

# **LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA**

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## **Documents Online**

**Title:** *Come and Behold Him, Christmas Candlelight Service Bulletin*

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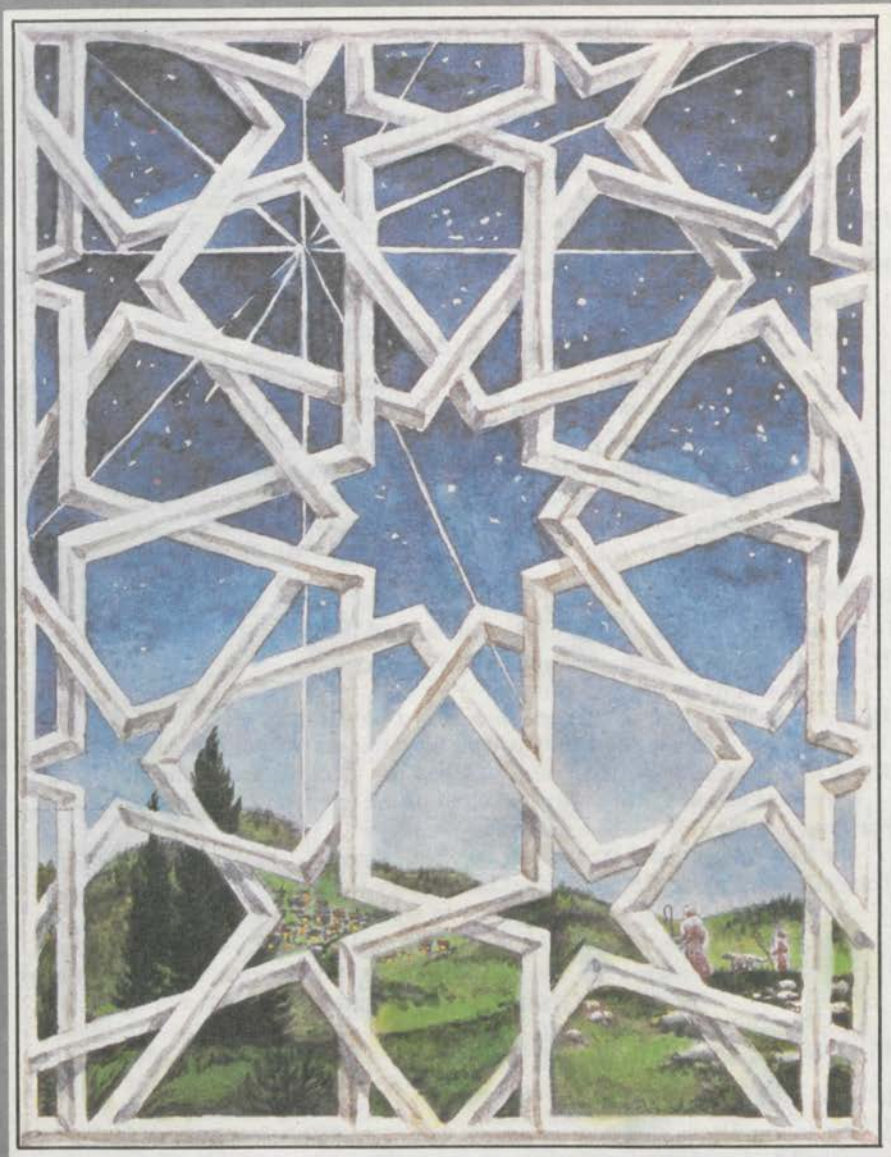
**Location:** LGBT-053 Richard Hause Collection

**Contact:**

LGBT History Project  
Archives & Special Collections  
Waidner-Spahr Library  
Dickinson College  
P.O. Box 1773  
Carlisle, PA 17013

717-245-1399

**[archives@dickinson.edu](mailto:archives@dickinson.edu)**



Come and Behold Him!

A Christmas Candlelight Service

## “COME AND BEHOLD HIM!”

### PRELUDE

ENTRANCE HYMN: OH, COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

1. Oh, come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant!  
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him  
Born the King of angels:  
*Oh, come, let us adore Him,  
Oh, come, let us adore Him,  
Oh, come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!*
2. Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!  
Glory to God  
In the highest:
3. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing:

### INVOCATION and DIALOG

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Word was made flesh, and we beheld His glory.

**Oh, come, let us worship Him.**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great Light.

**The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them has Light shined.

**We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given.

**In Him was life, and the life was the light of man!**

Today Christ is born; today salvation has appeared.

**Today the just exult and say, "Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!"**

### I. THE CHILD IS PROMISED

READINGS: Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 1:26-38

HYMN: THE ADVENT OF OUR GOD

1. The advent of our God  
Shall be our theme for prayer;  
Come, let us meet Him on the road  
And place for Him prepare.
2. The everlasting Son  
Incarnate stoops to be,  
Himself the servant's form puts on  
To set His people free.
3. Come, Zion's daughter, rise  
To meet your lowly King,  
Nor let your faithless heart despise  
The peace He comes to bring.
4. All glory to the Son,  
Who comes to set us free,  
With Father, Spirit, ever One  
Through all eternity.

### II. THE CHILD IS AWAITED

READINGS: Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 1:18-25

HYMN: COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

1. Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's Strength and Consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation,  
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.
2. Born Thy people to deliver,  
Born a Child, and yet a King;  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all-sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

### III. THE CHILD IS GIVEN

READINGS: Isaiah 9:6-7; Luke 2:1-12; John 1:14-17

HYMN: JOY TO THE WORLD!

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive its King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room  
And Heav'n and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills,  
and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy.
3. 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.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love.

### IV. THE CHILD IS WORSHIPED

READINGS: Isaiah 42:1-4; Luke 2:13-20; Philippians 2:5-11

HYMN: HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

1. Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all you nations, rise;  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
*Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"*
2. Christ, by highest Heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!  
Hail, incarnate Deity!  
Please as man with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
3. Hail the Heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise each child of earth,  
Born to give us second birth.

SERMON

OFFERING

ANTHEM or SPECIAL MUSIC

CANDLELIGHTING CEREMONY

*As worshipers enter the church, ushers distribute candles and drip-cards. . . . After the anthem, the minister, taking a large candle, lights it from an altar candle which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the World. Then the minister says:*



Arise, shine; for your Light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. . . . And nations shall come to your Light, and to the brightness of your rising.

Jesus said, "I have come as Light into the world, that whoever believes in Me may not remain in darkness. . . . The Light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the Light, lest the darkness overtake you. . . . While you have the Light, believe in the Light."

*The minister then gives light to the acolytes; they in turn give light to the first worshiper in each pew, who passes it on. The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when giving light to another. When all candles are lighted, the minister leads in the prayers.*

#### THE PRAYERS and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Almighty God, You made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence, and in the last day wake to the brightness of His glory; through Your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, You have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Other prayers may be offered; then the Lord's Prayer is prayed by all.*

#### HYMN: SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT!

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| 1. Silent night, holy night!<br>All is calm, all is bright<br>Round yon Virgin Mother and Child.<br>Holy Infant, so tender and mild,<br>Sleep in heavenly peace,<br>Sleep in heavenly peace. | Heav'nly hosts sing, "Alleluia!<br>Christ, the Savior, is born!<br>Christ, the Savior, is born!"   |
| 2. Silent night, holy night!<br>Shepherds quake at the sight;<br>Glories stream from Heaven afar,  | 3. Silent night, holy night!<br>Son of God, love's pure light<br>Radiant beams from Your holy face,<br>With the dawn of redeeming grace,<br>Jesus, Lord, at Your birth,<br>Jesus, Lord, at Your birth. |

#### BENEDICTION

Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, keep you in His light and truth and love now and forever. **Amen.**

*The worshipers' candles are extinguished when the minister's candle is extinguished.*

#### RECESSIONAL HYMN: ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

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| 1. Angels we have heard on high,<br>Sweetly singing o'er the plains,<br>And the mountains in reply,<br>Echoing their joyous strains.<br><i>Gloria in excelsis Deo;</i><br><i>Gloria in excelsis Deo!</i> | 2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?<br>Why your joyous strains prolong?<br>What the gladsome tidings be<br>Which inspire your heav'nly song? |
|  | 3. Come to Bethlehem and see<br>Him whose birth the angels sing;<br>Come, adore on bended knee<br>Christ the Lord, the newborn King.     |

#### POSTLUDE