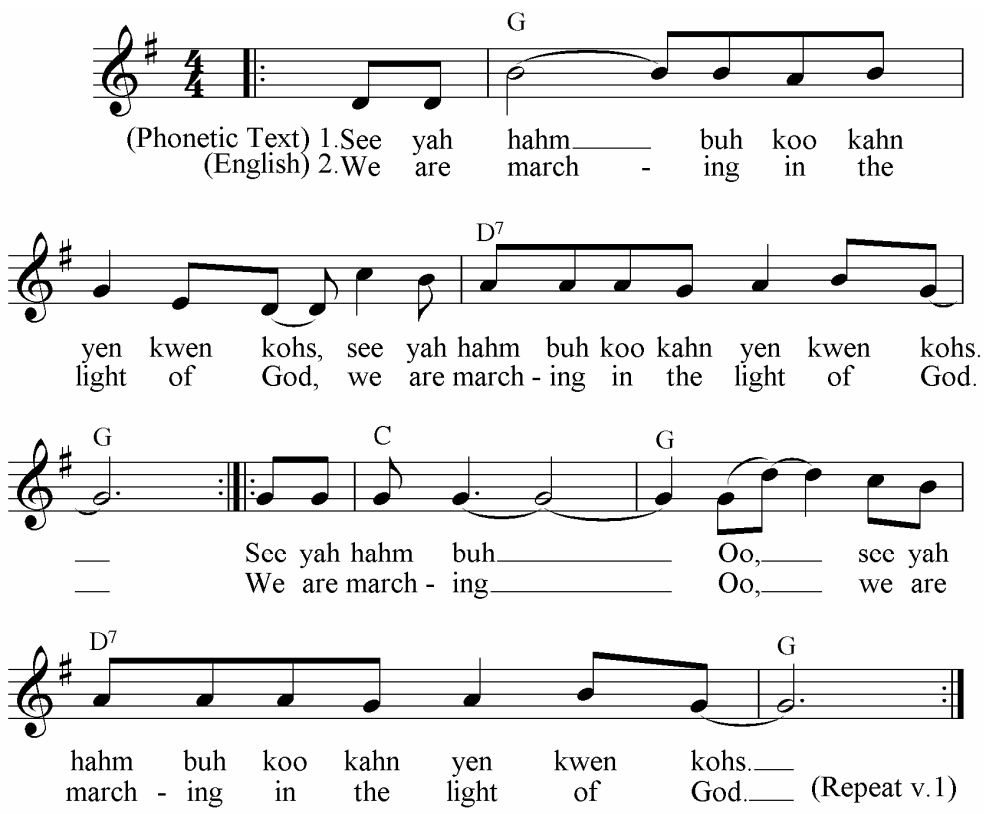
One: In all of what is to come, our Lord will be with us.
Many: Guiding, healing, comforting, and rejoicing with us.

One: Thank you, Lord, for your steadfast love and presence.
Many: Amen.

www.cokesbury.com

*Response

"Siyahamb" tune: S. African trad.



Scripture

Wisdom of Solomon 10: 15-21

Lord, your Holy Spirit of Wisdom
rescued your dedicated and innocent people
from the nation who had oppressed them.
She got inside the heart and mind of your servant, Moses,
and enabled him to stand up to a dangerous king
with an awesome display of your power.
She rewarded the labour of your dedicated people;
she guided them along the best route through the wilderness.

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She sheltered them from the heat of the sun,
and lit up the night sky above them.
She got them across the Red Sea,
leading safely them through the deep waters.
Indeed, wisdom gave voice to the mute
and the gift of speech to newborn infants,
so that all could join in singing your praises.

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John 1:1-9, 18

At the very start, there was one who is called the Word.
The Word was with God,
and the Word was God.
From day one, God and the Word were inseparable.
It was through the Word that everything was created.
There is absolutely nothing that doesn't owe its existence to him.
In the Word was life.
He is the source of the life
that turns on the lights for everyone.
The light of his life breaks open the darkness,
and the darkness could not snuff it out.
No one has ever found out what God looks like,
but that's no obstacle to getting to know God.
The one who is closest to God's heart,
the one and only Son,
has put God within reach of us all.

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Chancel Steps

Children are invited to come to the Chancel Steps to share a story.
Following the story, young children may choose
to go to the nursery (both services)
or to Shepherds (11:00am—a play time in the Red Room downstairs).

Sacrament of Baptism 11:00am

William Robert Minkler
Parents: Reagan and Mike Minkler
Sponsors: Robert and Jodi Minkler

Questions of the Parents

Congregational Assent

One: Jesus calls us to welcome children into the full life of our community, opening our table and hearts to those most vulnerable, offering the wisdom of the ages to all who hunger for truth.
Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care
to this child being baptized as he lives and grows in this Christian community?

Many: We promise our love support and care.

Affirmation of Faith

One: Do you believe in God the Source, the fountain of life?
Many: I believe in God.
One: Do you believe in Christ the Servant,
embodied in Jesus of Nazareth and in the church?
Many: I believe in Christ.
One: Do you believe in the Spirit the Guide,
the liberating wellspring of life?
Many: I believe in the Spirit.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word:
You arrive among us
in the messiness of
our particularity.
In Jesus, Wisdom's Child,
Word Made Flesh,
You have taken on
what we are
and made us yours.
So empower us to embrace
our particularity,
to honor the particularity
of others,
honestly, compassionately,
courageously –
and with wisdom.
Amen.

www.hrc.org

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Baptismal Prayer

Act of Baptism

I baptize you with faith in the living God,
Source, Servant and Guide.
May the Spirit be upon you, child of God, disciple of Christ,
and member of the Christian church.

Prayer of Dedication

Many: God of wonder and grace, we thank you
for your love revealed here this day as
this community, these parents, and this child
come together making covenant promises.
We pray that this community will have the grace
to uphold the promises made here this day ,
providing a safe shelter of your love
in which this child may grow and play.
We pray that these parents may continue to feel
the sweet wonder of your presence
so transparent here today.
We pray that this child will bask in your love
as he makes his own journey through this life.
Amen.

Presentation 351 "Borning Cry" Ylvisaker

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk 'till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in,
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

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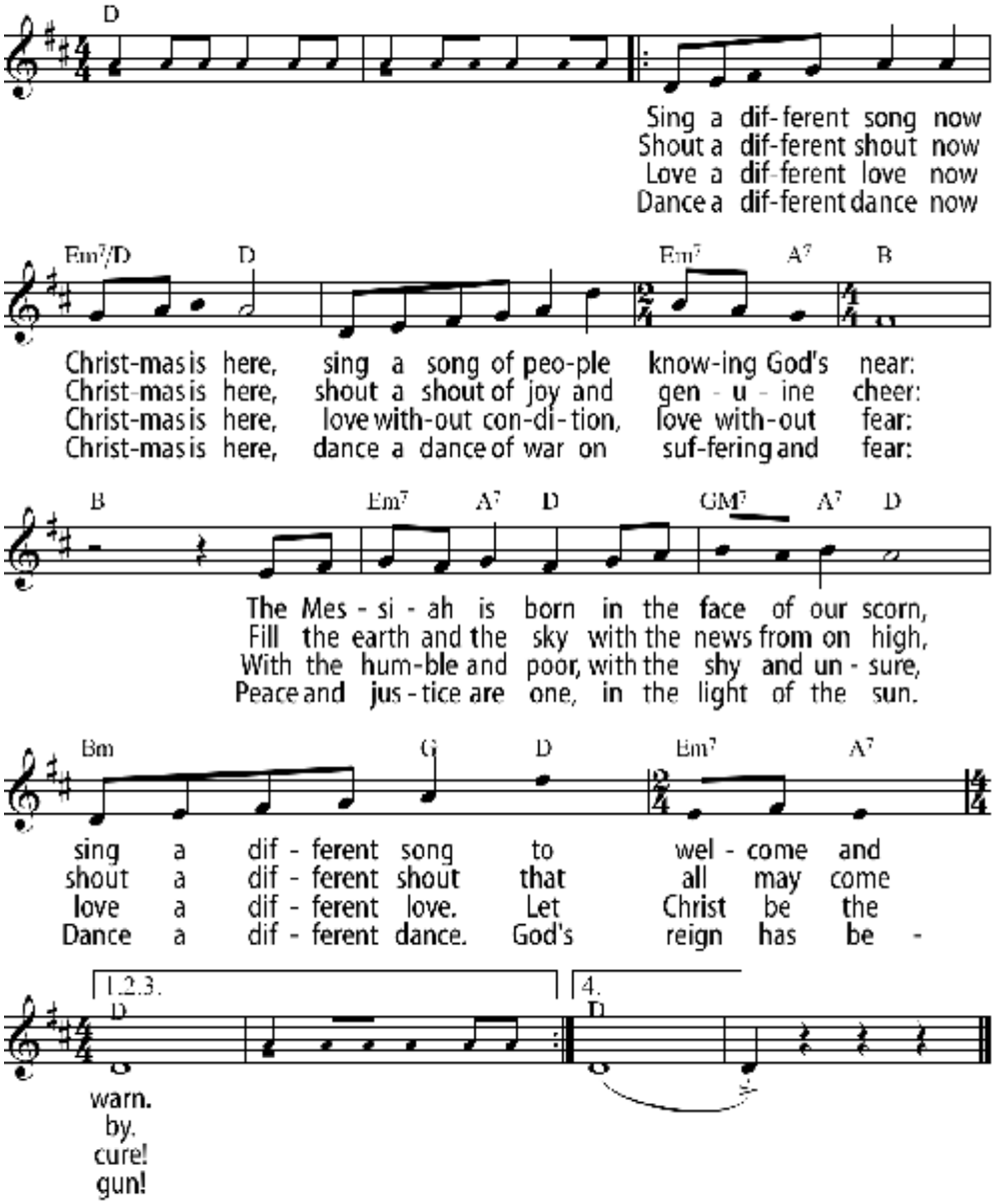
Anthem 8:30am *Loretta Haggard*

11:00am *Chancel Choir*

Sermon Katherine Hawker

***Hymn 150** "Sing a Different Song" tune: Different Song
words: Iona Community



Joys and Concerns

Believing that each joy and/or concern expressed is indeed a prayer,
After each expression, the worship leader will say: Lord in your Mercy.
And the people may respond: Hear our prayer.

Sharing our Prayers

We pray for...

Dick and Ann Spiering
31 North Old Orchard B2
St. Louis MO 63119

Trudy Guinther and
her daughter Chelsea
420 W. Swon Ave 63119

Lee Whiston
723 S. Laclede Station Rd
Room 189 63119

Those who have lost jobs

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Get My People Going”

o you have a desire to have a ealthier lifestyle? Most of us have ne or more areas in our daily ves that could use some im- rovement. Do you need to exer- ise more and eat more fruits and egetables? Or do you need to op smoking and get some nore? If you answered yes to any f these questions we have a pro- ram for you! We will have an dult Ed Class offered on January 1 led by the Rev. Deborah Pat- erson to explain this 8-week well- ess program. You can make that lew Years Resolution this year nd actually try to make it a real- y!

Calling all Crafters & Quilters

ur quilting group, now open to all rafters, and always welcoming to ll, will meet this Wednesday at pm in the Fellowship Hall. More nformation can be found in the lews & Notes.

ou are invited to... piphany Party!!!!

Vho: Adults of Evangelical
Vhat: A party of grand proportions esulting in great merriment. Live nusic, door prize, amazing food… ncluding a chocolate fountain.
Vhere: At Dee and David Ban's ouse (12815 Westledge Lane in es Peres)
Vhen: Saturday January 10, 2009 t 7pm
Vhy: Because such fine fellowship elebrates being alive!
lease call Dee for food assign- nents at 965-1191.

Offering Envelopes

you requested offering envelopes or 2009, you may now pick them p in the Narthex. If you would still ke envelopes, please contact eslie in the church office.

Lord’s Prayer

One: O Parent of the Universe,
manifesting thyself as generative energy,

Many: Bend over us and remove
all that clutters our being
and set apart a place
where thy sacredness may dwell.

One: Fill us with thy creativity,
so that we may be empowered to bear
the fruit of thy vision.

Many: Then, moving to the heartbeat of thy desire,
make us the embodiment of thy compassion.

One: Drawing from the ground of our humanity
grant that we may renew each other
with love, understanding, and sustenance.

Many: Empty us of frustrated hopes and despair,
as we restore others to a renewal of vision.

One: And let us not fall into agitation,
but save us from precipitous actions.

Many: For thou art the ground
of the fruitful vision, the birthing-power, and the fulfilment,
as all is gathered and made whole once again.
Ameyn.

As rendered by Mark Hathaway (www.visioncraft.org) based on the work of Neil Douglas-Klotz (www.abwoon.com - *Prayers of the Cosmos*, Harper & Row 1990).

Table Fellowship
Invitation
Remembrance and Blessing

Come, Holy Spirit, come.
Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine.
Bless all of us in our eating and drinking
that our eyes might be opened,
that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst
indeed, in one another.
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

The Congregation is invited to come forward by the center aisle…
partaking of the bread and cup,
placing an offering in the plates beside the table,
lighting a prayer candle on the altar…

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*Hymn "What Child is This" words: William C. Dix.
tune: Greensleeves

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, the angels sing,
is Christ, God's holy offering;
Haste, haste your praise to bring
The babe, the child of Mary!

*Prayer of Dedication

One: We pray:
Many: Creative Spirit of life and love,
we have gathered in this sacred place,
at the start of a new year.

One: May we continue to create here a circle of love,
ever expanding,
ever growing.
Many: A place of wisdom.
A place of connection.
A place of hope.
Amen.

- Rex A.E. Hunt

*Hymn 154 "Go Tell it on the Mountain" words/tune: traditional

Refrain:
Go tell is on the mountain, over the hill and everywhere.
Go tell is 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 failed 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

*Blessing

*Postlude

TODAY at EUCC

During our Education Hour: Church School & Youth Classes resume

Coffee Fellowship

Also today:
Servant Team Meeting—noon

This Week at EUCC

Job Jar Gang—1st &3rd Mondays at 9am

Welcoming Circle Meeting—Monday at 7:30pm

Capital Campaign Meeting—Wednesdays at 6pm

Children's Choir Rehearsal—Wednesdays at 6:30pm

Quilters & Crafters—Wednesday at 7pm

Health Ministry Meeting—Thursday at 7pm

Chancel Choir Rehearsal—Thursdays at 7:30pm

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Sunday Morning
Shared Ministry Opportunities — Signups are in the Narthex

Ministry		Today	Next Week
Liturgists	Read the Morning Scripture and Prayers	Jim Herz (noth)	open
Shepherds	Assist Phiwa with Preschool Playtime (11:00am service)	open	open
Crib Room Assistants	Help Carole play with our babies (two shifts)	Linda Brandewiede, Amy Soell	Cindy Bruns, Florence Neuhoff
Ushers	Greet worshippers and (at 11:00am) collect offering	David Faulkner, Sandy Bowe, Geno and Lola Contestabile	Bob and Linda Brandewiede, Gigi and Bob Hill, Cheryl Palmer and Janet Rundquist
Coffee Hour	Provide finger foods and greet community between services	open	open
Money Counters	Count the weekly offerings and enter into database	Norma Leuthauser, Bobbie Pahmeier	Brenda Detrick, Don Hubatka

Pastoral Team
Katherine Hawker,
Marilyn Stavenger, Al Schon

Music Team
Donita Bauer,
Jill Thompson, Darcy Swanson

Parish Nurse, Lisa Von Stamwitz

Student, Nancy Mack

Youth, Phiwa Langeni

Education, Sue Schindel

Sunday AM, Carolyn Held

Nursery, Carole Janssen

Campus Minister at Webster, Laurel Hayes

Administration, Leslie Evans

President, Laura Bardelmeier

Secretariat, Erik Soell

Financial, Ken Ulmer

Facilities, Wynn Miller

People Team, Debbie Gregg

Community, Patty Pelikan, Janet Rundquist

Servant, Sean Bryant, Laura Evans

Worship, Margie West, David Faulkner

Endeavoring to maintain the unity of the Holy Spirit in the bond of peace, we are open to and affirming of each child of God, recognizing that we are called to be as one reconciled Body with members of every race, gender identity, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, class, age and physical or mental health and ability.

Evangelical United Church of Christ
204 E. Lockwood Webster Groves, MO 63119
314-968-1727

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