

Waupun United Methodist Church, Waupun, WI
Worship Hymns and Bible Readings – 11/29/2020

Star-Child

Star-Child, earth-Child, go between of God, love Child, Christ Child, heaven's lighting rod,
This year, this year, let the day arrive, when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive.

Street child, beat child, no place left to go, hurt child, used child, no one wants to know,
This year, this year, let the day arrive, when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive.

Grown child, old child, memory full of years, sad child, lost child, story told in tears,
This year, this year, let the day arrive, when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive.

Spared child, spoiled child, having, wanting more, wise child, faith child, knowing joy in store,
This year, this year, let the day arrive, when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive.

Hope-for-peace Child, God's stupendous sing, down-to-earth Child, Star of stars that shine.
This year, this year, let the day arrive, when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive.

Bible Reading

Isaiah 55:11-13

¹¹ It is the same with my word.

I send it out, and it always produces fruit.

It will accomplish all I want it to,

and it will prosper everywhere I send it.

¹² You will live in joy and peace.

The mountains and hills will burst into song,

and the trees of the field will clap their hands!

¹³ Where once there were thorns, cypress trees will grow.

Where nettles grew, myrtles will sprout up.

These events will bring great honor to the LORD's name;

they will be an everlasting sign of his power and love."

New Living Translation (NLT)

O Tannenbaum

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree
Your branches green delights us!
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree
Your branches green delights us!
You're not only green in the summertime
But also in winter, when it's snowing
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree
Your branches green delights us!

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree
You give me so much pleasure!
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree
You give me so much pleasure!
How often during Christmas,
A tree like you made me happy!
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree
You give me so much pleasure!

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree
Your robe should teach me!
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree
Your robe should teach me!
This hope and persistency,
Grants strength at all times!
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree
Your robe should teach me

Bible Reading

Genesis 1:1-5

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

³Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. Then he separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light "day" and the darkness "night."

And evening passed and morning came, marking the first day.

God of Wonders

Lord of all creation, of water, earth, and sky, the heavens are your tabernacle;
glory to the Lord on high.

God of wonders beyond our galaxy, you are holy, holy!
The universe declares your majesty, you are holy, holy!
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth.

Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light,
when I stumble in the darkness, I will call your name by night.

God of wonders beyond our galaxy, you are holy, holy!
The universe declares your majesty; you are holy, holy!
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth.

Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.

God of wonders beyond our galaxy, you are holy, holy!
The universe declares your majesty, you are holy, holy!

Precious Lord, reveal your heart to me.
Father, hold me, hold me

The universe declares your majesty; you are holy, holy!
Holy, holy!

God of wonders beyond our galaxy, you are holy, holy!
The universe declares your majesty, you are holy, holy!
You are holy, holy! You are holy, holy!
You are holy, holy! You are holy, holy!
Holy!

Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth,
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.

¹⁸ The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God.

²¹ Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save those who believe. ²² It is foolish to the Jews, who ask for signs from heaven. And it is foolish to the Greeks, who seek human wisdom. ²³ So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it's all nonsense.

²⁴ But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ This foolish plan of God is wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God's weakness is stronger than the greatest of human strength. (NLT)

Lift High the Cross

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore His sacred name.
Come, brethren, where our Captain trod. Our King, victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore His sacred name.
Let every race and every language tell of Him who saves our souls from hell and death

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore His sacred name.
From farthest regions let their homage bring And on His cross adore their Savior King

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore His sacred name.
Set up thy throne that earth's despair may cease beneath the shadow of its healing peace

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore His sacred name.
For thy blest cross which doth for all atone creation's praises rise before thy throne

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore His sacred name.

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

You draw the hearts of shepherds; You draw the hearts of kings.
Even as a baby, You were saving everything
You called me to your kingdom before Your lips could speak
And even as a baby You were reaching out for me
And now we are awaiting the day of Your return
When every eye will see You; when heaven comes to earth
Until the sky is opened; until the trumpet sounds
The bride is getting ready; the church is singing out

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Come, thou long expected King.

What are Chrismons?

Speaker 1: What a beautiful tree! But it's bare!

Speaker 2: That's because during these four weeks of Advent, through Christmas and into Epiphany, we will be decorating the tree with Chrismons.

Speaker 1: What are Chrismons?

Speaker 2: They are special ornaments that are all Christian symbols that give honor to Christ.

Speaker 1: Why are they called Chrismons?

Speaker 2: "Chrismons" actually comes from two words: "Christ" and "monogram." A Chrismon is just that – a monogram of Christ.

Speaker 1: What's a monogram?

Speaker 2: Have you ever put your initials on any of your clothes like a jacket or a sweater?

Speaker 1: I have. My initials are LAO. That stands for Lorna Ann O'Donovan.

Speaker 2: Well, that's what a monogram is. If we made a monogram for Jesus today, we might write: "J.C." to stand for "Jesus Christ." But in Jesus' time they didn't write in English. They wrote in Greek. Some of the ornaments that will be on the tree are like Greek initials for the words for Jesus and Christ, and so on.

Speaker 1: But not all the ornaments on the tree will be letters.

Speaker 2: You're right! Sometimes we remember things better if we see a picture or symbol from the earliest times people drew different pictures or symbols to help explain what they believed about God. In fact, many of these symbols were designed almost 2000 years ago by the first Christians. They put them on their door posts, utensils, and catacombs to make a statement about what they believed. Many have remained until today and you will see them as Chrismons on our tree.

Speaker 1: I see. So they all point to God and tell us something about Him. We can learn more about Him just by studying these ornaments.

Speaker 2: But why are they all only white and gold?

Speaker 1: White is the liturgical color for Christmas. It refers to the Lord's purity and perfection. Several scripture references describe God with the color "white." At Jesus' transfiguration His clothes became dazzling white. In the Book of Revelation, it says Jesus will appear on a great white throne appearing white like wool and snow.

Speaker 2: What about the gold?

Speaker 1: Gold points to God's glory and majesty. God instructed that much of His temple be overlaid with gold. Heaven is described as having streets of gold, and Jesus is described as wearing a golden sash when He appears in His glory.

Speaker 2: I'd like to learn about what all the symbols mean.

Speaker 1: We will.

Speaker 2: And when we do, we can give glory to God. And that's the real reason for celebrating Christmas!