

Julotta



joy

hope

peace

love

DECEMBER 25, 2025
+ JULOTTA +

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PRELUDE

Lyssna, lyssna, hör du änglasången?
(Listen, Listen, Do You Hear the Angel's Song?)
John Holstedt
Brian Ward, Organ

WORDS OF WELCOME

Libby Piotrowski

* HYMN 180

All Hail to Thee, O Blessed Morn

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Jeff Hunter

Let us go, in heart and mind, to see what has come to pass.

Let us go with the shepherds:

Let us go to find the Savior!

Let us go with the wise ones:

Let us go to find God's promise, born for us!

Let us go with the poor and humble:

Let us go to find our King, born in a lowly manger.

Let us go with all the world, with all the peoples of the nations.

Come, let us worship; come, let us adore him:

Christ the Lord!

* INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Emily Cody

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 62:6-12

New Testament Reading

Titus 3:4-7

* HYMN 176

Now Shine a Thousand Candles Bright

* READING OF THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

Gunnel Brunsell (1929-2025),

Reader via Video

Read first in Swedish and then in English.

We will sing verses 1-3 in English, and then verse 1 again in Swedish.

*O du saliga, o du heliga,
jordens fröjdfulla högtidsdag!
Åra ske Herren, näre och fjärran!
Änglar förkunna Guds välbehag.*

CHRISTMAS HOMILY

Jeff Hunter

SPECIAL MUSIC

Jul, jul, strålande jul
(Christmas, Christmas, Brilliant Christmas)
Gustaf Nordqvist
Choral Ensemble, Brian Ward, Director

*Jul, jul, strålande jul!
gläns över vita skogar.
Himmelens kronor med gnistrande ljus,
glimmande bågar i alla Guds hus.
Psalm, som är sjungen från tid till tid,
eviga längtan till ljus och frid.
Jul, jul, strålande jul!
gläns över vita skogar.*

Christmas, Christmas, brilliant Christmas!
shining over white forests.
The crowns of heaven with sparkling light,
glittering arches in all God's house.
Psalm that is sung from era to era,
eternal longing to light and peace.
Christmas, Christmas, glimmering Christmas!
shining over white forests.

*Kom, kom, signade jul! sänk dina vita vingar,
över stridernas blod och larm,
över all suckan ur människobarm,
över de släkten som gå till ro,
över de ungas dagande bo.
Kom, kom, signade jul! sänk dina vita vingar!*

Come, blessed Christmas! lower your white wings
over the fighting blood and alarms,
over all the sighing of the human breast,
over the generations that go to rest,
over the young ones' new settled homes.
Come, blessed Christmas! lower your white wings!

CHRISTMAS MORNING PRAYER

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Generosity
Offertory

Betlehems stjärna
(Star of Bethlehem)
Alice Tegnér, arr. Jan Åke Hillerud
Eunji Lee, Piano
He Is Born

* Responsive Hymn 149 (Refrain, Verse 2, Refrain)

* Prayer of Dedication

* HYMN 187

Our Day of Joy Is Here Again

We will sing verses 1-4 in English, and then verse 1 again in Swedish.

Nu glädjens timme inne är och manar oss till sång.

Vi stämmer upp den lovsång här som änglar sjöng en gång:

Åra vare Gud i höjd, frid på jorden, frid och fröjd,

över oss Guds välbehag på denna glädjens dag!

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

När juldagsmorgon glimmar

(When Christmas Morn Is Breaking)

Hymnal Selection 181, arr. Brian Ward

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

*Registered attendees are invited to join us following worship
for a special Swedish fika in the parlors downstairs.*

*A special thanks to all who provided decorations for
and prepared our breakfast this morning.*

WHAT IS JULOTTA?

Julotta is a Swedish service that celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ. The service is held every December 25. Traditionally, the service should begin around 6 am and end before, or at the time of, dawn. In many instances, the church is lit only by candlelight as parishioners arrive, and the sanctuary then fills with sunlight as the service progresses. The earliest recorded occurrence of Julotta in the United States was in the Strombeck Lutheran Church in Minnesota in 1883.

All Hail to Thee, O Blessed Morn!

1 All hail to thee, O bless-ed morn! To tid-ings long by proph-ets borne
 2 'Tis God's own im-age and with-al the Son of Man, that mor-tals all
 3 Like all of us, he tears will shed, our sor-rows share and be our aid,
 4 He comes, for our re-demp-tion sent, and by his glo-ry heav'n is rent

hast thou ful-fill-ment giv-en. O sa-cred and im-mor-tal day,
 may find in him a broth-er; he comes with peace and love to bide
 through his e-ter-nal pow-er; the Lord's good will un-to us show,
 to close up-on us nev-er; our bless-ed Shep-herd he would be,

when un-to earth, in glo-rious ray, de-scends the grace of heav-en!
 on earth, the err-ing race to guide, and help, as could no oth-er:
 and min-gle in our cup of woe the drops of mer-cy's show-er:
 whom we may fol-low faith-ful-ly and be with him for-ev-er:

Sing-ing, ring-ing, sounds are blend-ing, prais-es send-ing
 rath-er, gath-er, clos-er, fond-er, sheep that wan-der,
 dy-ing, buy-ing through his pas-sion our sal-va-tion,
 high-er, nigh-er, glo-ry wing-ing, prais-es sing-ing

CHRISTMAS: BIRTH

un - to heav - en for the Sav - ior to us giv - en.
feed and fold them, than let e - vil pow - ers hold them.
and to mor - tals o - pen - ing the heav'n - ly por - tals.
to the Fa - ther and his Son, our Lord and broth - er.

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Now Shine a Thousand Candles Bright 176

In unison F C7 Dm B♭ F F/A B♭ Gm7 C C7 F

1 Now shine a thou-sand can-dles bright up - on the world's dark sphere;
 2 In sub-urb, ghet - to, farm, and town they spread the news a - broad
 3 O star that shone o'er Beth - le - hem, now let your kind - ly light
 4 To ev - 'ry dark and an - guish'd heart send down your ray di - vine,

C F/A C7/G F F/A B♭ Gm7 C C7 F


the deep blue sky is set a - light as myr - iad flames ap - pear.
 that Je - sus Christ is born to - night, our Sav - ior and our God.
 with tran-quil hope and glo - ry shine in ev - 'ry home to - night.
 and may the light of God's own love like Christ-mas can-dles shine.

WORDS: Emmy Köhler, 1858-1925; tr. J. Irving Erickson, 1914-1992, Karl A. Olsson, 1913-,
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 MUSIC: Emmy Köhler, 1858-1925; arr. Norman E. Johnson, 1928-1983, © 1972,
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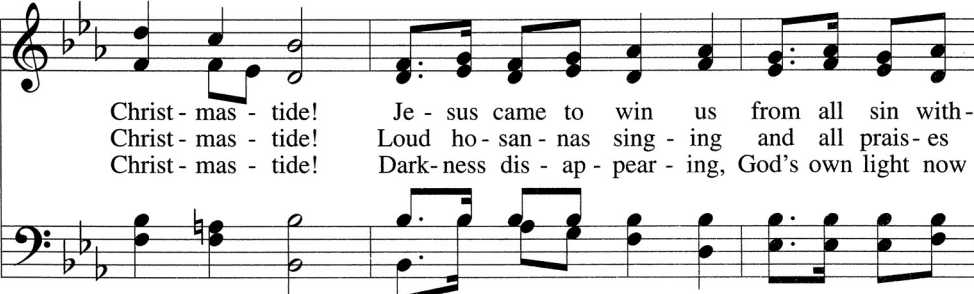
C.M.
 CHRISTMAS CANDLES

O Thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful

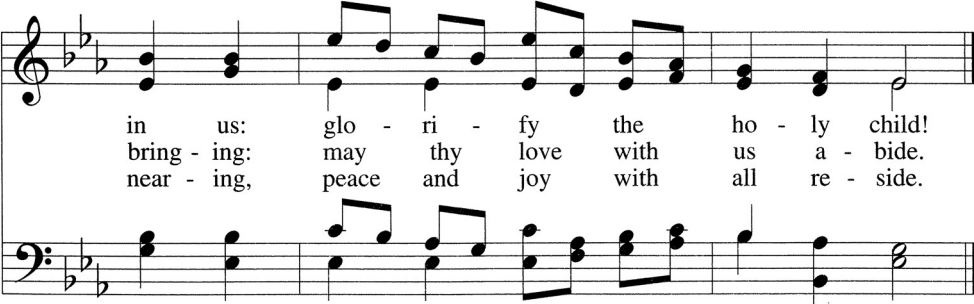
179



1 O thou joy - ful, O thou won - der - ful grace - re - veal - ing
 2 O thou joy - ful, O thou won - der - ful love - re - veal - ing
 3 O thou joy - ful, O thou won - der - ful peace - re - veal - ing



Christ - mas - tide! Je - sus came to win us from all sin with -
 Christ - mas - tide! Loud ho - san - nas sing - ing and all prais - es
 Christ - mas - tide! Dark - ness dis - ap - pear - ing, God's own light now



in us: glo - ri - fy the ho - ly child!
 bring - ing: may thy love with us a - bide.
 near - ing, peace and joy with all re - side.

WORDS: St. 1, Johannes D. Falk, 1768-1826, sts. 2, 3, anonymous, tr. Henry Katterjohn, 1869-1931
 MUSIC: Tattersall's *Psalmody*, 1794

4.5.7.6.6.7.
 O SANCTISSIMA

He Is Born

149

Refrain (in unison)

He is born, the di - vine Christ child, play the o - boe and bag - pipes

Fine

mer-ri-ly! He is born, the ho - ly child, sing we all of the Sav - ior mild.

1 Through long a - ges of the past proph - ets have fore - told his com - ing;
2 O how love - ly, O how pure is this per - fect child of heav - en;
3 Je - sus, Lord of all the world, com - ing as a child a - mong us,

D.C.

through long a - ges of the past, now the time has come at last!
O how love - ly, O how pure, gra - cious gift of God sent down.
Je - sus, Lord of all the world, grant to us your heav'n - ly peace.

Our Day of Joy Is Here Again

1 Our day of joy is here a - gain with love and peace and song;
 2 When dark-ness lay up - on this earth, a glo - rious light did shine;
 3 Now to the man-ger let us go to wor-ship and a - dore
 4 How won - der - ful that God's own Son should so him - self a - base!

come, let us join th'an - gel - ic strain with voic - es clear and strong.
 God sent a gift of price - less worth and showed his love di - vine.
 the ten - der babe up - on the straw, our Sav - ior ev - er - more.
 He thrust the might - y from their throne and gave the low - ly grace.

Refrain

Glo - ry to our God, we sing, glo - ry to our Lord and King;

peace, good will with all a - bide this ho - ly Christ - mas - tide.



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Welcome Statement

We welcome all people to begin or deepen their relationship with Christ through worship and study. We invite all believers to fully participate in the life and ministry of our church as members, leaders, and lay staff. We celebrate the gifts and presence of diverse Christians among us—whether those differences be race, ethnicity, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, or socioeconomic status. We are blessed by our diversity and are unified in Christ.

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