

TAKE ME TO THE KING!

December 15, 2013 - Christmas Service and Concert

G B C O C N e w s

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Let Earth Receive Her King

It is an honor to receive a gift. It is a greater honor still to receive a gift from a King who bows down so low to honor and serve us. The excerpt below reminds us of the courageous love required for God to give us his one and only Son. Let us receive receive him with great eagerness and joy.

It took courage, I believe, for God to lay aside power and glory and to take a place among human beings...

...It took courage to risk descent to a planet known for its clumsy violence, among a race known for rejecting its prophets. What more foolhardy thing could God have done?

The first night in Bethlehem required courage as well. How did God the Father feel that night, helpless as any human father, watching his Son emerge smeared with blood to face a harsh, cold world? Lines from two different Christmas carols play in my mind. One, "The little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes," seems to me a sanitized version of what took place in Bethlehem. I imagine Jesus cried like any other baby the night he entered the world, a world that would give him much reason to cry as an adult. The second, a line from "O Little Town of Bethlehem," seems as profoundly true today as it did two thousand years ago: "The hopes and fears of all the world do rest on thee tonight."

"Alone of all creeds, Christianity has added courage to the virtues of the Creator," said G. K. Chesterton. The need for such courage began with Jesus' first night on earth and did not end until his last.

- Philip Yancey, *"The Jesus I Never Knew"*

Events



December 18th, 7:30pm

All Midweek
Christmas Dinner Celebration

December 22nd, 10am

Sunday Service
Christmas Tree Toy Drive Collection Day

December 29th, 10am

Sunday Service

January 5th, 10am

Sunday Service

Song Lyrics

Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee

Verse 1

Joyful joyful we adore Thee
God of glory Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flowers before
Thee
Opening to the sun above
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day

Verse 2

All Thy works with joy surround Thee
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays
Stars and angels sing around Thee
Center of unbroken praise
Field and forest vale and mountain
Flowery meadow flashing sea
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee

CHORUS

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Joyful we adore Thee
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Joyful we adore Thee

Verse 4

Mortals join the mighty chorus
Which the morning stars began
Father love is reigning o'er us
Brother love binds man to man
Ever singing march we onward
Victors in the midst of strife
Joyful music lifts us sunward
In the triumph song of life

Joyful to the World

Verse 1

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

Verse 2

Joy to the earth the Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat repeat the sounding joy

Verse 3

No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found
Far as far as the curse is found

Verse 4

He rules the world with truth and
grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders and wonders of His
love

Here I am to Worship

Verse 1

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus 1

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

Verse 2

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

Misc 1

(Bridge)

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross