

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS—WEEK OF DECEMBER 24, 2023

TODAY

- 8:00a Pre-Service Prayer—B106  
8:30a Morning Worship—Sanctuary  
Nursery—Building B Preschool Wing, children under 4 years  
No ABF/YBF/SS  
11:00a Morning Worship—Sanctuary  
Nursery—Building B Preschool Wing children under 4 years

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

- 5:00 p.m. Christmas worship with candlelight, scripture, children’s time and carols. Nursery / child care is provided through age 48 months.
- 6:00 p.m. Children’s Live Nativity - foyer
- 6:30 p.m. Christmas worship with candlelight, scripture, children’s time and carols. Nursery / child care is provided through age 48 months.
- 11:00 p.m. Christmas worship with Holy Communion, candlelight and carols. No nursery care provided.

MONDAY—FRIDAY

Church office closed



CHURCH CALENDAR DECEMBER/JANUARY

- 12/31 Morning Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
No Sunday School or Children’s Worship  
No Evening Worship  
1/7 Morning Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
All Church Potluck Breakfast, 9:45 a.m.  
No Evening Worship  
1/21 John Wesley Covenant Worship Service, 6:00 p.m.

Immanuel: Immaculate  
Luke 1:26-38

Pastor Daryl

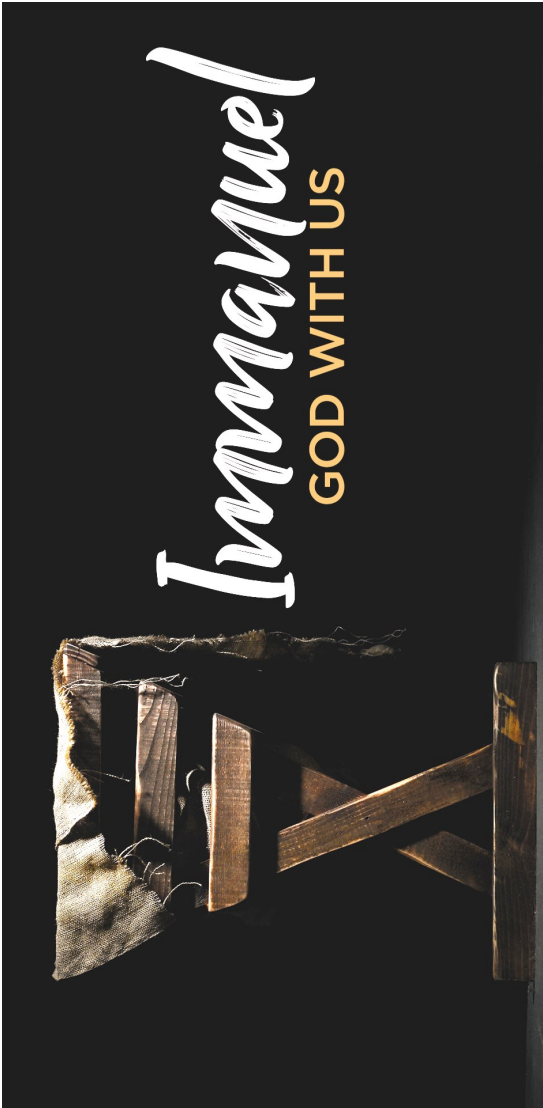
VIDEO AND PRINT RECORDINGS OF ALL MESSAGES  
ARE AVAILABLE AT WILMOREFMC.ORG



PRAYER SEEKING SALVATION: Lord Jesus, I know I have sinned against You. I believe that You died for me, and I place my trust in You. Forgive my sins and save me from the judgment to come. Help me to turn from my sin and live a life wholly devoted to You.

PRAYER SEEKING SANCTIFICATION: Lord Jesus, I recognize my need for holiness. Purify me of all that is unlike You, fill me with Your Holy Spirit until I am totally Yours, and set me apart for Your purposes from this day forward.

If you seek or have found salvation or sanctification today, please let a member of the pastoral staff know. We’re here to help you on your journey.



WILMORE  
FREE METHODIST CHURCH  
A COMMUNITY THAT REFLECTS JESUS’ VISION AND VALUES  
DECEMBER 24, 2023  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
OFFICE@WFMC.NET WWW.WILMOREFMC.ORG 859.858.3521



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT WPMC!  
If you are “new,” this is for you!

**COMPLETING THE WELCOME CARD** allows us to welcome you personally. Please fill it out and drop it off at the foyer Welcome Center. The attendant there will give you a nice gift.

**THE WORSHIP GUIDE** in this folder leads through the service. We try to use elements, liturgy and music from a variety of Christian traditions to help lead people of all ages, stages, and tastes into God’s presence. Worship is, by nature, participatory, so please join in prayer, word, giving, and song, and respond to the voice of the Holy Spirit however He leads.

**NURSERY** for children up to 2 years is available all morning in the Pre-school Complex, Building B.

**CHILDREN’S WORSHIP JR.** (CWJR, age 2 and 3) is available all year for both morning worship services in the Pre-school Complex, Building B.

**CHILDREN’S WORSHIP** (CW, age 4 through grade 3) **THERE IS NO CHILDREN’S WORSHIP** today and December 31. Regular Children’s Worship (age 4 through grade 3) begins again on January 7, 2024.

**HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES** are available at the back of the Sanctuary.

**WHEELCHAIR SEATING** is readily available in the center aisle or an usher will be glad to remove a sanctuary chair for your convenience.

**PRAYER FOCUS:** Let’s give thanks today for Jesus, the Savior, brought to earth by our God’s great, great love for us.

**WORLD MISSION FOCUS**—Be sure to remember in prayer our missionaries on this Christmas Day; pray for rest, joy, and a renewed vision for them and their ministries for the coming year.

**HOME MISSION FOCUS:** Pray for the Kentucky Refuge Ministries as they seek to lovingly serve those who have been displaced from their home countries for various reasons. Pray for refugees around the world.

**YOUTH MINISTRY FOCUS:** Merry Christmas! I pray you are enjoying this season and all the wonderful things it brings. *So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.* Isaiah 41:10

**NURSERY:**

	<u>TODAY/THIS WEEK</u>	<u>NEXT WEEK</u>
8:30 Worship	J Evans/M Ezell/A Montoya J Montoya	A Dedman/G Crabtree/J Crabtree R Dedman
Sunday School	No Sunday School	No Sunday School
11:00 Worship	E Maynard/M Miller/B Wagler	R Cooper/N Erny/E Padgett K Padgett
6:00 Worship	Christmas Eve Nursery 5:00p & 6:30p	No Evening Worship
Wed. Evening	No Wednesday evening activities	M Dargan/M Henderson



**5:00 and 6:30 p.m.** - Worship with word, candlelight, scripture, children’s time and carols. Nursery / child care is provided through age 48 months. (Children’s nativity before the 6:30 service).

**6:00 p.m.** - Childrens’ Nativity (foyer)

**11:00 p.m.** - Christmas worship with Holy Communion, candlelight and and carols. No nursery care provided.

• **WFMC MEMBERSHIP CLASS:** Mark your calendar for the next class, January 13, 2024, Saturday seminar, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. The class gives a comprehensive introduction to our church, denomination, and beliefs. Come and investigate - no commitment is required to simply take the class. Interested? Write “Membership” on the Welcome Card.

• **SUNDAY SCHOOL SABBATICAL:** Starting today and the next 2 Sundays, our Sunday School, Youth and Adult Bible Fellowship leaders are taking a Christmas sabbatical, giving them three Sundays (today, Dec 31 and Jan 7) of rest. Take a moment to thank your leaders for their hard work.

• **THERE IS NO CHILDREN’S WORSHIP** (CW) today and December 31. Regular Children’s Worship (age 4 through grade 3) begins again on January 7, 2024.

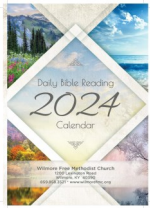
• **END OF YEAR GIVING:** Please note that in order for tithes, gifts and offerings to be tax-deductible for the year 2023, they must either be received in the office or postmarked by December 31.

• **CHURCH BLOOD DRIVE** Wednesday, January 10, 2:30-7:00 p.m. in the church foyer. If you are healthy, 17 or older (16 with parental consent) and weigh 110 pounds or more, you may be eligible to give.

• **CHRISTMAS OUTREACH MATERIALS:** In the foyer you will find a variety of books suitable for adults and children for you to use as gifts for those you know who don’t know Jesus. Please take as many as you can give away!

**THE CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED**  
**DECEMBER 22, 2023-JANUARY 1, 2024**

Mail will be collected, of course,  
and pastors will still be available.  
Thanks so much for helping to plan ahead.



**A GIFT FOR ALL!**

Daily Bible Reading Guides for 2024  
are available for you in the foyer.  
Please take one for your personal  
devotional time.



**Sunday School Potluck  
Breakfast**

**January 7, 9:45 a.m.**

**Building C Great Hall**

Each family please bring a generous dish to  
share - casseroles, breakfast sandwiches, sweet  
rolls, fruit, etc.

*Coffee, milk and juice provided.*



**LET’S HIT THE SLOPES!**

Annual High School Ski Retreat  
Weekend of January 20, 2024

More details and registration information will be  
sent via Remind. Questions?

Contact Caitlin [cgothay@wfmc.net](mailto:cgothay@wfmc.net)



**JOHN WESLEY COVENANT WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 6:00 p.m.**

Join us for a centuries-old, yet timeless service by  
John Wesley first in 1755 and adapted from the  
1663 writings of Puritan Richard Allienne. It is a  
service of serious, personal re-commitment to

Christ’s lordship in our lives. If you wish to read through and prepare  
your heart ahead of time, you can find copies of the liturgy on the  
church website news feed—[www.wilmorefmc.org](http://www.wilmorefmc.org).



**DECEMBER FOOD ITEM:**  
**CAMPBELLS SOUP—TOMATO OR CHICKEN NOODLE**

Each Wednesday night our teens assemble bags of  
food that is distributed by our schools to families in need of help over  
the weekends. Drop off food donations in the foyer basket.

## GOD'S WORD TO US

Luke 1:26-38

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

## CHILDREN'S TIME

Caitlin Gothay

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP JR. (CWJR) for children ages 2 and 3, is available in the Building B Preschool Wing for the entire worship service time.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (CW) There is no Children's Worship today. Regular Children's Worship (age 4 through grade 3) begins again on Sunday, January 7.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

For a complete list, check the Worship Folder or [www.wilmorefmc.org](http://www.wilmorefmc.org)

## WORSHIP IN GIVING

In these last moments before Christmas, as we rush here and there in our preparations, let us take a moment to remember the most perfect gift ever given. In Jesus, God gave salvation to humanity. In return, He asks that we love Him and give Him ourselves to do with as He chooses. Will you do that this Christmas?

"Lord, receive our gifts today. We give them with love. Amen."



## MUSIC MINISTRY

John Dwight &amp; Adolphe Adam

O Holy Night (Hymnal 148)  
Victoria Hall, soloist

## MESSAGE

Pastor Daryl

Immanuel: Immaculate

## POSTLUDE

arr. Jason Payne

Postlude on GLORIA (Hymnal 132)

## WORSHIP GUIDE

God is so glad you've set aside this time to worship Him. He inhabits the praise of His people. As we gather, please take a moment to ask God to prepare us for worship—to open our ears and minds to His voice and to freely apply His word to our hearts and lives. Please also take a moment now to silence all electronic devices so that the Lord might have opportunity to freely speak to all.

## GATHERING

Fanfare for Christmas (Hymnal 145)

arr. Gordon Young

The First Noel (Hymnal 136)

arr. Diane Bish

Sing We Now of Christmas

arr. David Lowe

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing (Hymnal 133)

arr. Kenneth Varner

## ADVENT WREATH

## CALL TO WORSHIP

The Creed of Christ - 1 Timothy 3:16

All: "Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great:

God appeared in a body,  
was vindicated by the Spirit,  
was seen by angels,  
was preached among the nations,  
was believed on in the world,  
and was taken up in glory."  
Praise God for Jesus, our Savior!

## SONGS OF THE SAVIOR'S BIRTH

Hymnal 151

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Hymnal 144

How Great Our Joy!

Hymnal 155

Once in Royal David's City

Hymnal 162

The Birthday of a King

Hymnal 157/158

Away in a Manger

## CALL TO PRAYER

Hymnal 134

Emmanuel

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel;


God with us, revealed in us:

His name is called Emmanuel.


(CCLI Member)

# Good Christian Men, Rejoice 151


*My spirit rejoices in God my Savior. Luke 1:47*



1. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice      With heart and soul and voice;  
 2. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice      With heart and soul and voice;  
 3. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice      With heart and soul and voice;



Give ye heed to what we say: News! news! Je - sus Christ is born to - day!  
 Now ye hear of end - less bliss: Joy! joy! Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
 Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! peace! Je - sus Christ was born to save!



Ox and ass be - fore Him bow, And He is in the man - ger now:  
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, And man is bless - ed ev - er - more:  
 Calls you one and calls you all To gain His ev - er - last - ing hall:



Christ is born to - day!      Christ is born to - day!  
 Christ was born for this!      Christ was born for this!  
 Christ was born to save!      Christ was born to save!

# 144 How Great Our Joy!

*I bring you good news of great joy. Luke 2:10*

1. While by the sheep we watched at night, Glad tid - ings brought an  
 2. There shall be born, so he did say, In Beth - le - hem a  
 3. There shall the Child lie in a stall, This Child who shall re -  
 4. This gift of God we'll cher - ish well, That ev - er joy our

an - gel bright.  
 Child to - day.  
 deem us all. How great our joy! Great our joy!  
 hearts shall fill.

Joy, joy, joy, Joy, joy, joy! Praise we the Lord in

heav'n on high! Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!

TEXT: Traditional German carol  
 MUSIC: Traditional German melody; arranged by Hugo Jüngst

JÜNGST  
 Irregular meter

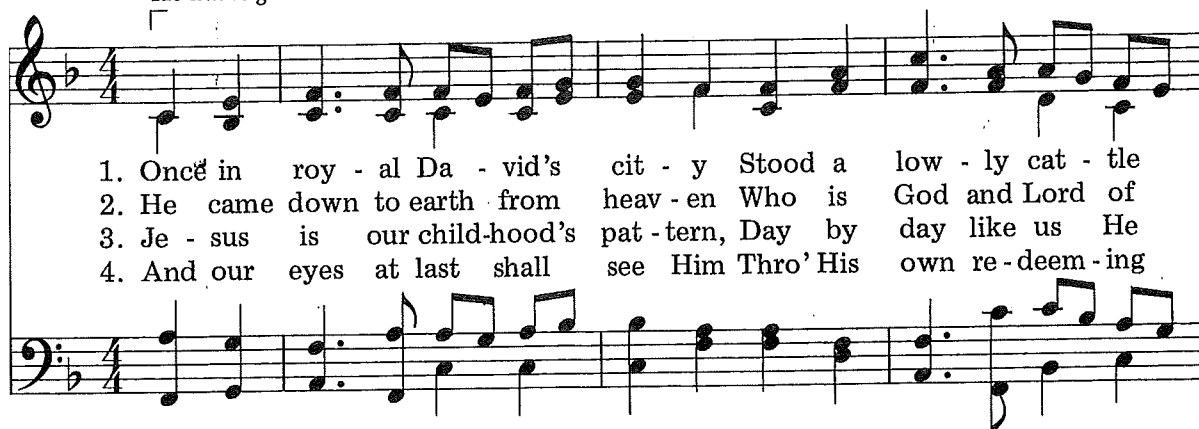
*Optional transition to "O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

*mf*

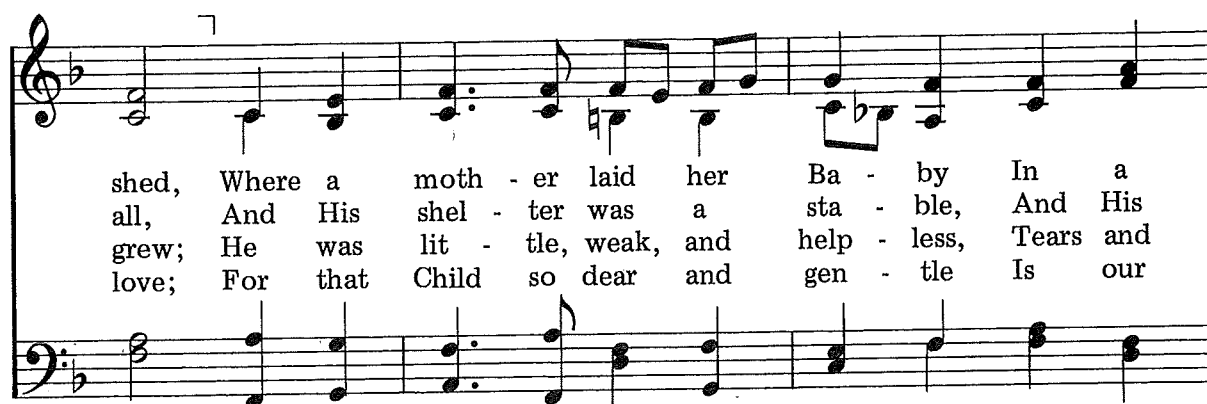


# 155 Once in Royal David's City

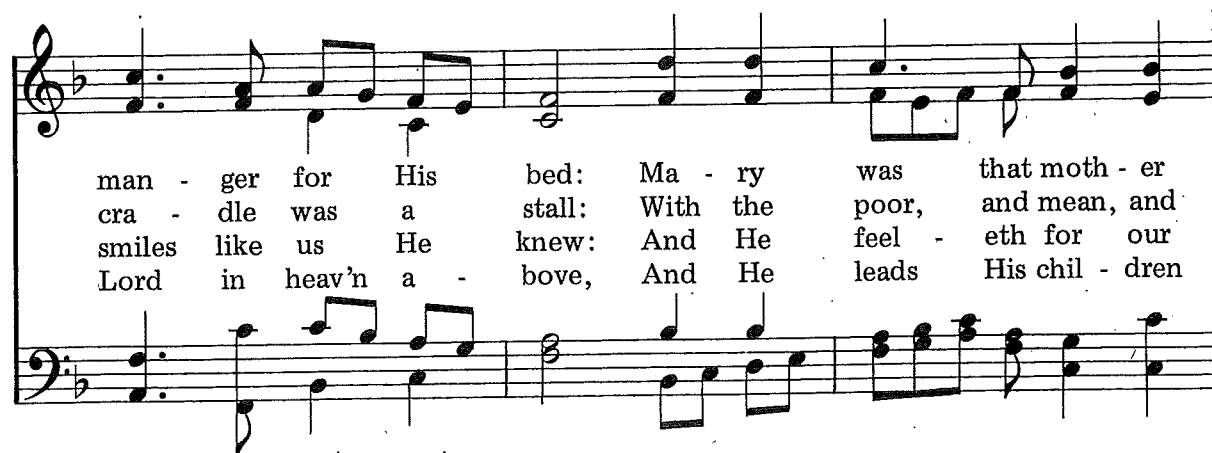
*He will reign on David's throne. Isa. 9:7*




1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a low - ly cat - tle  
 2. He came down to earth from heav - en Who is God and Lord of  
 3. Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by day like us He  
 4. And our eyes at last shall see Him Thro' His own re - deem - ing



shed, Where a moth - er laid her Ba - by In a  
 all, And His shel - ter was a sta - ble, And His  
 grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and help - less, Tears and  
 love; For that Child so dear and gen - tle Is our



man - ger for His bed: Ma - ry was that moth - er  
 cra - dle was a stall: With the poor, and mean, and  
 smiles like us He knew: And He feel - eth for our  
 Lord in heav'n a - bove, And He leads His chil - dren



mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle Child.  
 low - ly Lived on earth, our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
 sad - ness, And He shar - eth in our glad - ness.  
 on To the place where He is gone.

# 162 The Birthday of a King

*I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely. Jer. 23:5*

*Unison*

1. In the lit - tle vil-lage of Beth - le-hem, there lay a Child one  
2. 'Twas a hum-ble birth-place, but oh, how much God gave to us that

day, And the sky was bright with a ho - ly light o'er the  
day, From the man - ger bed what a path has led, what a

*Refrain - Parts optional*

place where Je - sus lay. Al - le - lu - ia! O how the  
per - fect ho - ly way.

an - gels sang. Al - le - lu - ia! How it rang! And the

sky was bright with a ho - ly light, 'twas the birth-day of a King.

TEXT and MUSIC: William Harold Neidlinger;  
arranged by Robert F. Douglas

NEIDLINGER  
10.6.10.7. with Refrain

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# 157 Away in a Manger

*She gave birth to her firstborn, a Son . . . and placed Him in a manger. Luke 2:7*

1. A - way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed, The lit - tle Lord  
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the Ba - by a - wakes, But lit - tle Lord  
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask Thee to stay Close by me for -

Je - sus laid down His sweet head; The stars in the sky looked  
 Je - sus no cry - ing He makes, I love Thee, Lord Je - sus, look  
 ev - er, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

down where He lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay,  
 down from the sky, And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
 Thy ten - der care, And fit us for heav - en, to live with Thee there.

TEXT: Source unknown, stanzas 1, 2; John Thomas McFarland, stanza 3  
 MUSIC: James R. Murray

AWAY IN A MANGER  
 11.11.11.11.

# 158 Away in a Manger

*She gave birth to her firstborn, a Son . . . and placed Him in a manger. Luke 2:7*

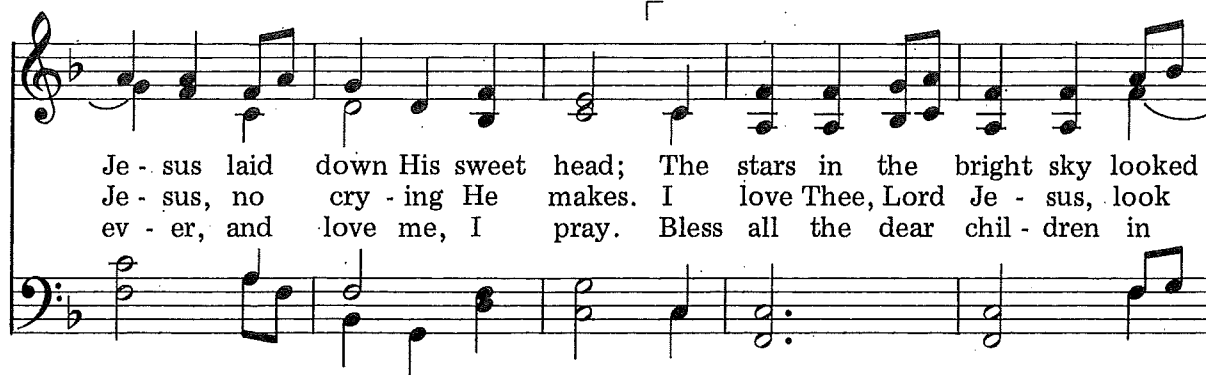
*Unison*

1. A - way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed, The lit - tle Lord  
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the Ba - by a - wakes, But lit - tle Lord  
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask Thee to stay Close by me for -

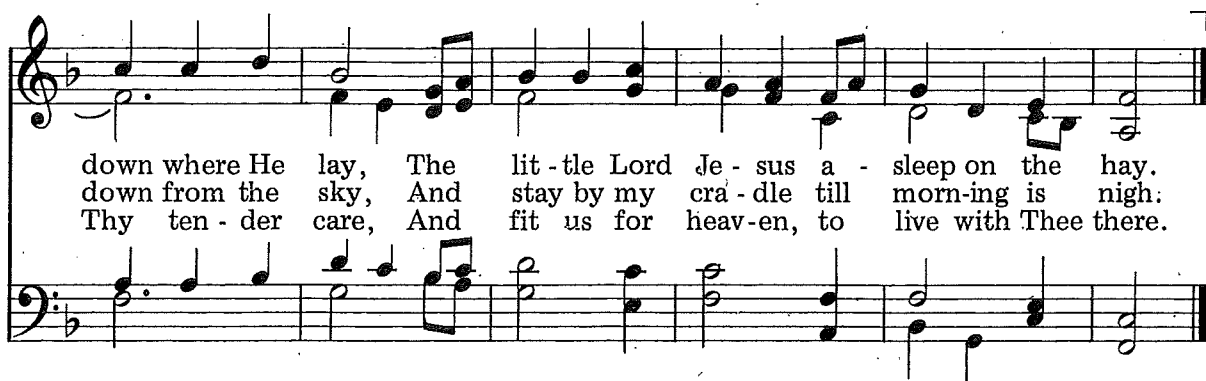
TEXT: Source unknown, stanzas 1, 2; John Thomas McFarland, stanza 3  
 MUSIC: William J. Kirkpatrick

CRADLE SONG  
 11.11.11.11.





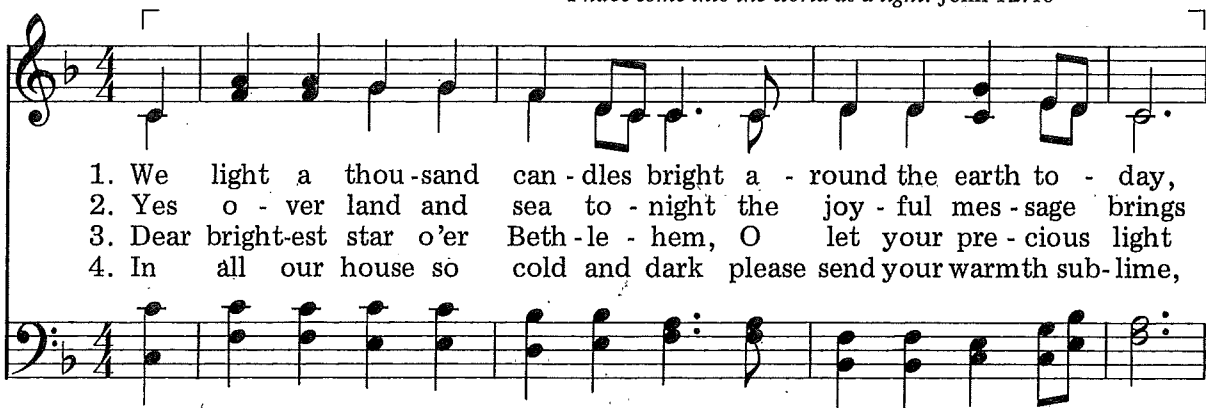
Je - sus laid down His sweet head; The stars in the bright sky looked  
 Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes. I love Thee, Lord Je - sus, look  
 ev - er, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in



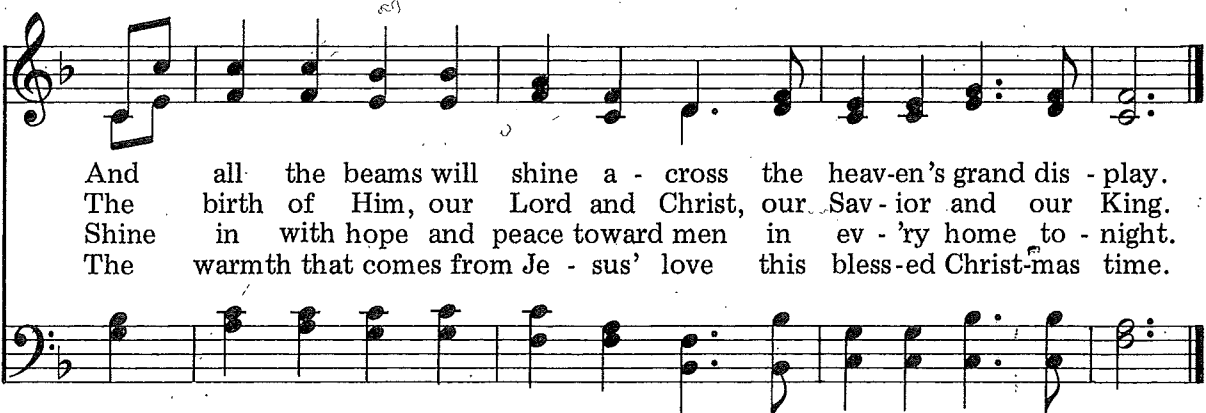
down where He lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
 down from the sky, And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
 Thy ten - der care, And fit us for heav - en, to live with Thee there.

## A Thousand Candles 159

*I have come into the world as a light. John 12:46*



1. We light a thou - sand can - dles bright a - round the earth to - day,  
 2. Yes o - ver land and sea to - night the joy - ful mes - sage brings  
 3. Dear bright - est star o'er Beth - le - hem, O let your pre - cious light  
 4. In all our house so cold and dark please send your warmth sub - lime,



And all the beams will shine a - cross the heav - en's grand dis - play.  
 The birth of Him, our Lord and Christ, our Sav - ior and our King.  
 Shine in with hope and peace toward men in ev - 'ry home to - night.  
 The warmth that comes from Je - sus' love this bless - ed Christ - mas time.

TEXT: Swedish carol; translated by Evie Karlsson  
 MUSIC: Emmy Kohler; arranged by Eugene Thomas

THOUSAND CANDLES  
 8.7.8.6.

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