

CHRISTMAS FORETOLD



*My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.
Luke 1:46-47 ESV*

Song: Behold a Branch Is Growing - *Harriet R. Spaeth*

**Behold, a Branch is growing
Of loveliest form and grace,
As prophets sung, foreknowing;
It springs from Jesse's race
And bears one little Flower,
In midst of coldest winter,
At deepest midnight hour.**

**Isaiah hath foretold It,
In words of promise sure,
And Mary's arms enfold It,
A virgin meek and pure.
Through God's eternal will,
This Child to her is given,
At midnight calm and still.**

**The Shepherds heard the story,
Proclaimed by angels bright,
How Christ, the Lord of Glory,
Was born on earth this night.
To Bethlehem they sped,
And in the manger found Him,
As angel heralds said.**

**O Savior, Child of Mary,
Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of Glory,
Who dost our weakness know,
Bring us at length, we pray,
To the bright courts of heaven
And to the endless day.**

Leader: For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder.

All: And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Leader: Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

All: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. *Isaiah 9:6-7*

Song: Oh Come, All Ye Faithful - *Author Unknown*

Oh come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
Oh come ye, Oh come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him born the King of angels;
Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come let us adore Him,
Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Oh sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come let us adore Him,
Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given:
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come let us adore Him,
Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Advent Message

Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

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

Song: As With Gladness Men of Old - *William C. Dix*

**As with gladness men of old, Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright,
So, most gracious Lord, may we, Evermore be led by Thee!**

**As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before, Thee whom heaven and earth adore,
So may we with willing feet, Ever seek Thy mercy seat!**

**As they offered gifts most rare, At Thy cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King!**

**Holy Jesus, every day, Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when early things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last,
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glory hide.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. *Numbers 6:24-26 ESV*

Doxology - *Thomas Ken*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, you heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**