

# **The United Church of Christ of Robesonia**

**301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551**

**610-621-5770 -- [office@sprucc.org](mailto:office@sprucc.org) -- [www.sprucc.org](http://www.sprucc.org)**

*No matter who you are,  
or where you are on life's journey,  
you're welcome here.*



*Welcome to our  
10:15am Worship Service  
In-Person & Streaming Online*

+ † +

**Sunday, December 24, 2023**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
**Love**

# Welcome

*May God's loving presence be very real to you,  
and may you receive strength and guidance today  
That will enable you to handle life's challenges.*



## **Children's Bulletins**

Crayons and activity bulletins are available in the narthex.  
The activities match today's Bible readings and are designed for 3-6 & 7-12 year olds.

## **Biblias en Español**

Biblias Bilingües en Español y Inglés están disponible en el vestíbulo narthex en la mesa de visitantes azul.  
(*Bilingual Bibles in Spanish & English are available in the narthex hallway on the blue visitors' table.*)

## **Nursery**

Persons of all ages (including children) are welcome to participate in the entire worship service. For an additional option, we have a supervised nursery for 0-8 year olds, located on the first floor. Please see Nursery Coordinators, Laurie Ostimchuk, Beth Miller & Geri Gammel if you are in need of the nursery.

## **Junior Worship**

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, following the mini message, the option of "Junior Worship" is offered downstairs for elementary age children to learn more about today's scripture lessons with fellow youth.

## **Restrooms**

Restrooms are located both on the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

## **Changing Tables**

All four of our restrooms have changing tables. Each restroom has two "child care protection seats" to keep toddlers safe and secure while their parents use the restroom.

## **Water Fountains**

Water fountains are located on both the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

## **Sunday School & Adult Faith Formation Classes**

Classes for all ages are held at 9:00am.

## **Sunday Worship**

Sunday Worship is held at 10:15am.

## **Youth Group**

Our Youth Group, for those in grades 5-12 (or ages 12-20 years old), meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and Last Thursday of the month from 6:00-7:00pm. Members and visitors alike are welcome.

## **Young Children & Family Ministries**

This ministry's focus is on children younger than youth group and their families, and most of the monthly activities are welcoming of children of all ages. Members and visitors alike are welcome.

## **Prayer and Care**

If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list, or request a pastoral call, please call or email the church office. You are welcome to take home with you a copy of *Our Daily Bread* daily devotional booklet, located on a table in the narthex hallway.

## **Looking for a Church to Call Home**

If you are looking for a new church family home, we would be happy for you to consider United Church of Christ of Robesonia. For more information about our church, we invite you to talk with our pastors, an usher, a greeter, or any member of our church.

## **More Information....**

Additional literature about our missions, ministries, and fellowship opportunities is located on the **Blue Visitor Table** in the narthex hallway, or contact us using the contact information on the front page of this bulletin.

Please let us know if we can be in prayer with you or if there is any way in which we can help make your worship experience more meaningful.

*{Symbols used in this bulletin: \*= if able please stand; ♪# = Red Hymnal Page; ♪# = Blue Hymnal Page}*

## **Virtual Worship Service**

Online: **Live Stream** at [sprucc.org](http://sprucc.org) - Live or Watch & Listen Later on **Our YouTube Channel**  
**Facebook Live** at <https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/> - Live or Watch & Listen Later  
**Phone Stream** at 1-888-649-5770 - Live or Listen Later

If you have any access problems, please let us know at 610-621-5770 or [Office@sprucc.org](mailto:Office@sprucc.org)



[www.sprucc.org](http://www.sprucc.org)



Free WiFi

# ORDER FOR WORSHIP

## We Gather

*We are coming together as a community of faith to worship our God,  
and provide for one another our love, support, and care.*

### A TIME OF GATHERING

### RINGING OF THE BELL

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*{If you have not already done so,  
please sign and pass the pew welcome pad  
to the person next to you.}*

### PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP ⑩ (Unison)

**Holy and kind Father, we thank you for all of the characters in the story of this most unusual birth. As this scene unfolds, we see the parents and the baby, the shepherds, and the animals. It seems very real to us more than 2000 after the birth. The love comes alive in our hearts. Bless us as we re-live this sacred story once again. In the name of the baby. Amen.**

This service was written by Pastor Mary Etta Mest.

### PIANO PRELUDE

*“Still, Still, Still”*

*arranged by Ben Logan*

*{Those who are able, please rise}*

### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN *“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”*

*W&R #160*

*One License #A-728042*

### \*INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of God the Father, and of God the Son, and of God the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen**

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP *adapted from 1 John 4:7-11 (Contemporary English Version)*

Leader: My dear friends, we must love each other..

**People: Love comes from God, and when we love each other,**

Leader: it shows we have been given new life.

**People: We are now God's children, and we know him.**

Leader: God is love, and anyone who doesn't love others has never known him.

**People: God showed his love for us when he sent his only Son into the world to give us life.**

Leader: Real love isn't our love for God, but his love for us.

**People: God sent his Son to be the sacrifice by which our sins are forgiven.**

Leader: Dear friends, since God loved us this much,

**People: we must love each other!**

## We Repent

*This is a time to confess our wrongdoings and neglects, ask for  
God's mercy, admit our need for God's forgiving grace,  
hear the assurance of our forgiveness,  
and then give God our thanks and praise.*

### \*CALL TO CONFESSION ⑩ (Leader)

God of love and protection and forgiveness, hear now our confession of sins which separate us from you.

### \*CONFESSION OF SIN ⑩ (Unison)

**Observing God, on a scale of 1 through 10, how does our past week look to you? Not a 10? Disciplining God, correct and guide us. Loving God, your mercy is great. Fill us with your love that we may more fully be blessed by sharing your love with people who do not already know your love. Amen.**

### \*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

*{A time to silently offer our personal prayers of confession}*

### \*SUNG PRAYER FOR MERCY      “God of Pity, God of Grace” vs. 1 & 5      ♪ Red #223 *Morris/Filitz; Public Domain*

**God of pity, God of grace, When we humbly seek Thy face,  
Bend from heaven, Thy dwelling place, Hear, forgive and save.**

**And what e'er our cry may be, When we lift our hearts to Thee,  
From our burden set us free: Heal, forgive, and save.**

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON ⑩ (Leader)

Have we now been flooded with the love of God in our hearts, minds, and souls? If so, what will we do with all of this love. Do we know what happens to love if we hoard it? It shrivels and dies. Do we know what happens to love when we share it? It comes alive and expands!

*{please be seated}*

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - THE CANDLE OF LOVE

*Selections from 1 Corinthians 13*

Reader:

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. <http://nrsvbibles.org>

The fourth candle is lit.

### PRAYER BY CONGREGATION

**Holy and loving God, thank you for your outpouring of love. May the world, our country, our state, our town, our families be transformed by your overwhelming love. How will this happen? Oh, you are depending on us - each of us - to spread your love just as the light of this candle spreads into the darkness. Amen.**

### CALL TO PRAISE

Leader: Let us offer our praise to the Lord.

People: **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

### SUNG RESPONSE OF PRAISE

*"Gloria"*

*Music: Jacques Berthier  
One License #A-728042*

The musical score is written in G major, 6/8 time, and consists of two systems. The first system has four measures with lyrics: "Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!". The second system has four measures with lyrics: "Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!". Chord symbols (Dm, Gm, C, F) are placed above the notes in each measure.

## We Hear the Word of God

*We seek to learn more about God's love and grace, and how we are to live our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. The Bible is our primary text on faith, which we consider to be scripture - sacred writings. We believe the Bible to be the "inspired word of God." Gospel (which means "Good News") refers to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which are Christians' most central books of the Bible.*

### PROCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE

The Old Testament Reading: [2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16](#)

The New Testament Letter: [Romans 16:25-27](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lesson: [Luke 1:26-38](#)

Leader: This is the gospel of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### HYMN

*Jesus, Our Brother, Strong and Good"*

*NCH #138  
Public Domain*

### MINI-MESSAGE

### CHILDREN'S SONG

*"God, Our Father, Hears My Prayer"*

God, our Father, hears my prayer,  
Anytime and anywhere.

He will listen when I pray,  
Hear the loving words I say.

### SERMON

*"What Now?"*

## We Respond with Thanks

*We have heard God's call and have come and worshiped,  
we have confessed our sins and been assured of our forgiveness, we have learned more  
about God's grace and God's will. We now respond by  
re-affirming our faith in God,  
praying with and for one another, trusting in God's providence in our world, and giving of  
ourselves for the sake of the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.*

*{Those who are able, please rise}*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)**      *United Church of Christ Statement of Faith ①*  
*(Section One about God)*

**All: We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,  
God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:  
You call the worlds into being,  
create persons in your own image,  
and set before each one the ways of life and death.  
You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.  
You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through  
prophets and apostles.  
Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.**

*{Please be seated}*

### CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Merciful God,

**People: receive our prayer.**

### LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

**Our Father, who art 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,  
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever.  
Amen.**

**SUNG PRAYER RESPONSE**

*"Gloria"*

*Text: Benjamin Motz;  
Music: Jacques Berthier  
One License #A-728042*

**We uplift our prayers, we uplift our prayers,  
we uplift our prayers to you Lord.  
Hear our prayers, grant us peace, alleluia, alleluia!**

*{Ushers, please assemble at rear of Sanctuary}*

**OFFERTORY INVITATION ⑩**

Leader: We give in love

**People: for a brighter future for everyone on earth.**

Leader: We give in love

**People: of fairness for each and every baby.**

Leader: We give in love

**People: that people will welcome the Baby Jesus in their hearts.**

**RETURNING GOD'S TITHES AND PRESENTING OUR OFFERINGS**

Online Giving

*{Today, we will be passing the offering plate in person. You may also offer your tithe and offering to God through our secure Online Giving option on our website at [sprucc.org](http://sprucc.org) (Click Here), or you may mail your offering to United Church of Christ of Robesonia; 301 West Penn Ave; Robesonia, PA 19551}.*

**CHORAL OFFERTORY**

*"When Will the Little King Come?"*

*By Ruth Elaine Schram*

*{Those who are able, please rise}*

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

*"Gloria"*

*Text: Benjamin Motz;  
Music: Jacques Berthier  
One License #A-728042*

**Given to God, given to God, all we ha-ve is yours Lord!  
Lifted to God, lifted to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Receive our gifts, receive our gifts, all we ha-ve is yours Lord!  
Lifted in praise, lifted in praise, alleluia, alleluia!**

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER ⑩(Leader)**

Merciful and loving Father, we ask that you will accept these gifts: some for the maintenance of the building, some for the staff, some for teaching materials, and most importantly, some to care for people as we live into the love you lavish upon us. **Amen.**



## We Are Sent Out

*In response to God's love and grace,  
we go out into the world to share God's Good News  
through our words and actions.*

### \*COMMISSION ⑩

Leader: Let us go into the world . . .

**People: into the world of war and selfishness - even our own;**

Leader: into the world of pride and darkness.

**People: Let us discover the love that comes our way.**

Leader: May we spread this goodness

**People: while we wait for our baby of love !**

Leader: (only 12 more hours and some minutes to wait for THE moment!)

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

♪ *Red #558*  
*Public Domain*

### \*SENDING HYMN

*"Once in Royal David's City"*

*W&R #183*  
*Public Domain*

*{Acolyte carries the light back into the world, leading us,  
as we now go to carry God's light and love back into the world.}*

### POSTLUDE

*Join Us For Fellowship and Food in Miller Fellowship Hall*

**Free WiFi:** StPaulsUCC-Guest & StPaulsUCC-5G-Guest  
**Password (for both):** iamheretosome



## The Flow of the Worship Service

Our worship service has an intentional order to it. The flow of worship is called the liturgical movement. The movement reminds us weekly of our journey in faith of moving from being separated from God by sin, to being restored by God's grace as disciples of Christ. It is based on the sixth chapter of the Biblical book of Isaiah.

- (1) God welcomes us and invites us
- (2) We respond to God's call by worshipping Him
- (3) We confess our need for God's forgiveness and grace
- (4) We are assured of God's forgiveness and grace
- (5) We learn more about God's will through scripture, song, and sermon
- (6) We grow closer to God and one another through prayer
- (7) We give God thanks by offering our time, talent, and treasure
- (8) God sends us into the world to share His love and grace with others



## Worship Service Resource Credits

Biblical quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the Bible (1989) by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

- ① Reprinted with permission from *The New Century Hymnal* of the United Church of Christ. (1995). Cleveland, Ohio: The Pilgrim Press. and/or the *Book of Worship* of the United Church of Christ (1986). New York: United Church of Christ Office for Church Life and Leadership.
  - ① United Church of Christ Neighbors in Need (NIN) 2023 Resources.
  - ② *Led By Love* by Lavon Baylor. (1996). United Church Press; Cleveland, OH.
  - ② *Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).
  - ③ Reprinted with permission from *Sundays and Seasons*. (2023). Augsburg Fortress.
  - ④ Reprinted with permission from the *Order of Worship for the Reformed Church in the United States*. and/or *The Hymnal of the Evangelical and Reformed Church*. (1985) New York: United Church Press.
  - ⑤ Reprinted with permission from *Sourcebook of Worship Services*
  - ⑥ scouting.org - resources for Boy Scouts of America
  - ⑥ Reprinted with permission from *Worship Ways of the United Church of Christ*. (2013).
  - ⑦ *Sunday Sermons Preaching Resources*. (2017). Margate, NJ.
  - ⑦ Edmonds, Robert Lee (Editor). (2008). *In Our Own Way; Living a Scouting Life Through Faith; A Handbook of Prayer and Devotion*. Dallas, TX: Red Honor Press
  - ⑧ Reprinted with Permission from *Lecturn Resource*. 2014. Logos Productions, Inc., Inver Grove Heights, MN.
  - ⑨ Miller, Earl D. (1994). *Consecrating Stewards*. Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ.
  - ⑩ The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz
  - ⑩ The Rev. Mary Etta Mest
- One License is our Church Copyright License #A-728042,, which is a subscription service giving us copyright permission to print the words and music found in the bulletin and to live stream music on the internet during the Worship Service.  
Cartoons are reprinted with permission from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*. (2023).



## Staff & Leadership

*Pastor & Teacher:* The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz - PastorMotz@sprucc.org - 610-621-5770 (O)

*Pastor & Teacher:* The Rev. Mary Etta Mest - mestme@aol.com - 610-659-2775 (C)

*Music Minister:* The Rev. Robert Masenheimer

*Bell Choir Director:* Miriam Borkert

*Office Secretary:* Geri Gammel - Office@sprucc.org - 610-621-5770 (O)

*Sextons:* Michael Pastor & Terry Pastor

*Treasurer:* Terry Pastor

*Financial Secretary & Assistant Secretary:* Geneva Aulenbach

*Consistory President:* Elsa Wertz

*Consistory Vice President:* George McLain

*Consistory Secretary:* Geri Gammel

## About Today

**Church Season: Advent** - is a season of preparation for the coming of Christ: (1) the second coming of Christ; (2) the preparation for the anniversary of Jesus' birth on Christmas; and (3) the reminder to be daily aware of Christ's presence for the Kingdom of God is near.

**Color of the Paraments** (cloths on the altar and pulpit):

**Blue** - symbolizes the hope found in the anticipated coming of Christ

**Violet** - symbolizes royalty and penitent preparation for Christ our King, who offers forgiveness

**Rose/Pink** - symbolizes joy, as expressed by Jesus' mother Mary

The suggested scripture lessons are from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), which selects passages throughout the Bible over a three year cycle. The RCL is the most common lectionary used by Christian churches. We are in **Year B**, which emphasizes the Gospel of Mark.

The Bible is in two sections: Old Testament - OT (scripture prior to Christ's birth), located in the first 2/3 of the Bible; and New Testament - NT (about Christ & early church).

**This Sunday, December 24, 2023, Lectionary Reading for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 *or* Luke 1:46b-55; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

**The Second Book of Samuel**

This OT book, bears the name of the prophet Samuel. This book takes place during the rule of the second king of Israel, David (ruling from 1000-961 B.C.). Two important themes within this book are that of the a nation's relationship with God and good rule of people; and secondly, the complexity of individual relationships with God. Samuel was the prophet anointed King David. In Hebrew, the word prophet literally means "spokesperson." A prophet is one who acts as an intermediary, called by God to speak to God's people, usually to bring those people back in line with God's will.

**Psalm 89**

In this OT hymn, we give praise to God for creation and for choosing David and his descendants to be kings forever. Jesus is a descendant of David, and Jesus is our one and only king. This song is attributed to Ethan the Ezrahite, who is a sage and/or temple musician. This is a Maskil, meaning that it is composed with great artistic and educational components.

**The Letter of Paul to the Romans**

This epistle (letter) is addressed "to all God's beloved in Rome." It was dictated by the Apostle Paul to Tertius in 58 A.D. in Corinth and delivered to Rome by Phoebe (she was appointed by Paul as a deacon, teacher, and leader of the church). Paul was a Christian, Jew, Pharisee, Roman citizen, and church leader, who had a direct encounter with Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus after Jesus' ascension into heaven. Paul, a highly educated man, wrote more of the NT than any other person.

**The Gospel According to Luke**

The Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles is attributed to Luke "the beloved physician," written around 59-90 A.D. (C.E.). Not having met Jesus personally, Luke undertook the task of "investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account" of Jesus Christ, "so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed."

**Next Sunday, December 31, 2023, Lectionary Reading for the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas**

Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

# 160 Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

G Am7 G  $\frac{C}{E}$  D  $\frac{D}{C}$

1 A - wake! a - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though

$\frac{G}{B}$  C Am7 D7 G Am7

an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for  
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
 all the world is de - spir - ing, as morn - ing light so  
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall

G  $\frac{C}{E}$  D  $\frac{G}{B}$  Am7 D C G

soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.

WORDS and MUSIC: Marty Haugen (1950-)  
 Words and Music © 1983 GIA Publications

REJOICE, REJOICE  
 Irregular

D D/F# G D/F# Em Em/D Am/C D D7

Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less

Em D/F# D7 G G/B C B7 Em Bm/D

geth - er, he o - pens wide the heaven - ly door and  
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - ery day we share and

Am7 D7 G Am7 G

lives now in - side us for ev - er.  
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

# Jesus, Our Brother, Strong and Good

138

French carol, 12th century  
Transl. anon.

Luke 2:1-7; Matt. 1:23

1 Je - sus, our broth - er, strong and good, was hum - bly  
2 "I," said the don - key, shag - gy and brown, "I car - ried your  
3 "I," said the cow, all white and red, "I gave you my  
4 "I," said the sheep with curl - y horn, "I gave you my

born in a sta - ble rude, and the friend - ly beasts a -  
moth - er up - hill and down, I car - ried your moth - er to  
man - ger for your bed, I gave my hay to  
wool for a blan - ket warm, you wore my coat on

round him stood, Je - sus our broth - er, strong and good.  
Beth - le - hem town; I," said the don - key, shag - gy and brown.  
pil - low your head; I," said the cow, all white and red.  
Christ - mas morn; I," said the sheep with curl - y horn.

- 5 "I," said the dove, from the raf - ters high,  
"I cooed you to sleep that you should  
not cry,  
we cooed you to sleep, my love and I;  
I," said the dove, from the raf - ters high.
- 6 Thus all the beasts, by some good spell,  
in the sta - ble dark were glad to tell  
of the gifts they gave Em - man - u - el,  
the gifts they gave Em - man - u - el.

Little is known of either the origins of this French text or its translation. The melody comes from a medieval French cathedral festival recognizing the role of the donkey in the flight into Egypt.

Tune: ORIENTIS PARTIBUS 7.7.7.7.  
French melody, early 13th century  
Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Harmonization Copyright ©, Oxford University Press. From *The English Hymnal* 1906.

# 183 Once in Royal David's City

F C7/G F/A F F/C C7 F Dm F/A F Bb F/C C

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, through his own re - deem - ing

F C7/G F/A F G7/D G7 C7 F Dm

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

F/A F Bb F/C C F Bb Bb/D F C7sus C7

man - ger for his bed: Ma - ry was that moth - er  
 cra - dle was a stall: with the poor and meek and  
 smiles like us he knew: and he feels for all our  
 Lord in heaven a - bove: and he leads his chil - dren

F Bb Bb/D Fsus F Bb F/C C F

mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.  
 low - ly lived on earth, our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
 sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.  
 on to the place where he has gone.

WORDS: Cecil F. Alexander (1818-1895)  
 MUSIC: Henry J. Gauntlett (1805-1876)

IRBY  
 8.7.8.7.7.7.