

Leader Tonight we have gathered to decorate our church with Christian symbols. Symbols are common in every walk of life and have at least two great values for believers in Christ: Symbols can remind us of our Christian faith and they can help create an atmosphere of worship. These Christian symbols also help teach adults and children alike the meaning of our faith in Jesus Christ.

The custom of decorating churches and homes with greenery at Christmas began back in ancient times. In legends and stories handed down through the ages, evergreens have come to be known as the trees of life. These greens are used to represent Christ.

Organ starts playing Angels We Have Heard on High

Leader Let us read responsively the Litany of the Greens

Leader How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the King?

Congregation With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

Leader How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the eternal Christ?

Congregation With branches of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

Leader How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, our Savior?

Congregation With wreaths of holly and ivy, symbolizing His passion, death, and resurrection.

Leader How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the light of the World?

Congregation With bright, shining candles to chase away the darkness as the light of Christ's love removed the darkness of sin and despair.

Leader How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus, the Son of God?

Congregation By hearing again the words of the prophets who foretold the saving work of God.

Leader For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Leader Glory to God!

Congregation Glory to God in the highest!

SING ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH