

# **SERMON INSERT SUPPLIMENT**

**LSB #379 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”** *There is a sense of urgency to this hymn. Imagine a child, tugging at your hand, saying insistently, “Let’s go, let’s go, let’s go!” In the same way, imagine someone pulling at your sleeve or grasping you by the hand, half dragging you as they run through the crowd, saying over and over again, “Come!” We are told that patience is a virtue, but in this case, impatience is a beautiful thing. For who could stand by and wait when all we want to do is worship our Lord and Savior? Albert Bailey writes, “The poet takes us by the hand and leads us with triumphant song to the cave of the Nativity in Bethlehem, shows us the Babe, and bids us adore”. This hymn invites us to sing with the angels, sing with our families, sing with our fellow believers, and with every fiber of our being, worship Christ the Lord.*

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!

**Refrain:**

O come, let us adore Him; / O come, let us adore Him;  
O come, let us adore Him, / Christ, the Lord!

**LSB #388 “Go Tell It on the Mountain”** **AFRICAN SPIRITUAL** *In the Bible, a mountain often represents the holy presence of God. Moses met God on a mountain and later climbed Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments. Jesus climbed a mountain with Peter, James, and John to be transfigured before their eyes. Later Jesus was crucified on Mt. Zion. When Christ was born however, God’s presence came down to His people in a new form, in the helplessness of a baby who would one day die on a mountain.*

Go, tell it on the mountain, / over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain / that Jesus Christ is born.  
While shepherds kept their watching / O’er silent flocks by night,  
Behold, throughout the heavens / There shone a holy light.  
Go, tell it on the mountain, / over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain / that Jesus Christ is born.

**LSB #386 “Now Sing We, Now Rejoice”** **GERMAN** — *End of Dark Ages, 14th century. This hymn was written at the end of the Middle Ages. It was a time of poverty. The whole world was in chaos because no country reigned supreme because Roman had fallen. It was a dark time for barbaric power and morals. Music, education, and the arts had been all but lost.*

Now sing we, now rejoice, / Now raise to heav’n our voice;  
He from whom joy streameth / Poor in a manger lies;  
Not so brightly beameth / The sun in yonder skies.  
Thou my Savior art! / Thou my Savior art!

**LSB #383 “A Great and Mighty Wonder”** **GREECE — c. 634 St.**  
*Germanus (About 1,400 years ago) a Greek hymn writer and church father.*

A great and mighty wonder, / a full and holy cure!  
The Virgin bears the Infant / with virgin honor pure:

**Refrain:**

Repeat the hymn again:  
“To God on high be glory, / and peace to all the earth.”

**LSB #384 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”** **SPAIN c. 348** *Perhaps the greatest controversy in Church History was the debate about the Holy Trinity. In 325 AD Emperor Constantine called the First Council of Nicaea to establish the Church’s official stance on the nature of the Trinity. This hymn marries the Trinity, which was the important issue of the day, with the Christmas manger. Only second verse refers to the nativity. We will only sing verse 1.*

Of the Father’s love begotten / ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega; / He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been, / and that future years shall see  
Evermore and evermore!

**LSB #387 “Joy to the World”** *c 1674-1748 Isaac Watts makes the connection between the coming of Christ into this world and the beginning of that restoration. Christ brings “joy to the world,” a light where there is darkness, growth where there is decay. And we, along with all Creation, respond with a song of praise. **George Handel** wrote the tune, **ANTIOCH**, which is derived from various melodies found within Handel’s Messiah*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! / Let earth receive her King!  
Let ev’ry heart prepare Him room, / and heav’n and nature sing,  
and heav’n and nature sing, / and heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

**LW #52 “From Heaven Came the Angels Bright”** **Martin Luther**  
*This tune may be unfamiliar to you. I don’t want you to sing this one. Just listen to the words. It is a sermon that begins with the message of our salvation proclaimed from the angels and ends with the fulfillment of our eternal joy with Christ in heaven. Just listen to the words and appreciate the beauty and simplicity of the message! Read along as the words are sung.*

1. From heaven came the angels bright / To shepherd watching in the night.  
A newborn royal child, they said / Lies yonder in a manger bed.
2. To Bethlehem, King David’s town, / As Micah saw comes great renown  
Your Lord Christ is incarnate there / To save you from all sin and care.

3. Rejoice therefore that through His Son / Your God with you is now at one.  
He took on human flesh and bone / And you, His brothers, are God's own.
4. God came to share Himself with you / Your sin and death He overthrew.  
The foe may send His fiery dart / Your friend, God's Son, will shield your heart.
5. He never will abandon you. / Trust King, Immanuel, the True.  
Yield not to any evil might. / Walk in the Christ-child's saving light.
6. Then in the end you will prevail; / God's friends and brothers cannot fail.  
In praise to God, then raise your voice, / Prepare forever to rejoice

**LSB #380 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”** ENGLAND This hymn, by Charles Wesley, was written within a year of Wesley's conversion and published in 1739. Tune: Felix Mendelsson.

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 th'angelic hosts proclaim, / "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing, / "Glory to the newborn King"

**LSB #368 “Angels We Have Heard on High”** FRANCE — Gloria, In *Excelsis Deo* means “Glory to God in the Highest”. That was the message the angels gave to the shepherds, and thus also, to the world. This song is believed to have come from the shepherds who watched over their flocks in France.

Angels we have heard on high, / sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply / echoing their joyous strains:

**Refrain:** Gloria, in excelsis Deo! / Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

**LSB #366 “It Came upon the Midnight Clear”** What a beautiful sight it was on that Christmas night! The angels said, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” The message was clear. 1) This baby is Christ the MESSIAH! 2) He is the Savior for “all people”. 3) He is the fulfillment of ancient prophecy.

It came upon the midnight clear / that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth / to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men / from heaven's all-gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay, / to hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days have come to pass / by prophet seen of old,  
when down into the circling years / Came Christ as was foretold  
His word of peace shall to the earth / God's ancient promise bring;  
And all who take this gift will hear / The song the angels sing.

**LSB #361 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”** — Bethlehem was the birthplace of King David. King David had come from humble beginnings! As a boy, David was a shepherd. As an adult he was a king. He was the Shepherd/King. Prophets foretold that a GREATER Shepherd/King would one day be born in the same little village. This child of prophecy would become the Good Shepherd. He would become the King of kings!

O little town of Bethlehem / How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep / The silent stars go by  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth / The everlasting Light  
The hopes and fears of all the years / Are met in thee tonight

**LSB #364 “Away in a Manger”** — The first two verses have been attributed to Martin Luther... However, these verses were probably written by different people and added to as the years passed. This song arose from the Lutheran church as a Christmas program song for children.

Away in a manger, no crib for a 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.

Be near me, Lord Jesus / I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever / and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children / in Thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven / to live with Thee there.

**LSB #363 “Silent Night”** — This carol was written for Christmas, 1818, by Rev Joseph Mohr, who served a congregation near Salzburg, Germany. It is said that Rev. Mohr and his parish organist, Franz Gruber stayed up all night on the eve before Christmas Eve and wrote this hymn because the organ had broken. It was composed to be sung with only a guitar. Tonight the organ will get us started. However, it will stop playing, and we will sing this carol the way it was meant to be heard by the author. If you can sing the Alto, Bass, or Tenor part, please do so.

Silent night! Holy night! / Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing / "Alleluia" to our King:  
Christ the Savior is born! / Christ the Savior is born.