

ORDER OF SERVICE

CHRISTMAS VESPER SERVICE.

CONGREGATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL,

BRISTOL, CONN.

Dec. 27, 1891.

ORDER OF SERVICE.

SINGING, "Oh, come, all ye faithful." No. 121.

ASCRPTION.

Superintendent. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

Leader. Who is this King of glory?

Congregation. The Lord strong and mighty; the Lord mighty in battle.

S. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

L. Who is this King of glory?

C. The Lord of hosts; He is the King of glory.

SINGING. Solo.

DEVOTION.

L. Hear my prayer, O Lord, give ear to my supplication.

C. In thy faithfulness answer me, and in thy righteousness.

L. Let my prayer be set before thee as incense.

C. And the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

L. And it came to pass that one of His disciples said unto Him,

C. Lord teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.

L. And He said unto them, When ye pray, say—

All. THE LORD'S PRAYER.

PRAYER.

SINGING. "It came upon the midnight clear." No. 114.

THE STORY OF CHRISTMAS AS TOLD BY S. LUKE.

(Reading in Concert.)

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men.

SINGING. "Glory to God, peace on the earth." No. 125.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

SINGING. "Holy night! peaceful night." No. 106.

READING. The Shepherds.

Ben Hur

SINGING. "When shepherds watched their flocks." No. 115.

RECITATION. Luther's Child's Hymn. *Willie Belden*.

THE ETERNAL CHRISTMAS AS REVEALED TO S. JOHN.

Superintendent. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Congregation. And I saw no temple therein; for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.

S. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it; for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof.

C. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it; and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor into it.

S. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day; for there shall be no night there.

C. And they shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it.

S. And there shall be no more curse; but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him.

C. And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.

S. He that testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so come Lord Jesus.

SINGING. Jerusalem the Golden. No. 306.

ADDRESS.

THE APOSTLES' CREED.

SINGING—

Peace on earth,
The morrow bringeth mirth,
The night-tide bringeth us slumbers deep,
By His dear grace who shared our sleep
Once on earth. Once on earth.

Here on earth
Our Savior suffered birth
While angels smote their harps of flame,
And thrilled the stars with glad acclaim,
Peace on earth. Peace on earth.

May His peace
Upon the earth increase
Till all hearts bow to his diadem,
And hail the Babe of Bethlehem,
Prince of Peace. Prince of Peace.

BENEDICTION.