

# **Homecrest Presbyterian Church**

**Worship of the Lord's Day**

**January 3rd, 2016**

**2nd Sunday of Christmas**

**Epiphany Sunday**

*“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First  
and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”*

*Revelation 22:13*



# **Gathering Around the WORD**

## ***Call To Worship***

***(Based on Isaiah 60:1-3)***

*Arise, Shine; for your light has come.*

***The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.***

*Come, let us worship the Lord of glory.*

***Let us proclaim God's praise among the nations.***

# **Gathering Hymn**

## **#145 “What Child Is This?”**

*What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
on Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
while shepherds watch are keeping?*

*This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary!*

# **Gathering Hymn**

## **#145 “What Child Is This?”**

*Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.*

*Nails, spear, shall pierce him through;  
the cross be borne for me, for you.  
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh,  
the babe, the son of Mary!*

# **Gathering Hymn**

## **#145 “What Child Is This?”**

*So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come, one and all, to own him.*

*The King of kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthrone him.*

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*Raise, raise the song on high.*

*The virgin sings her lullaby.*

*Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
the babe, the son of Mary!*

# **Gathering Around the WORD**

## ***Call to Confession***

*In the light of Christ, we see the shadows of our world and of our hearts. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins before God and one another.*

# **Gathering Around the WORD**

## ***Prayer of Confession (in unison)***

*Merciful God, you have given light to the world in Jesus Christ, but we have preferred to live in darkness. Your justice protects the weak and the distressed, yet we seek the shelter of privilege and power. Your righteousness redeems the poor and the needy, yet we seek the status of wealth and possession. Your peace upholds the oppressed and the defenseless, yet we seek the security of weapons and retribution. Forgive us our sins, and lead us to true repentance, that we may trust you in all things; through Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.*

# ***Gathering Around the WORD***

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## ***Declaration of Forgiveness***

*The light of Christ penetrates through the darkness of evil in our world and in our heart. This is the Good News: Christ is the light of the world, who grants forgiveness and healing of our sins. **Thanks be to God, Amen.***

# **Gathering Around the WORD**

## ***Gloria Patri***

***Glory be to the Father  
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen.***

# **Gathering Around the WORD**

## ***Passing of the Peace of Christ***

*The Prince of Peace has come and lives among us.  
He has guided us through the great light through the  
wilderness. Let us share this peace in our hearts with others.*



# **Proclaiming the WORD**

***Message to the Youth/***

***Prayer of Illumination***

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# **Proclaiming the WORD**

## **Scripture Reading**

**(Matthew 2:1-12)**

*In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:*

# **Proclaiming the WORD**

## **Scripture Reading**

**(Matthew 2:1-12)**

*<sup>6</sup> 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"*

*<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."*

# **Proclaiming the WORD**

## **Scripture Reading**

***(Matthew 2:1-12)***

*<sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.*

# **Proclaiming the WORD**

## ***Scripture Reading***

***(1 Thessalonians 5:1-10)***

*Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup> For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup> When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape!*

# **Proclaiming the WORD**

## **Scripture Reading**

***(1 Thessalonians 5:1-10)***

*<sup>4</sup> But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup> for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup> So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup> for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night.*

# **Proclaiming the WORD**

## **Scripture Reading**

***(1 Thessalonians 5:1-10)***

*<sup>8</sup> But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup> For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup> who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.*

# ***Proclaiming the WORD***

***Better Late Than Never***

***(Matthew 2:1-12 and 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11)***



# *Responding Hymn*

**# 151**

***“We Three Kings of Orient Are”***

*We three kings of Orient are;  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.*

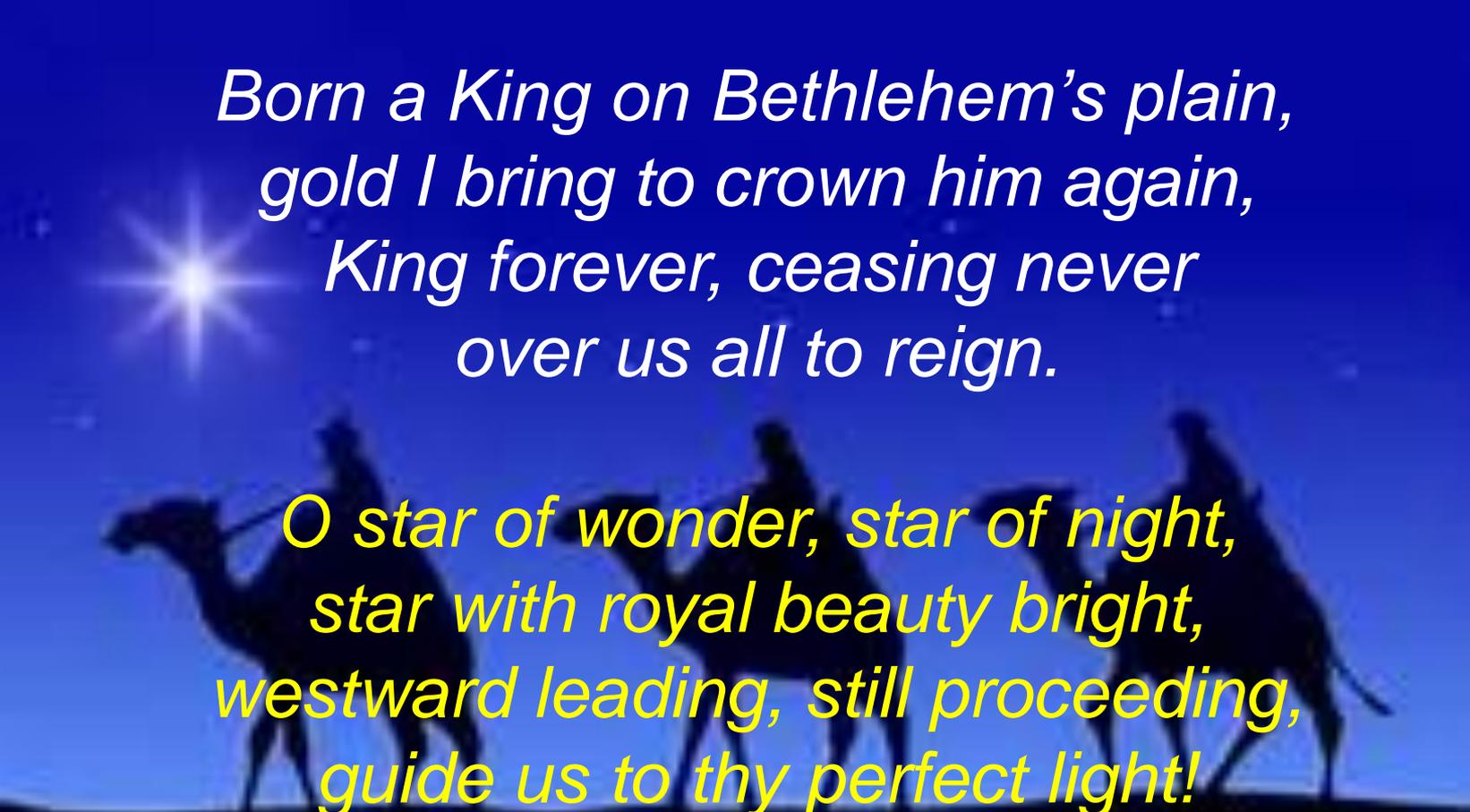
*O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light!*

The background of the lower half of the slide features a dark blue night sky with a bright star in the upper left. In the foreground, the silhouettes of three camels with riders are shown in profile, moving from right to left across the bottom of the frame, following the path of the star.

# *Responding Hymn*

**# 151**

***“We Three Kings of Orient Are”***



*Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never  
over us all to reign.*

*O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light!*

# *Responding Hymn*

**# 151**

***“We Three Kings of Orient Are”***

*Frankincense to offer have I;  
incense owns a deity nigh;  
prayer and praising gladly raising,  
worshiping God Most High.*

*O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light!*

# *Responding Hymn*

**# 151**

***“We Three Kings of Orient Are”***

*Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.*

*O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light!*

The background of the lower half of the slide features a dark blue gradient. In the lower portion, there are silhouettes of three camels and their riders, moving from left to right. A bright, multi-pointed star is visible in the upper left quadrant of the blue area, casting a soft glow.

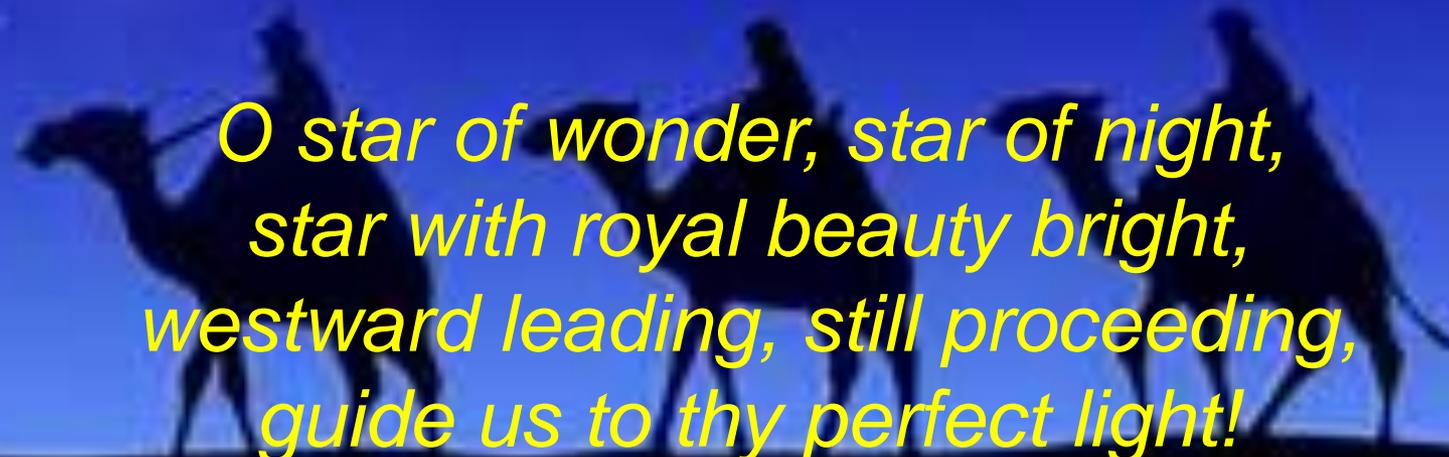
# *Responding Hymn*

*# 151*

*“We Three Kings of Orient Are”*



*Glorious now behold him arise,  
King and God and Sacrifice:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
sounds through the earth and skies.*



*O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light!*

# **Responding to the WORD**

## ***Affirmation of Faith – Epiphany***

*(by Rev. Dr. Amanda Burr)*

***We believe in God, the creator of all things,  
the giver of life and breath.***

***We believe in Jesus Christ,  
born Emmanuel, God with us,  
baptized and revealed the most beloved Son of God;  
he sought to heal humanity by taking our brokenness  
upon himself, suffering for us, dying for us  
and being raised from the dead for our sake  
and for the sake of all the world.***

***We believe that he will come again.***

# **Responding to the WORD**

## ***Affirmation of Faith – Epiphany***

*(by Rev. Dr. Amanda Burr)*

***We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
continually poured out refreshing our lives,  
leading us into a new day, ever-birthing the  
church, the body of Christ in the world.***

***This Spirit is our soul companion and  
counselor of truth reminding us of the gift  
of faith, the ever presence of God and the  
promise of eternal life. Thanks be to God!  
Amen.***

# **Bearing and Following the WORD into the World**

## **Announcements & Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

- We will NOT be having our regular afternoon **Bible Study** today. We will resume next Sunday **12:30pm** downstairs in the basement. All are welcomed.
- The **Session** will be **Tomorrow, 1/4, 7pm**. All active elders please attend.
- The **Women's Group** will be meeting over at the Manse (2048 E 14th Street) every **Wednesday evening @ 7:30pm**. They are currently studying the book of Genesis. They will also be meeting every other Sunday morning before service at 9:30am over at the Manse for prayers and fellowship. For more information, please contact Margaret Lesman or Cara Chin.

# **Bearing and Following the WORD into the World**

## ***Announcements & Sharing of Joys and Concerns***

- Our **Annual Congregational Meeting** will take place on **1/17**, immediately after worship service in the basement. We will be receiving various reports, reviewing the 2016 budget, approving the pastor's terms of call, nominating and electing of officers (deacons and elders). The presence and participation of all members are requested. Non-members are welcomed to observe the meeting, however they are ineligible to vote. We will also be having a Pot-Luck Luncheon, please bring a dish item to share with everyone.

# **Bearing and Following the Word into the World**

## ***Prayer of the People and The Lord's Prayer***

*Our Father,  
Who are 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.  
Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
Lead us not into temptations,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the Kingdom, the power,  
and the glory forever. Amen.*



**Bearing and Following  
the WORD into the World**

***Offering of our Gifts and our Lives***

***Special Music # 314***

***“Longing for Light, We Wait in  
Darkness (Christ Be Our Light)”***

**Bearing and Following**  
**the WORD into the World**  
***Doxology and Offertory Prayer***

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;***

***Praise Him all creatures here below;***

***Praise Him above ye Heavenly Host;***

***Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Amen.***

**Bearing and Following**  
**the WORD into the World**  
***Holy Communion***

Communion Hymn #643

*“Now Thank We All Our God”*



# **Bearing and Following the WORD into the World** ***Holy Communion***

*We've gathered here as one body, joined around this table of God's **GRACE** and **LOVE**. United in Christ's spirit, God revealed Godself to us, through Jesus Christ – the incarnate Word became flesh. His light shines upon us and reveals His holy presence among us in this world of darkness. Christ is the tangible presence of our living Word.*



# **Bearing and Following the WORD into the World** ***Holy Communion***

*Friends, welcome to this table of the Heavenly Feast, our Thanksgiving meal, as we join the celebration of the people of God. For Christ invites everyone to come and eat this bread of life, to drink this cup of salvation.*



**Bearing and Following**  
**the WORD into the World**  
**Holy Communion**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

With saints and the choir of angels, we join our voices in singing:



**Bearing and Following  
the WORD into the World**

***Holy Communion***

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and Earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest!*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna in the highest!*



**Bearing and Following  
the WORD into the World**

***Holy Communion***

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and Earth are full of your glory.***

***Hosanna in the highest!***

***Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

***Hosanna in the highest!***



# **Bearing and Following the WORD into the World Holy Communion**

*We give you thanks Holy God,  
for Jesus, who came to be your living Word,  
to baptize us with Spirit and fire,  
to feed the hungry, to humble the mighty,  
and to announce the good news of your coming realm.*



# **Bearing and Following the WORD into the World**

## ***Holy Communion***

While gathered with the disciples, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, **Take Eat, this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.**

In the same way after supper, he took a cup, saying, **This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant sealed in my blood. Drink ye, all of it. Do this in remembrance of me.**



# **Bearing and Following the WORD into the World**

## ***Holy Communion***

***With thanksgiving and praise, we offer ourselves to you, Sharing this holy meal, remembering Christ's dying and rising, and praying: Come Lord Jesus! Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.***

***Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Those who come to me shall never hunger; those who believe in me shall never thirst."***



# **Bearing and Following the WORD into the World** ***Holy Communion***

**Prayer after Communion: (in unison)**

***God of abundance and mercy: We joyfully give you thanks for your love and healing presence in our celebration of bread and wine. Bless these gifts that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ. Through our calling, send us out into the world in order to manifest your grace and love to others. Amen.***



**Bearing and Following  
the WORD into the World**

***Receiving of, the Deacon's  
Benevolence Offering***

***Special Music: # 116***

***"The Snow Lay on The Ground"***

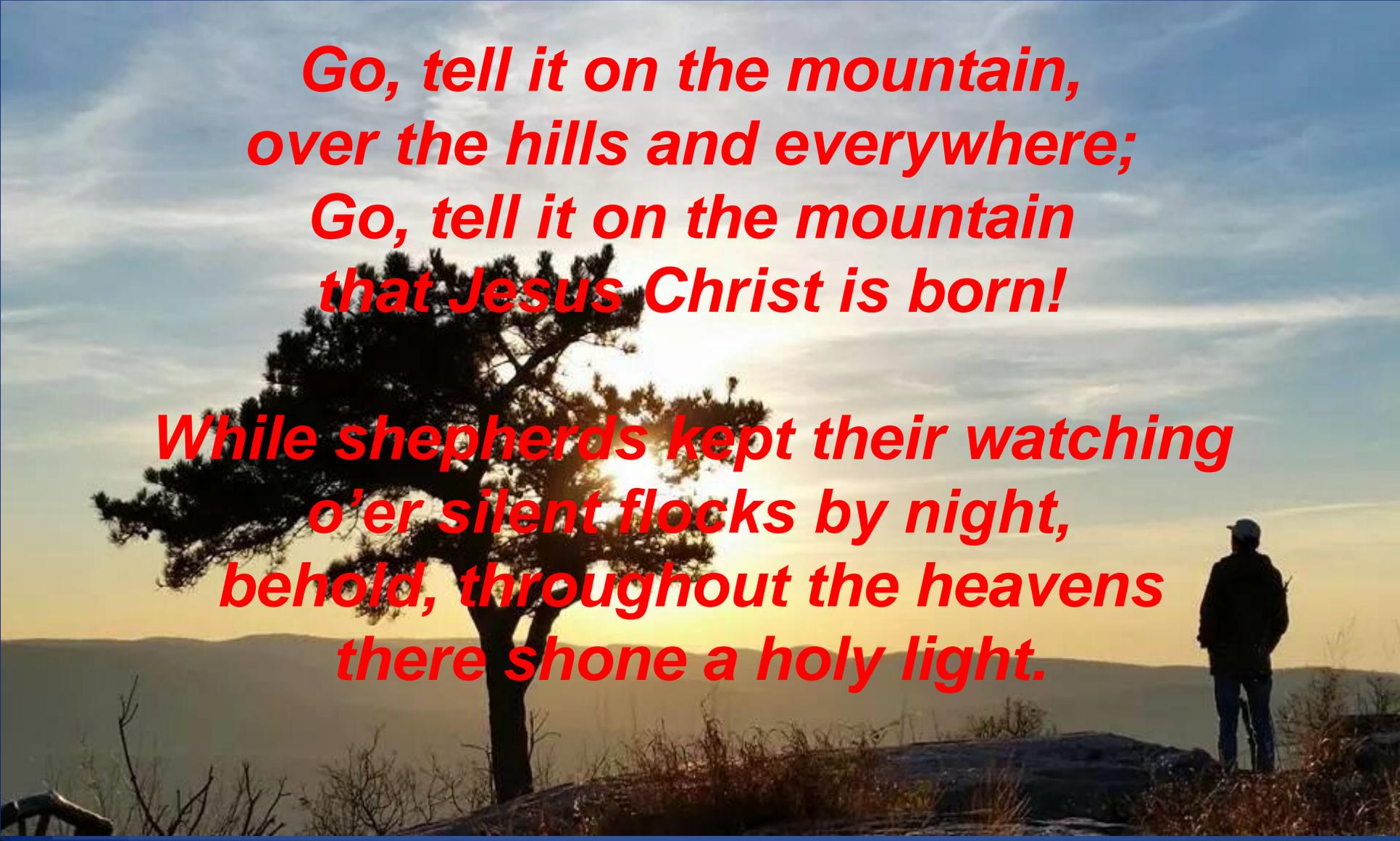
***Charles Henze***

# ***Sending Hymn***

## ***# 136 “Go, Tell It On the 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.***

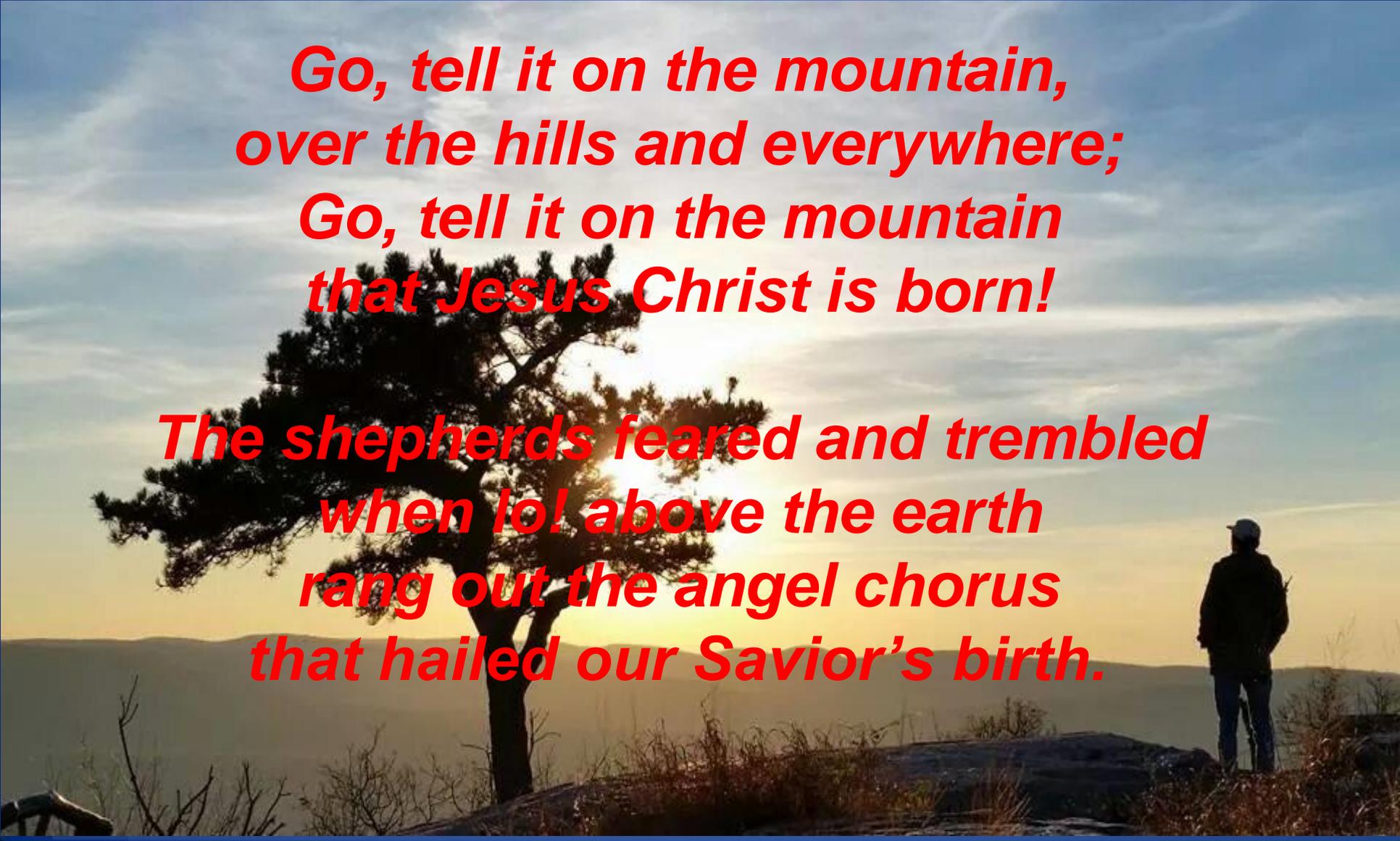


# **Sending Hymn**

## **# 136 “Go, Tell It On the Mountain”**

**Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!**

**The shepherds feared and trembled  
when lo! above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Savior’s birth.**

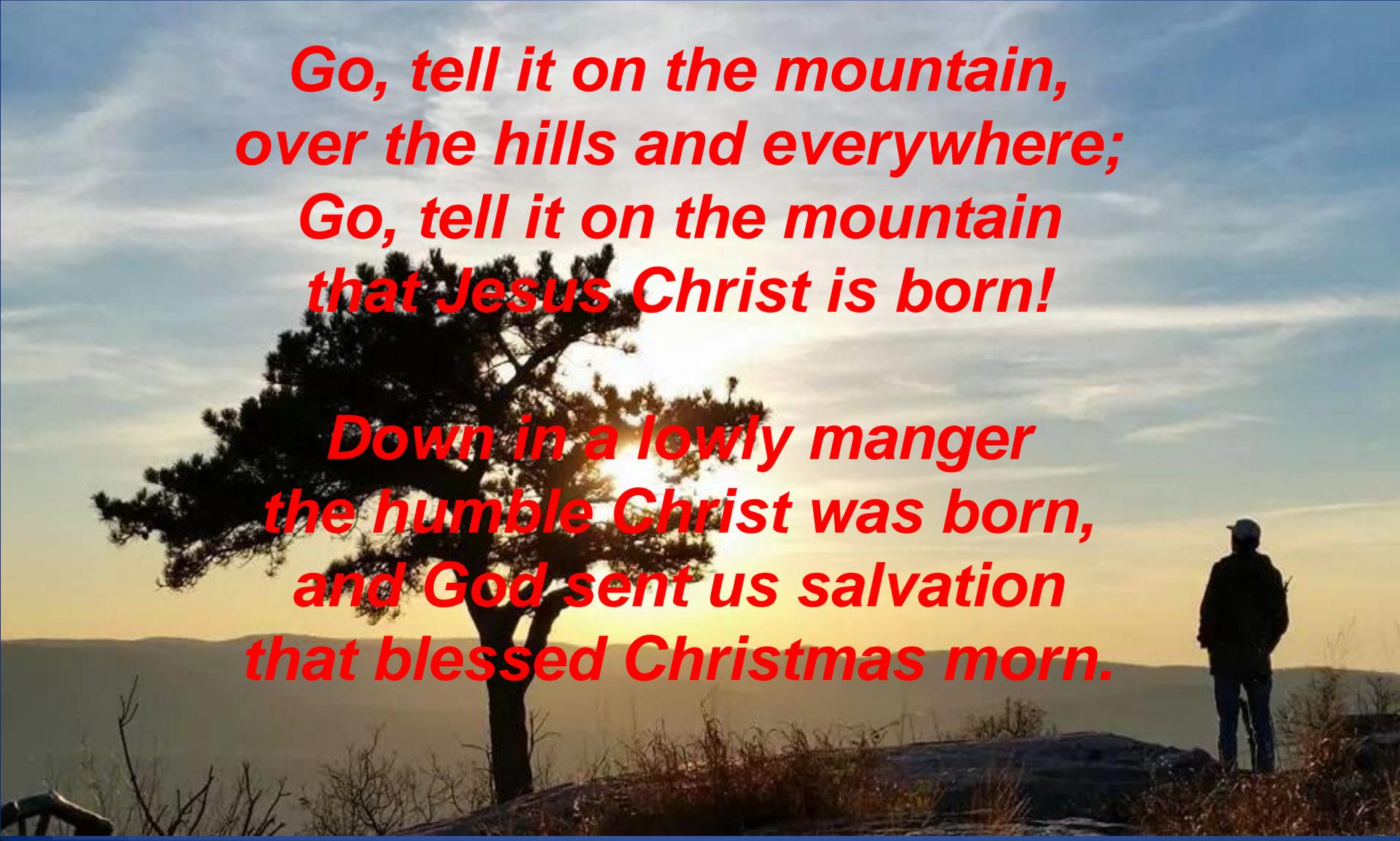


# ***Sending Hymn***

## ***# 136 “Go, Tell It On the Mountain”***

***Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!***

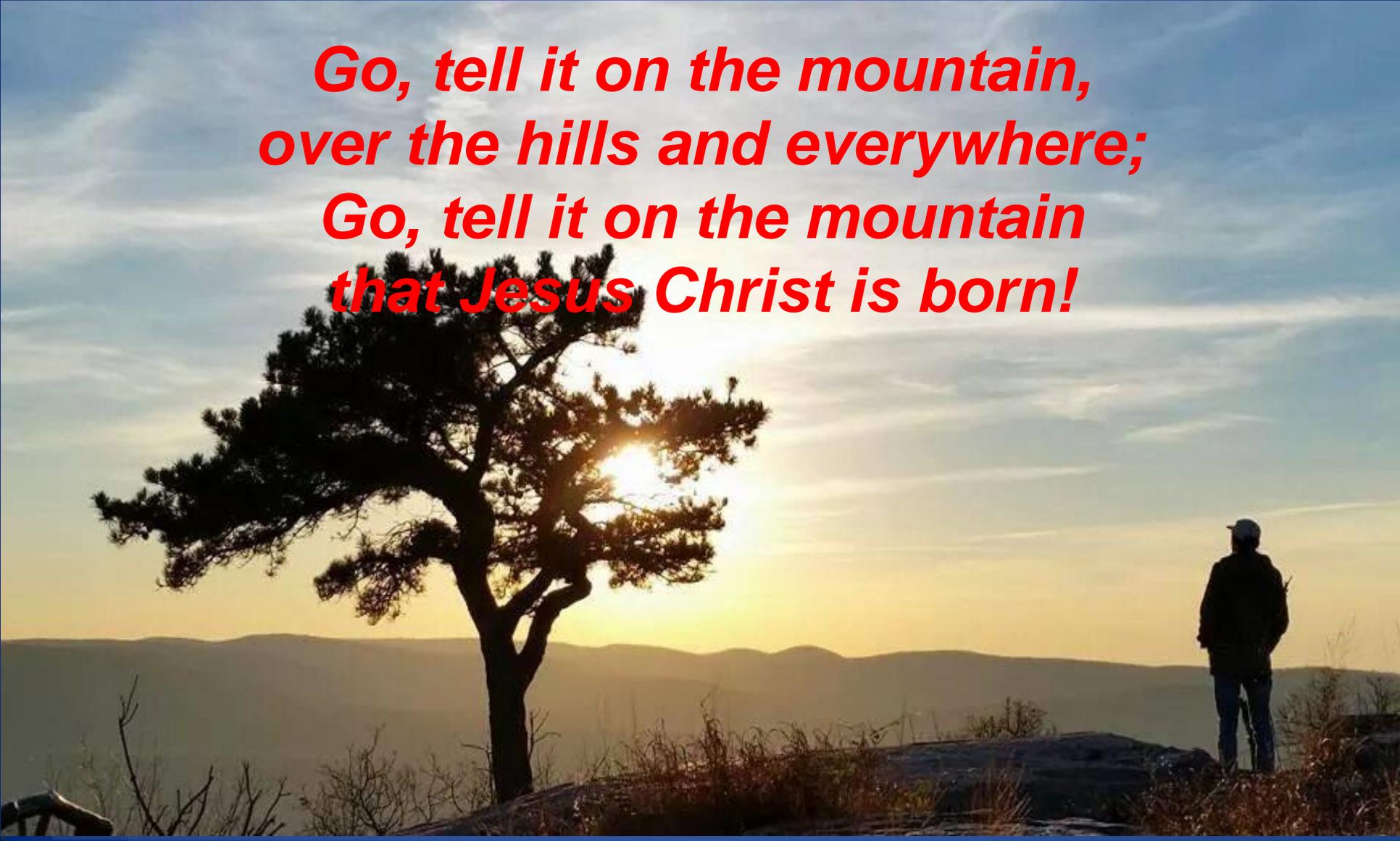
***Down in a lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn.***



# ***Sending Hymn***

## ***# 136 “Go, Tell It On the Mountain”***

***Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!***



**Bearing and Following  
the WORD into the World  
*The Charge and Benediction***



**Bearing and Following**  
**the WORD into the World**  
***Benediction Response***

**#140 “Shalom, Chavarim!**  
**Farewell, Good Friends”**

*Shalom, Good friends!*

*Shalom, Good friends!*

*Shalom, Shalom!*

*Till we meet again, till we meet again,*

*Shalom, Shalom.*

**Bearing and Following**  
**the WORD into the World**  
**Postlude**

**“On To Bethlehem Town”**

Charles Henze



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**Worship of the Lord's Day**

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**2nd Sunday of Christmas  
Epiphany Sunday**

*“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First  
and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”*

*Revelation 22:13*

