

Love



Sing Noel. Christ is born.

*Oh, can you see the star that's
blazing bright?*

*To guide our hearts
to the Way,
the Truth,
the Life.*

God so loved...he gave.

John 3:16

**Sunday Worship
West Barre Church
December 24, 2023**

Welcome and Greeting

Now there is a reason to hope, to love, to laugh, to live.
God is truly with us. We are not alone.

Hymn: “O Come All Ye Faithful” (v. 1, 3, 6)

UMH# 234

Bringing in the Light (acolytes)

***Call To Worship**

Leader: Emmanuel: God, you are with us

People: We have heard the promise of the Prophets

Leader: We have caught the notes of the angels' song;

People: We have seen His star in the heaven's and we have believed

Leader: Today we have come to be with you, because you have come to be with us.

***Unison Prayer:**

Gracious God, with joy and thanksgiving we gather as your people. We have come to hear again the timeless story of Christ's birth.

In the excitement of this day, quiet our hearts that we may know the peace and fullness of this holy time.

**Shine O Light, in the darkness of our world. Sing, O angels, in the stillness of our hearts. This we pray in the name of Jesus.
Amen**

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

First Lesson The Coming of Jesus Announced Luke 1:26-33(Pg. 1457), Matthew 1:18-25 (Pg. 1374)

***Hymn “O Little Town of Bethlehem” (Verses 1 & 2)**
UMH #230

Second Lesson Jesus is Born Luke 2: 1-7 (Pg. 1459)

Hymn “Away in a Manger” **UMH# 217**
(Join and sing with me as Mary and Joseph come to the stable)

Third Lesson Jesus’ Birth Announced to the Shepherds Luke 2:8-20 (Pg. 1459-1460)

***Hymn “The First Noel (Verses 1 & 2)** **UMH# 245**
(Join and sing with me as the shepherds come to the stable)

Fourth Lesson The Wise Men Bring Their Gifts to Jesus
Matthew 2:1-11 (Pg. 1374-1375)

***Hymn “The First Noel (Verses 3,4 & 5)** **UMH#245**
(Join and sing with me as the wise men come to the stable)

Receiving of the Morning Offering

Doxology

UMH #95

Prayer of Dedication

Devotion by Pastor Jim

***Closing Prayer**

We are filled with joy for we have heard the good news of great joy

We are filled with love, for we have tasted the sign of God’s great love

We are filled with peace, for Christ's Holy Spirit dwells among us

Benediction: (from Chris Tomlin's song)

Light of the World you stepped out into darkness. You opened our eyes that we may see. Shine Your light upon us Jesus. Shine through us as the light of the world. Amen.

***Sending Forth**

Disperse in Mission

To access our website, type: westbarreumc.org

We are also on Facebook, type: West Barre UMC

Pastor Jim usually is in the church office Tuesdays and Wednesdays. However, he will probably be working from home for a couple of weeks. He is available on his cell phone if he is not here in the office. (716) 523-7542.



Assisting in Worship

	Today 12/24	Next Sunday 12/31
Preaching:	Rev. James Heiler	Rev. James Heiler
Greeters/Ushers:	Dean & Karen Dibley	Ed & Diana Pask
Liturgist:	Jim Peglow	Jim Peglow
Organist:	Naomi Caldwell	Naomi Caldwell
Choir Director:	Hugh Dudley	Hugh Dudley
Altar Flowers:	Dean & Karen Dibley	Ed & Diana Pask

Announcements:

Tonight (24th): 7 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Looking ahead:

Sunday (31st): 9 am Choir

December Monthly Mission: Jesus' gift to the
Lipson Cancer Foundation – patient services
The Hope you want. The cancer care you need.



Financial Statement:

December 17, 2023		\$ 2,055.00
Giving to Date:		\$118,929.00
Included in giving:		
Jesus Gift	\$330.00	\$ 1,910.00

Birthday's this week:

26 ~ Norman Caldwell

29 ~ Peter Mathes

**Anniversary's this week:**

27 ~ Jack & Wilma Richardson



*For Unto you is born this day, in the city of David a
SAVIOR which is CHRIST the LORD* *Luke 2:11*

234

O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-phant, O
 1. A - des - te, fi - de - les, lae - ti tri - um - phan - tes; ve -
 2. True God of true God, Light from Light E - ter - nal,
 3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; O
 * 4. See how the shep-herds, sum-moned to his cra - dle,

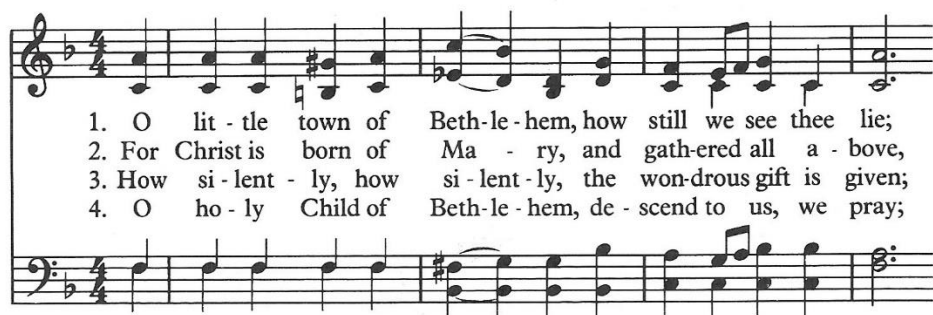
come ye, O come ye, to Beth - le - hem.
 ni - te, ve - ni - te in Beth - le - hem.
 lo, he shuns not the Vir - gin's womb;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove!
 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;

Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 Na - tum vi - de - te Re - gem an - ge - lor - um.
 Son of the Fa - ther, be - got - ten, not cre - at - ed;
 Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;
 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;

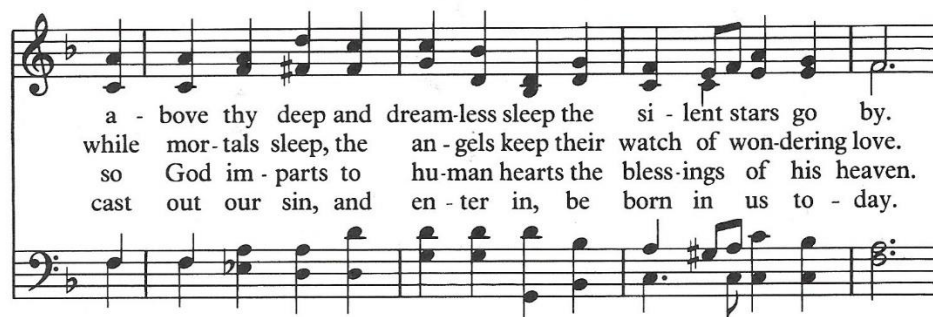
Refrain
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,
 Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.
 ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, Do - mi - num.

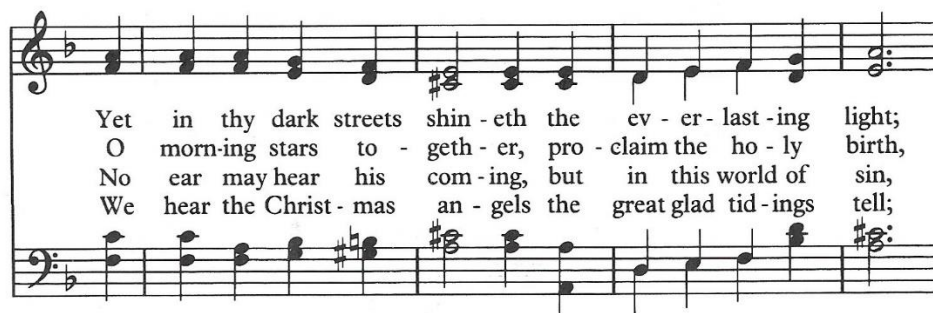
O Little Town of Bethlehem



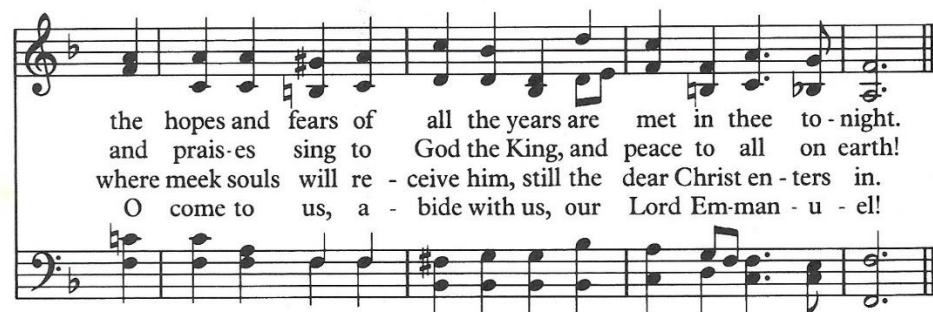
1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie;
 2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry, and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given;
 4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



a - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by.
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 so God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;
 O morn - ing stars to - geth - er, pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth!
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Away in a Manger

217

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask thee to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes;
 close by me for - ev - er, and love me, I pray;

The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus, look down from the sky
 bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

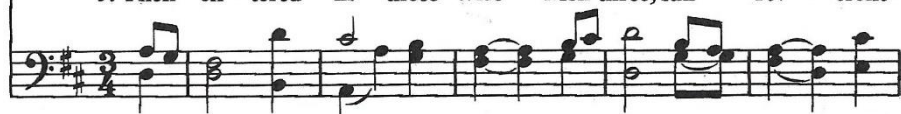
the lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 and fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

The First Noel

245



1. The first No - el the an - gel did say was to cer - tain poor
 2. They look - ed up and saw a star shin - ing in the
 3. And by the light of that same star three Wise Men
 4. This star drew nigh to the north - west, o'er Beth - le -
 5. Then en - tered in those Wise Men three, full rev - erent -



shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay
 east, be - yond them far; and to the earth it
 came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was
 hem it took its rest; and there it did both
 ly up - on the knee, and of - fered there, in



keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 gave great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 their in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 stop and stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 his pres - ence, their gold and myrrh and frank - in - cense.



Refrain



No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el, born is the King of Is - ra - el.



WORDS: Trad. English carol (Lk. 2:8-14; Mt. 2:1-12)

MUSIC: Trad. English carol; harm. from *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871

THE FIRST NOEL

Irr. with Refrain