

“Uncle Gabriel’s Gifts”

School Christmas Service

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✠ IN THE NAME OF JESUS ✠

Pre-service Music

Eighth Grade Piano and Organ Students Selected Carols for Christmas

**School Choir “The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy”
Dorothy Christopherson**

The virgin Mary had a baby boy, And they say that His name was Jesus.
He come from the glory; He come from the glorious Kingdom.

The angels sang when the Baby was born, And proclaim Him the Savior Jesus.

The Wisemen saw where the Baby was born, And they say that His name was Jesus.

**Handbell Choir “Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful”
Sandra Eithun**

Processional Hymn “Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful” *LSB* 379

Congregation and School

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:
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God In the highest: *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv’n!
Word of the Father Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

“Uncle Gabriel’s Gifts”

Stand

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Prayer

P: Let us pray.

Lord God, Heavenly Father, You know how to give good gifts to Your children. We are gathered together in Your house this night to give You thanks for the gift of Your Son born in a manger. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us, that our mouths might be stirred to praise the riches of Your grace and our hearts be led to cherish Your Son’s coming above all other gifts. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Sit

(Musical Interlude)

Christmas tree and three children, Benjamin, Lydia, and Sarah, sitting and wishing for gifts.

B: I am really excited about Christmas this year. There are so many cool new toys and gadgets, and I’ve asked for them *all*.

L: I only asked for one thing—an iPhone®, so I can keep in touch with my friends.

S: Whatever happened to Christmas being the season of giving? ... By the way, what are you giving me?

Knock on door. Sarah goes to the door. UPS man arrives with a big box.

UPS: Delivery from Los Angeles. *(Loudly thumps box to the ground and sighs)*
Last one of the day. Sign here please.

B: That means it’s from Uncle Gabriel! He always sends the coolest stuff.

L: Let’s peek at the gifts. Mom will never know.

S: Seriously, that ruins the surprise.

L: We can rewrap them and then act surprised.

S: Let’s just open the big box, shake what’s inside, and see if we can figure it out.

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B: Already done. Here’s a card on top that says to “All of You”. (*Tosses it aside to look deeper*)

L: Should we open that first?

S: (*Stopping Benjamin and thinking about it*) Well, that’s NOT a gift. We can open it.

Children freeze with spotlight on them looking at card.

N-1: Dear Sarah, Benjamin, and Lydia, Merry Christmas! You are so special to me that this year, I wanted to send you some gifts to help you really celebrate and understand the meaning of Christmas. Some of them may seem strange, but if you read the cards with them, you will see that each one has a deeper meaning. Have fun discovering how much God loves you and has blessed you. Much love and Christmas joy, Uncle Gabe.

L: Look at the one on top! It’s so small and just the right size for an iPhone®!
I bet he wants us to “stay in touch” with him using it.

B: (*Peeling back some of the wrapping paper*) Hate to disappoint you, but this is SEEDS!
Just dumb old flower seeds.

S: Let’s read the card and see what this is all about.

Children Freeze and Spotlight on them Looking at Card.

N-2: Dear Nieces and Nephew, I know this seems like an odd gift in the middle of winter. Who sends seeds for Christmas? I hope you will keep them and plant them in the spring and take very good care of them. These seeds are to remind you of three things. First, remember the beautiful garden that God planted just after He created everything. He had Adam and Eve live in and care for that garden.

G-1: In Genesis, chapter 2, verse 15, it says: The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

N-3: As you care for your flowers, remember how beautiful creation is and how good everything was when God created it. You know what happened next, Adam and Eve sinned. That leads to the second thing the seeds stand for: God had a plan. He *planted* the idea for the plan right away when Adam and Eve sinned.

G-3: In Genesis, chapter 3, verse 15, God says: I will put enmity between you and the woman, between your offspring and her Offspring; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.

Hymn

“The Tree of Life” *LSB* 561

Grades 5-8

The tree of life with ev’ry good In Eden’s holy orchard stood,
And of its fruit so pure and sweet God let the man and woman eat.
Yet in this garden also grew Another tree, of which they knew;
Its lovely limbs with fruit adorned Against whose eating God had warned.

The stillness of that sacred grove Was broken, as the serpent strove
With tempting voice Eve to beguile And Adam too by sin defile.
O day of sadness when the breath Of fear and darkness, doubt and death,
Its awful poison first displayed Within the world so newly made.

N-4: That very day God promised to send a savior. Adam and Eve had to wait, just like you will have to wait for your seeds to sprout and grow. But you will believe that the seeds will grow just like Adam and Eve and all the faithful believed God’s promise of the Savior. That brings us to our third idea: God plants the gift of faith in all of us.

Hymn

“The Tree of Life” *LSB* 561

Congregation and School

**What mercy God showed to our race, A plan of rescue by His grace:
In sending One from woman’s seed, The One to fill our greatest need—
For on a tree uplifted high His only Son for sin would die,
Would drink the cup of scorn and dread To crush the ancient serpent’s head!**

**Now from that tree of Jesus’ shame Flows life eternal in His name;
For all who trust and will believe, Salvation’s living fruit receive.
And of this fruit so pure and sweet The Lord invites the world to eat,
To find within this cross of wood The tree of life with ev’ry good.**

G-2: In Ephesians, chapter 2, verse 8, it says: For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God.

N-5: For us, this happened in our baptism. As you water your flowers each day, remember what a wonderful gift your baptism is. It gives you the faith that saves you.

G-K: In Mark, chapter 16, verse 16, it says: Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.

N-5: Enjoy your seeds of faith. Love, Uncle Gabe.

Song

“Yes” AGPS 269

Grades K-4

(And God said) Yes to you! He said Yes to me
When the Baptism water flowed freely.
In the name of the Father, the Spirit, the Son,
Our journey of faith had begun.

Oh it’s amazing grace indeed That would save someone like me:
Saved by grace so amazingly free. Oh, it’s an awesome, lovely sound,
It’s the sweetest sound around; It’s the Good News for you and for me. That God said:

Oh, each and ev’ry day is great It’s a day to celebrate
What the Lord, in His mercy has done. Whatever any day shall bring
Live each day for Christ the King! Live each day as a victory won! And God said:

(Spotlight back to children)

B: Wow, that was *not* what I expected.

S: It definitely wasn’t an iPhone®, (*convincing herself*) but it is an interesting idea.

L: It makes me curious about the second gift.

B: (*Lifts next gift, which is also small and thin*) Is it bad to hope that this is cash?
(*The girls give him a look*) For fertilizer and garden supplies.

L: Oh Puh-lease! (*Takes the gift from him*)

S: We’ve already opened the first one, might as well check this out, too.

L: (*Peels back some paper*) This one’s just as odd. It’s a map of the world.

B: (*Opening the next card*) Maybe we’re supposed to take a trip.

(*They open the card and freeze again.*)

N-6: Well, dear children, I’ll start this card with a question: What are maps for? One answer is that they show us where to go or guide us. That helps us remember what God has always done for His people, including us. Sometimes He gave physical guidance, like when He led Moses and the Israelites across the desert.

G-4: In Exodus, chapter 13, verses 21-22, it says: And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and night. The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people.

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- N-7: Sometimes He gave spiritual guidance, like when He promised to make Abraham’s descendants a great nation.
- G-3: In Genesis, chapter 12, verses 2-3, God told Abraham: And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all families of the earth shall be blessed.
- N-7: God also sent spiritual guidance through prophets who reminded His people of the promised Savior.
- G-1: In Isaiah, chapter 7, verse 14, it says: Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call His name Immanuel.
- G-2: In Isaiah, chapter 9, verse 6, it says: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- G-4: In Micah, chapter 5, verse 2, it says: But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for Me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.
- N-8: God continues to guide us today. He gives us His Word in the Bible.
- G-K: Psalm 119, verse 105, says: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
- N-8: The map I have sent you has countries marked on it where missionaries are translating the Bible into new languages. I hope you will put it up and pray for the new Christians that will be guided by God’s Word through their work.

Hymn

“The People That in Darkness Sat” *LSB* 412

- Grades 3-4: The people that in darkness sat A glorious life have seen;
The light has shined on them who long
In shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.
- Grades 5-8: To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness, The gath’ring nations come;
They joy as when the reapers bear
Their harvest treasures home, Their harvest treasures home.
- All: His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor,
The God by all adored, The God by all adored.**

“Uncle Gabriel’s Gifts”

L: Wow! This is serious stuff!

B: Seriously!

S: It’s serious, but it’s also making us think. I like how Uncle Gabe is tying everything together. Let’s take a look at gift three.

B: I’m on it. (*Opens up next gift-baby cup*) This time I can tell where this is going. ... It’s a baby cup.

L: At least we’re finally talking about Christmas. Baby Jesus—baby cup, right? Here’s the card to go with it.

N-9: Children, as if you couldn’t guess, this brings us to the Christmas story. Jesus was born as a baby. He lowered Himself to be human, like us. He needed to be loved and cared for as we all do. Imagine the one who participated in creation now was a helpless infant. Take a moment to read the Christmas story from Luke 2.

Stand

Hymn

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” *LSB* 361

(Tunes: Stanzas 1 and 3 - ST. LOUIS, LSB 361; Stanzas 2 and 4 - FOREST GREEN, LSB 362)

**All: 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.**

Grades 1-8: For Christ is born of Mary, And gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond’ring love.
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!

**All: How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv’n!
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heav’n.
No ear may hear His coming; But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still The dear Christ enters in.**

**All: O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!**

Sit

(Kindergarten creates tableau.)

G-5: In Luke, chapter 2, verses 1-20, it says: In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear.

And the angel said to them, “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. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!”

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”

And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this Child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Song

“Baby Jesus, We Love You” – Dean Diehl

Kindergarten

What did the cows at the manger say to Baby Jesus in the hay?

“Uncle Gabriel’s Gifts”

“Moo, moo, moo, moo. Baby Jesus, we love You.”

What did the sheep at the manger say to Baby Jesus in the hay?

“Baa, baa, baa, baa. Baby Jesus, we love You.”

Jesus was born on Christmas Day. Mary laid Him in the hay.

So little boys and girls may pray, “Jesus, Jesus, Baby Jesus, we love You.”

What did the donkeys at the manger say to Baby Jesus in the hay?

“Hee-haw, hee-haw. Baby Jesus, we love You.”

Jesus was born on Christmas Day. Mary laid Him in the hay.

So little boys and girls may pray, “Jesus, Jesus, Baby Jesus, we love You.”

Moo, moo. Baa, baa. Hee-haw. Jesus. Baby Jesus, we love You.

(Tableau leaves at end)

Hymn

“Once in Royal David’s City” LSB 376

(Grades 1-8)

Once in royal David’s city Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven, Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable, And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His own redeeming love;
For that Child so dear and gentle Is our Lord in heav’n above;
And He leads His children on To the place where He is gone.

N-10: Jesus didn’t come just to be a baby. He came to care for us. Just as He was fed when He was a baby, He feeds us through His Word and Sacrament.

G-6: In John, chapter 6, verse 35, Jesus says, “I am the Bread of Life: whoever comes to Me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in Me shall never thirst.”

N-11: This baby cup not only reminds us of Baby Jesus but of how Jesus cares for us. You can use it to help water your plants.

L: Uncle Gabe is really giving us a lot to think about today.

“Uncle Gabriel’s Gifts”

B: He usually sends us stuff that is more fun. I wonder if any of these gifts will be something we asked for. Let’s look at the next one—it’s bigger. Please let it be a Wii!

S: Hand it to me. I would like to open one of them.

(Caterpillars in bigger box with lots of Styrofoam)

L: Eeeewww! It’s bugs!

N-12: I know these gifts seem to get stranger and stranger. What you have in the jar are caterpillars. We’ll get to them in a minute. When Jesus became human, He did so to take our place and fulfill what we could not.

G-6: In Galatians, chapter 4, verses 4-5, it says: But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

G-7: In 2 Corinthians, chapter 5, verse 21, it says: For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

N-13: Jesus took our sins, all the way to the cross. He died so that we could be set free from sin, and rose so that we could have eternal life with Him in heaven. Now take a look at your caterpillars. At some point they will look dead, but they will be in a chrysalis. They will be changing just as Christ changes us. When their change is complete, they will come forth as butterflies.

G-8: In John, chapter 8, verses 34 and 36, Jesus says: Truly, truly I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. So, if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

N-14: When you set your butterflies free in the Spring, remember the freedom Jesus gave you through His sacrifice on the cross.

L: I guess these bugs aren’t so gross after all—since they are going to turn into butterflies.

B: I’m beginning to understand Uncle Gabe’s logic a little better now.
This is really a Christmas *experience*.

Hymn

“O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild” LSB 546

(Grades 1-8)

Grades 1-4: O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild! For sinners You became a child.
You came from heaven down to earth In human flesh through human birth.
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!

Grades 5-6: O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild! With God we now are reconciled.

“Uncle Gabriel’s Gifts”

You have for all the ransom paid, Your Father’s righteous anger stayed.
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!

Grades 5-8: O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild! Joy fills the world which sin defiled.
Whate’er we have belongs to You; O keep us faithful, strong, and true.
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!

S: There is one more gift. What do you think it could be?

L: It says “fragile.” It must be really good.

B: I’m not touching this one. I’m not good with “fragile.”

L: Great, because I’ve already opened it.

(It’s pottery.)

B: Why would he give us a flower pot?

S: We are growing flowers. Look at the card.

N-15: Have you ever thought of yourselves as flowerpots? I know it seems odd, but we are handmade by God just like this pot is handmade.

G-1-8: In Isaiah, chapter 64, verse 8, it says: But now, O Lord, You are our Father; we are the clay, and You are our Potter; we are the work of Your hand.

N-15: God loves us! He made us, He redeemed us, and He has given us heaven. This is a gift from our heavenly father that is meant to be shared. Just as God planned our salvation, He planned for us to share this good news with the world.

G-6: In Ephesians, chapter 2 verses 8-10 it says: For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

N-16: This pot can carry a flower that you grew to a sick friend or someone who needs to be loved. You are just like that pot. You can carry God’s good news of salvation to others. You can tell them all about what you learned through these Christmas gifts. Read Matthew 28:18-20 to hear for yourself what Jesus commissioned us all to do.

G-6: In Matthew, chapter 28, verses 18-20, Jesus says: All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I with you always, to the end of the age.

“Uncle Gabriel’s Gifts”

B: This was NOT what I expected for Christmas from Uncle Gabe, but I like it.

L: I was expecting Christmas to be “Jingle Bells”, wrapping paper, twinkling lights, and new stuff that I tried not to break before vacation was over. I’m happy to say Christmas will be different this year. I will never look at Christmas the same way again.

B: Wait, I found one more gift tucked under a box flap. *(Tears it open)*
It’s an old book. No, wait, it’s an old **Bible**.

N-17: My final gift to you is my Bible. This is the first Bible I ever owned. It was given to me by my uncle when I was about your age. From the outside it looks like an ordinary old book, but it tells the story of your Savior, His life, and His love for you. I hope you will see the treasure in all of these gifts. I love you, and, Merry Christmas, signed,
Uncle Gabe.

S: Uncle Gabe sent such ordinary objects, but then again, Jesus looked like an ordinary, humble baby. Yet, He came to show such extraordinary love and make such an extraordinary sacrifice and give such an extraordinary gift. He wasn’t ordinary at all. When you receive an extraordinary gift like that, what do you do?

B: Just what Uncle Gabe did with us, you share it.

Song

“The Greatest Gift” – Lana Gibbons

(Grades 1-4)

We celebrate Christmas with those we love, Our hearts filled with all of God’s joy.
We celebrate love that was given to us When God gave us His baby Boy.
The greatest Gift, the greatest Gift, Gift-wrapped and sent from above.
The greatest Gift, the greatest Gift—Jesus, the gift of God’s love for me.
It’s Jesus, the best Gift for me!

We give gifts at Christmas to family and friends, All wrapped up and ready to send.
We get gifts at Christmas, but best of all gifts Is Jesus; His love will not end.

“Uncle Gabriel’s Gifts”

We hear in the story when Jesus was born, Of how all the angels did sing.
We hear of the shepherds who listened and ran To worship the Savior and King.

We cherish the Giver how perfect the Gift When God sent His Child to this earth.
We live in the pleasure of being His child; He gave us new life and new birth.

L: (*To the audience*) Our Christmas will be different this year; what about yours?

Gathering of the Offerings

?

Handbell Class

“Once in Royal David’s City” – Bill Ingram

School Choir

“In the Bleak Midwinter” – Valerie Shields

In the bleak midwinter, Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, Snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, Long ago.

Heaven cannot hold Him, Nor earth sustain
Heav’n and earth shall flee away When He comes to reign;
In the bleak midwinter, A stable place sufficed,
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels May have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim Thronged the air;
But His mother only, In her maiden bliss,
Worshiped the Belovéd With a kiss.

What can I give Him, Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give Him, Give my heart.

Hymn Sing

Congregation and Students

“Angels We Have Heard on High” LSB 368

Men/boys: Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.

All: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Women/girls: Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav’nly song?

All: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Men/boys: Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

All: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

“Joy to the World” *LSB 387*

All: 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.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow 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.

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

“Silent Night” *LSB 363*

All: Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav’nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Stand

Prayers

“Uncle Gabriel’s Gifts”

Lord’s Prayer

Benediction

Sit

Recessional Hymn

“Let Our Gladness Have No End” *LSB* 381

Congregation and Students

**Let our gladness have no end, alleluia!
For to earth did Christ descend, alleluia!
On this day God gave us Christ, His Son, to save us;
Christ, His Son, to save us.**

**Prophesied in days of old, alleluia!
God has sent Him as foretold, alleluia! *Refrain***

**See, the loveliest blooming rose, alleluia!
From the branch of Jesse grows, alleluia! *Refrain***

**Into flesh is made the Word, alleluia!
He, our refuge and our Lord, alleluia! *Refrain***

Postlude

“The People That in Darkness Sat” – Paul Manz

✠ GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST ✠