Vertical Church

Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 20, 2026

Rehearsal Lyrics

PRAISE & WORSHIP

1. Joy to the World (JJ Hairston) — Key of G
2. Go Tell It (JJ Hairston) — Key of D
3. We Adore You (JJ Hairston) — Key of F
4. Ancient Song (Anthony Brown) — Key of F

STORY SECTION

5. Emmanuel (Norman Hutchins) — D major to E♭ major
6. Who Would Imagine a King (Children & Youth) — Key of F
7. Joy to the World (Georgia Mass Choir) — C♯ major to E♭ major
8. Now Behold the Lamb (Kirk Franklin) — B♭ major to C major

Joy to the World

JJ Hairston

Key of G

Joy to the world, the Lord is come
Let Earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders, and wonders of His love

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders, and wonders of His love

Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy
Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy
Let all heaven, nature sing
Glory to the newborn king

Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy
Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy
Let all heaven, nature sing
Let all heaven, nature sing
Let all heaven, nature sing
Glory to the newborn king

Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy
Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy
Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy
Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy

Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy
Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy
Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy
Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy
Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy
Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy
Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy
Joy, joy, joy, He brought joy

I've got joy
I've got joy
I've got joy
I've got joy

I've got joy, I've got joy
I've got joy, I've got joy
I've got joy, I've got joy
I've got joy, I've got joy
I've got joy, I've got joy
I've got joy, I've got joy...

I've got joy, I've got joy
I've got joy, I've got joy
I've got joy, I've got joy
I've got joy, I've got joy

I've got joy
I've got joy
I've got joy
I've got joy

I've got joy, I've got joy
I've got joy, I've got joy
I've got joy, I've got joy
I've got joy, I've got joy...

Go Tell It

JJ Hairston

Key of D

Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

Go tell the news
Go tell the news
Go tell the news
Tell everyone that Jesus Christ is born

Go tell the news
Go tell the news
Go tell the news
Tell everyone that Jesus Christ is born
That Jesus Christ is born
That Jesus Christ is born

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah
Christ is born
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah
Christ is born
Go tell it, go tell it, go tell it
Christ is born
Go tell it, go tell it, go tell it
Christ is born
Christ is born

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah
Christ is born
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah
Christ is born
Go tell it, go tell it, go tell it
Christ is born
Go tell it, go tell it, go tell it
Christ is born
Christ is born

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah
Christ is born
Christ is born

Go tell it

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah

Go tell it, go tell it, go tell it, go tell it
Go tell it, go tell it, go tell it, go tell it
Go tell it

We Adore You

JJ Hairston

Key of F

O come all ye faithful
Joyful and triumphant
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him
Born the King of Angels

O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

Sing, choirs of angels
Sing in exultation
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
Glory in the highest

O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
O come, let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

We adore you
We adore you
We adore you
We adore you

He is Lord, forever his truth shall reign
Heaven and Earth, exalts his holy name
He is exalted the king is exalted on high

We adore you
We adore you
We adore you
We adore you

He is Lord, forever his truth shall reign
Heaven and Earth, exalts his holy name
He is exalted the king is exalted
He is exalted the king is exalted
He is exalted the king is exalted on high

We adore you
We adore you
O come, let us adore Him
Christ the Lord
Christ the Lord
Christ the Lord
Christ the Lord
Christ the Lord

We adore you
We adore you
We adore you
We adore you

Ancient Song

Anthony Brown

Key of F

What is the song the angels sing
Holy, Holy, Holy
In response the praise we bring is
Holy, Holy is the Lord

We will the song of angels circling your throne
Worthy worthy is the lamb to you all praise belongs
In light of all your majesty our hearts they will respond
We will sing the ancient song
Crying Holy is the Lord

We'll sing this song forever
Heaven and earth together
Lift every voice singing
Holy, Holy

Emmanuel

Norman Hutchins

D major to E♭ major

Come, come let us adore Him,
Kneel down before Him,
Worship and adore Him.
[Repeat]

[Chorus:]
Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
Emmanuel, Emmanuel
We worship You,
We worship You.

[Vamp:]
Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
Emmanuel, Emmanuel.
[As Directed]

[Ending:]
We worship You,
We worship You.

Who Would Imagine a King

Children & Youth (Whitney Houston)

Key of F

Mommies and daddies always believe
That their little angels are special indeed
And you could grow up to be anything
But who would imagine a king?

A shepherd or teacher is what you could be
Or maybe a fisherman out on the sea
Or maybe a carpenter building things
But who would imagine a king?

It was so clear when the wise men arrived
And the angels were singing your name
That the world would be different 'cause you were alive
That's why heaven stood still to proclaim

One day an angel said quietly
That soon he would bring something special to me
And of all of the wonderful gifts he could bring

Who would imagine?
Who could imagine?
Who would imagine a king?

Joy to the World

Georgia Mass Choir (Whitney Houston)

C♯ major to E♭ major

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let Earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
And Heaven, let Heaven, Heaven and nature
Heaven and nature sing

Everybody sing joy to the world
For the Lord is come
Let Earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
Let Heaven and nature sing
Let Heaven and nature sing

Go tell of His glory
Go shout the new story
That the savior is born
Let Heaven, Heaven, Heaven
Heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let Earth receive her King
Let fields and flocks
Rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy

Go tell of His glory
Go shout the new story
That the savior is born
Let Heaven, Heaven, Heaven
Heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world
For the savior reigns
And makes his blessings flow
Joyful all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With angelic hosts proclaim
Glory to the King
While the angels sing

Joy to the world, the Lord is come
Let Earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room

Go tell of His glory
Go shout the new story
That the savior is born
Let Heaven, Heaven, Heaven
Heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world
Sing joy to the world
Joy to the world
Sing joy to the world

Joy to the world
Sing joy to the world
Joy to the world
Sing joy to the world

Joy to the world
Sing joy to the world
Joy to the world
Sing joy to the world

Sing joy to the world
Sing joy to the world
Sing joy to the world
Sing joy to the world
Sing joy to the world

Sing joy, joy joy, peace, love, joy
He'll give you love, He'll you peace
He'll give you love, He'll give you joy
Joy, joy, joy, joy, joy

Sing joy to the world, sing joy to the world
Sing joy to the world, sing joy to the world
Sing joy to the world, sing joy to the world
Sing joy to the world, sing joy to the world

Joy to the world
Sing joy to the world
Joy to the world
Sing joy to the world

Sing joy to the world
Sing joy to the world
Sing joy to the world
Sing joy to the world
Sing joy to the world

Now Behold the Lamb

Kirk Franklin

B♭ major to C major

Now, behold the Lamb
The precious Lamb of God
Born into sin that I may live again
The precious Lamb of God

Now, behold the Lamb
The precious Lamb of God
Born into sin that I may live again
The precious Lamb of God

Holy is the Lamb
The precious Lamb of God
Why You loved me so, Lord, I shall never know
The precious Lamb of God

Holy is the Lamb
The precious Lamb of God
Why You loved me so, Lord, I shall never know
The precious Lamb of God

Now, behold the Lamb
The precious Lamb of God
Born into sin that I may live again
He's the precious Lamb of God

When I always didn't do right
I went left
He told me to go right
But I'm standing right here in the midst of my tears
Lord, I claim You to be the Lamb of God

Thank You for the Lamb
The precious Lamb of God
Because of Your grace I can finish this race
The precious Lamb of God

Even when I broke, broke Your heart
My sins tore us apart
But I'm standing right here in the midst of my tears
I claim You to be the Lamb of God

New life can begin, yeah
For You washed away, washed away every one of my sins
Whom the Son sets free is truly free indeed
I claim You to be the Lamb of God

Now, behold the Lamb
The precious Lamb of God
Born into sin that I may live again
The precious Lamb of God

Oh oh oh, oh oh oh, oh oh oh
Oh oh oh, oh oh oh, oh oh oh

Why You loved me so, Lord, I shall never know
Why You loved me so, Lord, I shall never know
Why You loved me so, Lord, I shall never know
The precious Lamb of God

Oh oh oh, oh oh oh, oh oh oh
Oh oh oh, oh oh oh, oh oh oh
Oh oh oh, oh oh oh, oh oh oh

Why You loved me so, Lord, I shall never know
The precious Lamb of God

Why You loved me so, Lord, I shall never know
The precious Lamb of God