

P: May he give water to all who thirst; for he is our light and our salvation.

C: Blessed be God forever. Amen.

The appropriate number of candles on the Advent wreath are lit.

Prayer of the Day

World

Psalm 136:1-9

L: Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good;

C: his love is eternal.

L: Give thanks to the greatest of all gods;

C: his love is eternal.

L: Give thanks to the mightiest of all lords;

C: his love is eternal.

L: He alone performs great miracles;

C: his love is eternal.

L: By his wisdom he made the heavens;

C: his love is eternal.

L: He built the earth on the deep waters;

C: his love is eternal.

L: He made the sun and moon;

C: his love is eternal.

L: the sun to rule over the day;

C: his love is eternal.

L: The moon and stars to rule over the night;

C: his love is eternal.

A few words on the reading.....

Placing balls & round bulbs on the tree

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole wide world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.
He's got the whole world in His hands.

2. He's got the wind and the rain....

3. e's got the tiny little baby....

Bells

Psalm 98:4-6

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Sing praise to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

Placing bells on the tree

Jingle Bells

Dashing through the snow,
In a one-horse open sleigh,
O'er the fields we go,
Laughing all the way;
Bells on bobtail ring,
Making spirits bright,
What fun it is to ride and sing
A sleighing song tonight!
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way!
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh!
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way!
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh!

Angels

Matthew 1:18-21

This was how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. His mother Mary was engaged to Joseph, but before they were married, she found out that she was going to have a baby by the Holy Spirit. Joseph was a man who always did what was right, but he did not want to disgrace Mary publicly; so he made plans to break the engagement privately. While he was thinking about this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid to take Mary to be your wife. For it is by the Holy Spirit that

she has conceived. She will have a son, and you will name him Jesus – because he will save his people from their sins.”

Placing of angels on the tree

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.
Glo-o-o-o-ria in excelsis Deo,
Glo-o-o-o-ria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav’nly song?
Glo-o-o-o-ria in excelsis Deo,
Glo-o-o-o-ria in excelsis Deo.

Manger

Luke 2:4-7

Joseph went to register with Mary, who was promised in marriage to him. She was pregnant, and while they were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have her baby. She gave birth to her first son, wrapped him in cloths and laid him in a manger – there was no room for them to stay in the inn.

Placing of mangers on the tree

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Offering
*Offertory

Dove

Luke 3:21-22

After all the people had been baptized, Jesus also was baptized. While he was praying, heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit came down upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my own dear Son, I am pleased with you.”

Joy

Psalm 16:1-2, 5-11

L: Keep me safe, O God, for in you I take refuge;

C: I said to the Lord, ‘You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing.’

L: Lord, you have assigned me my portion and my cup; you have made my lot secure.

C: The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance.

L: I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me.

C: I have set the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

L: Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will rest secure,

C: because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

L: You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence,

C: with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

FROG

1 John 4:13-16

We know that we live in him and he is us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he in God. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.

Placing of doves and 'joy' and frogs on the tree.

I've Got the Joy

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart,
Down in my heart, down in my heart
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart,
Down in my heart to stay.

And I'm so happy, so very happy,
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart.
And I'm so happy, so very happy,
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart.

I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus....

*The Prayers of the Church

*The Lord's Prayer

Wreath

Isaiah 54:10

For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

Cross

John 19:17-18

Jesus went out, carrying his cross, and came to "The Place of the Skull," as it is called. (In Hebrew it is called "Golgotha.") There they crucified him; and they also crucified two other men, one on each side, with Jesus between them.

Placing of wreaths and crosses and other symbols of Jesus on the tree

A few words on the reading

Oh How He Loves You and Me

Oh, how He loves you and me.
Oh, how He loves you and me.
He gave His life, what more could he give.
Oh, how He loves you, oh, how He loves me,
Oh, how He loves you and me.

Jesus to Calvary did go.
His love for sinner's to show.
What He did there brought hope from despair.
Oh, how He loves you, oh, how He loves me,
Oh, how He loves you and me.

Star

Philippians 2:14-16a

Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may be innocent and pure as God's perfect children, who live in a world of corrupt and sinful people. You must shine among them like stars, lighting up the sky, as you offer them the message of life.

Placing of stars and any other ornaments on the tree.

