

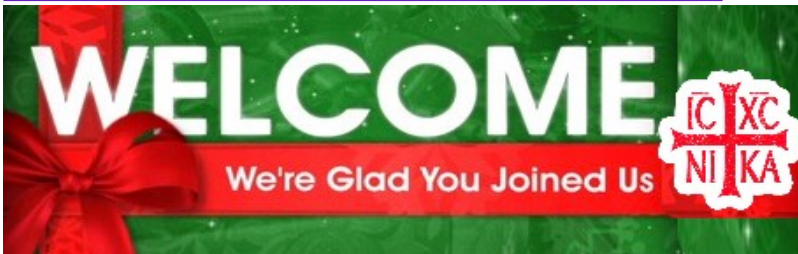
# THE ST. ELIZABETH NEWS

## A loving Community of Orthodox Christians

St. Elizabeth Orthodox Mission Church  
 2265 E. Cherokee Drive Woodstock, GA 30188  
*A parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese  
 Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople*  
 Ruling Hierarch: His Eminence Metropolitan Gregory of Nyssa



Reverend Father Matthew Dutko Pastor/Administrator  
 Father Deacon Steven Hanes  
**Phone:** 404-268-6359 **Email:** fatherdutko@gmail.com  
[www.stelizabethga.org](http://www.stelizabethga.org)



**28th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Epistle:** Colossians 3:4-11  
**Gospel:** Luke 14:16-24



### Christ is Among us!

Christ is among us! He is and always shall be! Welcome to St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church and thank you for celebrating the Divine Liturgy with us!! What a joy it is to be together in God's House. If you have never been to an Orthodox Church before, you are about to participate in the Divine Liturgy. The Liturgy is the work of the people and that means that all of your prayers are necessary and you have a job to do this morning! We hope you will stay and join us for coffee hour in the atrium. Please feel free to ask Fr. Matthew any questions you might have! May God's blessing be with all of you!



### This Week's Music...

**Tropar & Kondak Tone 3 - Page 87**

**For the 2nd Sunday before Christmas- Page 128**

**Kondak of Preparation for the Nativity Tone 3-** Today the Virgin is on her way to the cave\* where she will give birth in a manner beyond understanding\* to the Word Who is in all eternity\* Rejoice, therefore, universe, when you hear it heralded.\* With the angels and the shepherds, glorify Him\* Who chose to be seen as a newborn babe\* while remaining God in all eternity.

*Look on page two of the bulletin for more details on how to follow the order of the Divine Liturgy with the Blue Pew Book.*



Sunday of the Holy Forefathers



## ***Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom***

*using the Blue Pew Book*

“Blessed Is the Kingdom” ..... 2

The Great Litany of Peace .....2

First Antiphon.....5

Second Antiphon.....7

Hymn of the Incarnation.....10

The Beatitudes .....14

The Little Entrance (*Sunday Alternate*) .....16

Resurrection Tropar and Kondak (Tone 2).....84

Tropar & Kondak for the Holy Forefathers.....128

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Trisagion (#2).....19

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Epistle .....Colossians 3:4-11

Alleluia (#2) .....23

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Glory to You, O Lord.....24

The Gospel .....Luke 14:16-24

The Sermon.....Fr. Matthew

The Triple Litany.....25

Cherubic Hymn- Print out with special melody in back of chairs-30

The Great Entrance and Cherubic Hymn (Continued).....34 / 125

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The Anaphora ..... 39

Holy, Holy, Holy (#2).....42

The Hymn of Praise ..... 45

Hymn to the Birthgiver of God.....47

The Litany of Supplication..... 50

The Lord’s Prayer (#1).....53

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*Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves, non-Orthodox visitors and inquirers are invited to come forward at the end of the Liturgy to venerate the cross and receive the Antidoron (blessed bread).*

## **Monthly Schedule**

### **Christmas Play Today!**

**Monday 12/18 9 am-** Divine Liturgy

**Tuesday 12/19 9 am- Final Food Prep- We Need All Hands on Deck!**

**Wednesday 12/20 9 am-** Divine Liturgy

**5:30 pm-** Moleben & Class

**Friday 12/22 9 am-** Royal Hours of Christmas

**3-7 pm-** Food Sales- *We could use help getting ready before 3pm starting around 1pm*

**Saturday 12/23 11:30-3:30 pm-** Food Sales *we could use help getting ready before 11:30 am, starting around 9:30 am.*

**4 pm-** Great Vespers

**Sunday 12/24 10 am-** Divine Liturgy

**4:30 pm-** Holy Night Supper (Potluck Strict Fast Community Dinner)

**6:30 pm-** Vigil Service of Christmas Eve

**Monday 12/25 10 am-** Divine Liturgy: The Nativity of our Lord, God, & Saviour Jesus Christ

**Tuesday 12/26 9 am-** Divine Liturgy: Synaxis of the Mother of God - 2nd day of Christmas

**Wednesday 12/27 9 am-** Divine Liturgy: The Feast of St. Stephen- 3rd Day of Christmas

**Saturday 12/30 4 pm-** Great Vespers

**Sunday 12/31 10 am-** Divine Liturgy

**Monday 1/01 9 am-** Divine Liturgy- Feast of Saint Basil the Great & The Circumcision of our Lord

**Friday 1/05 6 pm-** Vigil Service of Theophany & the Great Blessing of Water

**Saturday 1/06 9 am-** Divine Liturgy: The Theophany of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ

**Sunday 1/07 10 am-** Divine Liturgy

# 2020 Christmas Poinsettias Sale!



Help to decorate and beautify the Church for the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord by purchasing a poinsettia plant! This is a great way to remember a loved one, care for the Church, and receive a beautiful decoration for your home. You can donate a poinsettia in memory of a departed loved one, or for the health of living friend or family member; all the names will be remembered in the *Proskomedie* before the Christmas Divine Liturgy. After the Liturgy on Christmas you may take your poinsettia home to remember the joys of Christmas day for the rest of the festive season!

Here is what you do:

1. Fill out the coupon: cost is \$15.00 per plant
2. Turn in the card and a check or cash to a council member or place it in the offering box.
3. Pick up your poinsettia plant right after the Christmas Liturgy on December 25.
4. A list of memorials will be published in the bulletin.
5. All orders must be received by Christmas Day.

Please Feel Free to Email This to [fatherdutko@gmail.com](mailto:fatherdutko@gmail.com)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Poinsettia Plants @ \$15.00 each: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of...

\_\_\_\_\_

For the health of...

\_\_\_\_\_

## THE STOCKINGS WERE HUNG BY THE CHIMNEY WITH CARE...

These famous words come from Clement Clarke Moore's classic Christmas poem "A Visit from St. Nicholas". Since 1837 these words have delighted the imaginations of countless children, and if we think about those words now, they can bring great joy into our lives and into our hearts once again.

At this time of year we all do many things with *great "care"*. We clean our homes and decorate them with beautiful displays of Christmas cheer. We gleefully anticipate and plan for friends and family to visit and celebrate the feast with us. We watch our finances closely as we pick out gifts for all of our loved ones. We hang *stockings* of many shapes, sizes, and colors; and all of this we do with *great "care"*.

With all this hustle and bustle we all too often and all too easily forget the one thing that we should be paying the most attention to, the one thing that we must prepare with the greatest of care. Our own souls.

We dedicate so much time and energy to preparing our worldly affairs for Christmas. This year don't forget to prepare for our Lord's birth in the most important way, by preparing your soul. Just as we clean our homes, we must remember to clean our souls by confessing our sins before Christ and by receiving Him in Holy Communion. Just as we decorate our homes to make them more beautiful, we must decorate our souls, by serving and loving our neighbors as Christ loves and serves us. Just as we watch our finances closely and buy gifts for our loved ones, we must remember to be generous with the treasures which God has blessed us with; to give cheerfully to those in need and to our Church.

Just like the children in Clement Clarke Moore's classic Christmas poem, we must do this preparatory spiritual work with the greatest of care. Remember the joys of Christmas' past; the awesomeness of Christmas as a child. Clement Clarke Moore reminds us of this childhood joy and wonder. A much greater sense of joy and amazement awaits those of us who prayerfully prepare to greet the birth of our new born King. If we take time to prepare just like the Holy Forefathers of Christ whom we remember today, then the joy we will experience will be the same joy they experienced at the Incarnation of their and our Lord.

We all decorate our homes with great care, this year make sure to decorate your soul with the *greatest of care!*



# The Winter Pascha, Chapter 14: The Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

The following is an excerpt from [The Winter Pascha](#), by Fr. Thomas Hopko

Two Sundays before the celebration of Christmas, the Orthodox Church rejoices in the festival of the Holy Forefathers of the Old Covenant, including those who came before the giving of the Law. The foretold the coming of the Messiah and are redeemed by his saving Pascha. Together with the Canon of the Nativity of Christ, the following hymns are sung at the services of the day.

*Let us offer praise to the fathers  
 Who shone forth before and during the Law;  
 With righteous minds they served the Lord and Master  
 Who shone forth from the Virgin,  
 And now they delight in the unending Light.  
 Let us honor Adam, the first-formed man and forefather of us all,  
 Who was honored by the hands of the creator.  
 He rests in the heavenly mansions with all the elect.*

...

*With his whole mouth, tongue and heart,  
 The wondrous Enoch hoped that in the Spirit  
 He might call with godly mind upon God, the Master of all.  
 Having lived on earth in a well-pleasing manner,  
 He has been taken up in glory.  
 Let us hear the divine words of those who cry aloud,  
 Telling of the coming of Christ.  
 For behold, He is born in a cave of an unwedded Maiden,  
 And his awesome birth is foretold to the Wise Men  
 By the suddenly appearing star.*



There is a great difference between *existing* and *living*. Many people exist. Very few really live. Only those who seek God have life. Only those who delight in His commandments and rejoice in accomplishing His will pass beyond mere existence and actually find life. "Seek God, and your soul shall live" (Ps 69:32, LXX). This is the cry of the psalmist David who is especially hymned on this Sunday and on the Sunday after Christmas. His exhortation is in perfect harmony with the words of God given to Moses in His revelation of the divine Law.



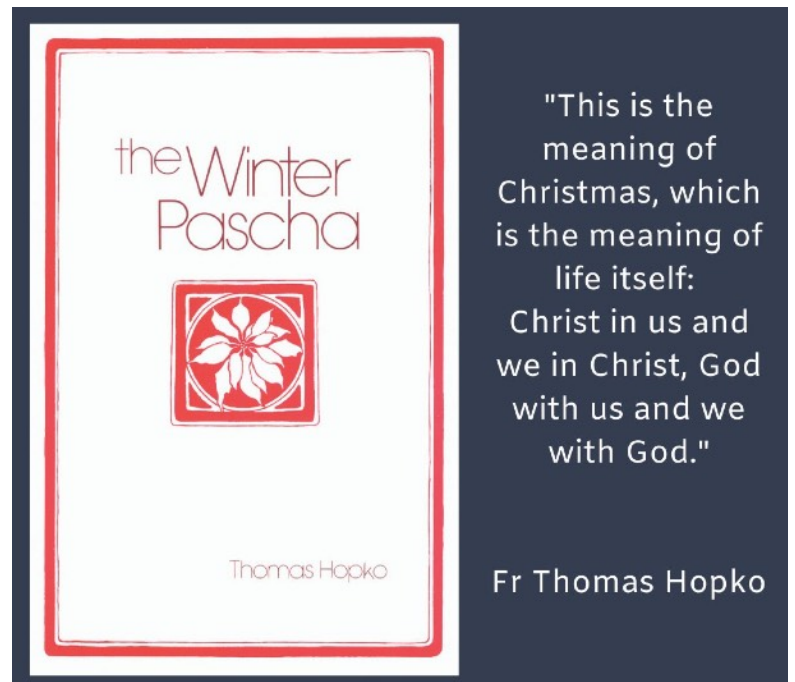
When was your last Confession?

Christmas is Almost Here. Don't Wait any Longer.

## The Winter Pascha, Chapter 14: The Sunday of the Holy Forefathers

The following is an excerpt from [The Winter Pascha](#), by Fr. Thomas Hopko

*"See I have set before you this day life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day, by walking in His ways, and by keeping His commandments and His statutes and His ordinances, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land which you are entering to take possession of it. But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you this day, that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land which you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse; therefore choose life, that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying His voice, and cleaving to Him; for that means life to you and length of days, that you may dwell in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."* (Deut 30:15-20)



The holy forefathers and mothers, together with all their descendants, have chosen life. They find it in God's Messiah, Jesus Christ, who is Life itself, God's incarnate Word. The celebration of the Winter Pascha is a celebration of Life in God's Word. For "Christ who is our life" has already appeared (Col 3:4). We have "beheld His glory" (Jn 1:14). Now that glory is hidden in the "form of a slave" (Phil 2:7), but it will be revealed at the end of the ages in power for those who "have loved His appearing" and "live in Him" (2 Tim 4:8; Col 2:6).

*You shone as heaven's lights upon the earth  
Enkindling the light of piety.  
You called forth the choir of all creation  
As you sang to the Master who saves all from temptation,  
"Bless Him, O children! Exalt Him, O priests!  
Praise Christ, all people, throughout all the ages!"*



# Saint Elizabeth Orthodox Church

Woodstock, GA

Let us offer praise to the fathers who shone forth before and during the Law; with righteous minds they served the Lord and Master Who shone forth from the Virgin, and now they delight in the unending Light. Let us honor Adam, the first-formed man and forefather of us all, who was honored by the hands of the creator. He rests in the heavenly mansions with all the elect.

With his whole mouth, tongue and heart, the wondrous Enoch hoped that in the Spirit he might call with godly mind upon God, the Master of all. Having lived on earth in a well-pleasing manner, he has been taken up in glory. Let us hear the divine words of those who cry aloud, telling of the coming of Christ. For behold, He is born in a cave of an unwedded maiden, and his awesome birth is foretold to the Wise Men by the suddenly appearing star.

*-From Matins on the Sunday of the Forefathers of our Lord*

Become a Member of  
Saint Elizabeth's!  
[www.stelizabethga.org](http://www.stelizabethga.org)

## Announcements:

- **Christmas Play Today!** - Please stay in the Church after the Liturgy for a special performance from the children of Saint Elizabeth's! The Christmas play this year is called "The Bethlehem Express". Thank you to the children and their parents for working so hard over the past few weeks to get ready for the play!
- **Christmas Food Sales-** It's the final week for our Christmas Food Sales and your church needs you! This sale has been super successful thanks to God's blessing and the hard work of so many of you. When all is said and done it looks like we will be over \$8,000 in sales, which is a lot of pirohi, halupki, and nut rolls! As always, the stories and experiences with our customers have been heart warming and it is something for all of us who are part of this family to be proud of. Our food sales bring God's love to many family Christmas dinner tables and it is truly a blessing in so many ways. **With this in mind, we have more food to make and we need all hands on deck this Tuesday starting at 9 am** to make a little bit of everything we sell. **We also need volunteers on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning to help get ready for the food sales.** We will need to cook about 50 dozen pirohi next weekend, please come if you are able!
- **Sisterhood of Saints-** This group is for any woman in the church! We will be meeting twice a month, one Wednesday morning and one Friday night. You do not have to make all the meetings to be a part of this group, please join as often as you are able! We will be reading "Seven Holy Women" and discussing the book together as a group. If you are interested in joining us please email Rachel Prince at [Rachelbprince@gmail.com](mailto:Rachelbprince@gmail.com). She would be happy to order you a book if needed! **Dates: Dec. 29th - 6:30 pm.**
- **Are You Receiving The Saint Elizabeth News and other important emails?-** Sign up on our website or by using this QR code. If you are still not receiving emails please check your spam folder.





**St. Elizabeth's Orthodox Church Traditional Christmas Eve Holy Night Supper, Christmas Eve Vigil, and Christmas Day Divine Liturgy**

Please be our guests and join with the St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church family for a traditional Christian celebration of the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord. In the Orthodox Church, the forty days before Christmas is known as the Nativity Fast, or Advent. Advent is a time of preparation for the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Orthodox Christians participate in a fast from certain foods during this time of preparation which includes abstinence from meat and dairy products on most days. The fast culminates on Christmas Eve with a meat and dairy free dinner known as *Holy Night Supper*. At this traditional dinner, born out of the mountains of eastern Europe, the family gathers together to celebrate and give thanks for the good tidings of great joy that the birth of Christ brings into the world. All are welcome to attend a similar dinner at no cost, hosted by the St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church Parish Family starting at 4:30 pm on Christmas Eve. Since St. Elizabeth's is an international community fasting dishes from all over the world will be represented at our version of the Holy Night Supper. In the *Old World*, after finishing the *Holy Supper* on Christmas Eve, the family would walk over to the Church for the celebration of the Christmas Eve Vigil, at St. Elizabeth's you will have the same opportunity to walk next door to the Church and celebrate the birth of Christ with your family. On Christmas morning the faithful will gather together once again to celebrate the Divine Liturgy, which is the central liturgical service in the Orthodox church. *Come and see* this ancient Christian celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! St. Elizabeth's is located at 2265 East Cherokee Drive in Woodstock. The dinner will begin at 4:30 PM with the Christmas Eve Vigil Service to follow at 6:30 PM. Also, please join us on Christmas morning as we celebrate the Birth of our New Born King with the traditional Orthodox Divine Liturgy at 10AM! If you have any questions please call at 404-268-6359.



St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church  
2265 East Cherokee Drive  
Woodstock, GA 30188



*Celebrate*  
The Nativity of  
Jesus Christ  
at St. Elizabeth's



### Parish Family Prayer List

*For the Health of:* The Melnikoff Family, Pani Betty Jean Baranek, Fr. James Gleason, The Paccio Family, Kara, Joanna, James, Athanasia, Ethel, Tyler, Maria, Page Family, Dean, Margaret, Metropolitan Gregory and his family, David, Joseph, Maria Starcova, David & Paulette Novak, Suzette, Bob, David, Marilyn & family, Mark, Fr. Dcn. Stephen, Michelle, James, Rachel, Kate, Fr. Blaschak & Family, Larry, Alexandra, Tammy, Trahan & Skiba Family, The Hood Family, the Mileszko Family, the Blonar Family, Burt, Sandy, Stephanie, Mary, Tommy, Stephen, Emilia, Simon, Alisha, & Aaron Zak, the Puziculiks Family, Fr. Andy, Davina, & Alexandra, Stan, Fr. Dcn. Charlie & Family, Justin, Charlie, Herbert and Mary Schleining, Spencer, Julie, Anna, Galina & Family, Irinia & Family, Fr. Jim & Pani Kathy Dutko, Rick, Katlain, Elenor, Teddy, Mark, Robert & Cindy, Melissa, Ben, Anthony, Rachel, Christine, Cora, Rick, Michelle, Tim, Robert, The Kelemecz Family, Leonard, Leo, & the Olaru Family, Joanna Price, Kim, Isaiah, the Wells Family, Dave, Ashley & family, Mary, Tim, Andrew, Robert, Derrick, Michael, Eli, Ean, Ellie, Amber, Christopher, Deborah, Nick & Rosemary, Mike, Elaiane, Roy, Lin, Dave, Sarah, Gerorge, & Edward, Stephen, Caleb, Amelia, Simon, David, the Gdovin Family, the Rodgers Family, Mike & the Kundrat Family, Yvone, George, Amberly, & baby Stella, Jessie, Dexter, Julia, Dan, Cora, Gabriel, Ethan, Tripp, Rachel, Lilly, Emmie, Charlie, Michelle, Serge, Mark, Johnny, Yvette Christine, Johanna, Nicole, Caroline

*For the Departed:* Evelyn & Boris Melnikoff+, Patricia+, James+, Stephen+, Anna+, Charles+, Robert+, Loraine+. Helen+, Lewis+, Jean+, Vera+, George+, George+, Ernie+, Eddie+, Maria+, Carl+, Mark+, Barry+, Josphe+, Phillip+, Jenny+, Peter+, Bryan+, Rebecca+, Fr. Paul+, Maria+, Fr. Hazuda+, George Smisko+, Helen Spanovich+, Bob+, Alma+, Bo+, Saddie+, Fr. William George+, Violet+, Fr. Kozar+, Benjamin+, John Haddad+, Fred & Helen Mileszko+, Anna+, Natalie+, Lilly+, Christine+, Anna+, Tamara+, Anastasia+, Yvonne+, John+, Betty+, Ada+, Peter+ & Wanda+, George+, Jerry+, Barb+ & Harry+, Beth+, Louise+, Nikolay+, David+, Fr. Michael+, Natalie+, Helen+, Ted+, Tom+, Mike+, Madeline+, Tim+, Fr. John Baranek, Reader Stephen+, Dean+, Fr. Larry+, Kris+, Wathen+, Pani Elenor+, Fr. Michael+, Sally+, David+, Gene+, Kenny+, Ava+, Fr. Tony Josphe+ & Pani Patsy+, Anatoly+, Fr. Scott+, Steve+, Claudia+, Dave+, Fr. John Duranko, Michael+, Sarah Elizabeth+ Ester+, Julie+

*Through the prayers of the Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, St. Elizabeth, The Holy Fathers & Mothers, and all the Saints, may our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ have mercy on us and save us!*

Holy Saint Elizabeth Pray for us!



Keep Your Parish Family in Your Prayers!

Eternal Memory!



Christ is Among us!



# CHRISTMAS CAROLS



## Hear the wondrous tidings

Hear the wondrous tidings.  
God became incarnate,  
Christ is born,  
in Bethlehem  
Mary is His Mother

Not in a rich palace  
But among the lowly  
Let all know that,  
in a manger  
God came as a stranger.

## Heaven and Earth

Heaven and earth (2)  
now sing in triumph.  
Angels and people (2)  
join in celebration.  
Christ the Lord is born  
Come and behold Him  
Choirs of angels singing  
Wise men appearing  
Christ they are greeting  
Shepherds are retelling  
Joyfully the wondrous story.

## Silent Night

Silent night, holy night,  
All is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon, Virgin Mother &  
Child, Holy Infant so tender  
and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace..  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

## On this Bright Day

On this bright day,  
was born to us  
Saviour and King, God of all,  
Comforter of all mankind,  
Christ the Son of God.  
In Bethlehem,  
was born this day,  
The Messiah foretold,  
By the prophets of old,  
Christ the Son of God.

## There was Great Rejoicing

There was great rejoicing,  
On this Christmas morning,  
O'er the manger, softly glowing,  
The bright star was shining.  
Christ was born in glory,  
Of the Virgin Mary,  
Let us humbly like the  
shepherds,  
Kneel in adoration.

## Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come  
Let earth receive her King!  
Let every heart prepare Him room  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven, and heaven and nature  
sing.

## Joy in Bethlehem

There is joy in Bethlehem,  
Christ the Lord to us is Born  
Angels singing, shepherds  
kneeling, Wise Men following a  
star, For Christ is Born!  
God fulfilled His promised word,  
Sent the Saviour, Christ the  
Lord. Angels gloriously  
proclaiming, Peace on earth,  
good will to men, For Christ is  
Born.

## O Come all ye Faithful

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

## Hark! the herald angels sing

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the  
triumph of the skies; With angelic  
host proclaim, "Christ is born in  
Bethlehem!" Hark! the herald  
angels sing, "Glory to the  
newborn King!"