



WAIT UPON THE LORD

LET *Earth*
Receive
HER *King*



A SERVICE FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

Let Earth Receive Her King

A Service for Christmas Day

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.
John 1:16

W O R S H I P K I T



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LET *Earth Receive* HER *King*

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ABOUT “LET EARTH
RECEIVE HER KING”

We receive on Christmas Day the gift of Jesus, our King of kings. The wait is over and our new life with Jesus has begun. We join the whole earth in glorifying him on this day. Hymns in the service include “O Come, All Ye Faithful,” “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child” and “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing.” Use with the Wait Upon the Lord series or alone.

Blank bulletins (8 1/2" x 11") are available. Code WLD18A

Blank bulletins (8 1/2" x 14") are available. Code WLD18B

Call Creative Communications for the Parish at

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NEWSLETTER NOTICE

Join us as we worship the Lord on Christmas Day. For on that day we receive the gift of Jesus, our King of kings. We celebrate that the wait is over and our new life with Jesus has begun. Let us combine with the whole earth in glorifying him on this day.

BULLETIN NOTICE

Welcome, as we worship the Lord on this Christmas Day. For today we receive the gift of Jesus, our King of kings. We celebrate that the wait is over and our new life with Jesus has begun. Let us combine with the whole earth in glorifying him on this joyous day.



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ORDER OF SERVICE

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. John 1:16

Invocation and Call to Worship

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

P In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

C He was with God in the beginning.

P Through him all things were made.

C Without him nothing was made that has been made.

P In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

C The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

P The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

C We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only.

P Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Wise Men. A boy and a girl play Mary and Joseph and Mary holds a doll that is Baby Jesus. Why do we have pageants like this? To receive our King. In fact, we are in church today to receive our newborn King and welcome him into our world,

How did the people in the Christmas story receive Jesus? The shepherds ran to the manger to see Baby Jesus, Mary and Joseph and then told people what they saw. The angels sang songs of praise to welcome the Lord. The Wise Men brought Jesus gifts fit for the King he was, gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Mary and Joseph received Jesus by taking care of him and loving him.

These are ways that you can receive the King Jesus, too. You can go and tell others about the birth of baby Jesus, who is born to save us all. You can sing Christmas carols in church and at home and wherever you are to praise God for sending Jesus. You can give gifts to others as a way of giving thanks to God for the Greatest Gift of Jesus. You can take care of and love your family and friends the same way that Mary and Joseph looked after Jesus. Receive Jesus into your life on this Christmas Day and share the blessing of his presence with you every day.

- The **Old Testament Reading**, Isaiah 52:7-10, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:
 - Ⓟ How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.
- The **Epistle Reading**, Galatians 4:4-7, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:
 - Ⓟ 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. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.
- The **Gospel Acclamation** is spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:
 - Ⓟ Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
 - Ⓞ **When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son. Hallelujah!**

- The **Gospel Reading**, John 1:14-18, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

☐ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

- The **Sermon Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Tempus Adest Floridium 76 76 D, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;
There he lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place, can he be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race who have found his favor.

Angels sang about his birth; wise men sought and found him;
Heaven's star shone brightly forth, glory all around him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, heard the angels singing;
All the plains were lit that night; all the hills were ringing.

Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;
He is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger.
Son of God, of humble birth, beautiful the story;
Praise his name in all the earth; hail the King of glory!

- The **Sermon** is delivered by the pastor:

☐ Our text is from John 1:14, “We have seen his glory.” These words will change our life. These words will change our life, forever. “We have seen his glory.” That is to say, “We have received our King” on this glorious Christmas Day.

For fifty-one years Bob Edens was blind. Bob couldn't see anything. His world was a black hole. But Bob Edens graduated from Furman University, got married, had a daughter, even coached little league baseball. Through it all, though, Bob Edens was blind, blind as a bat. He felt his way through five decades of darkness.

And then, he could see! Bob Edens could see! A surgeon repaired a detached retina and performed a corneal transplant. For the first time in his life, Bob Edens could actually see! He