

SERVICE OF CHRISTMAS LESSONS AND CAROLS

PRELUDE: *Prelude on "Lo, How A Rose e'er Blooming"* Gordon Young

CAROL: Once in Royal David's City H.J. Gaunlett: Mann/Willcocks

NORA CASTLE, *SOPRANO*

*Once in royal David's city Stood a lowly cattle shed
Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for a bed.
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.*

Choir:

*He came down to earth from heaven Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly Lived on earth our Savior holy.*

*For he is our childhood's pattern, Day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless, Tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness, And he shareth in our gladness.*

Congregation:

*And our eyes at last shall see him, Through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle Is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on To the place where he is gone.*

*Not in that poor lowly stable, With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him, but in heaven, Set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars his children crowned All in white shall wait around.*

C.F. Alexander

BIDDING PRAYER (Responsively)

Beloved in Christ, at this Christmas-tide let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought to us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; **for peace on earth and goodwill among all his people; for unity and brotherhood within the Church he came to build, and especially in this our community.**

And because this would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; **the sick and them that mourn, the lovely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.**

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, **that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are one for evermore.**

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the Throne of Heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

CAROL: “O Come All Ye Faithful”

Adeste Fideles
Arr. David Willcocks

Congregation:

*Adeste fideles, laeti triumphantes, Venite, venite in Bethlehem.
Natum videte Regem angelorum: Venite adoremus, venite adoremus,
Venite adoremus, Dominum.*

*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,
Christ the Lord!*

*Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; Glory to God in the highest.
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

*Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory given. Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing. O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!*

Trans. F. Oakeley, WF Brooke, et al.

COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your only Son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he shall come to be our judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen

LESSON I GENESIS 3:8-15

“God announces in the Garden that the seed of woman will bruise the serpent's head.”

The Lord At First

English Carol
arr. Ralph Vaughn Williams

MEN'S CHORUS

*The Lord at first did Adam make
out of the dust and clay,
And in his nostrils breathed life
e'en as the Scriptures say.*

*Now for the blessings we enjoy,
Which are from heaven above,
Let us renounce all wickedness
And live in perfect love.*

*And then in Eden's Paradise
He placed him to dwell,
That he within it should remain
To dress and keep it well.*

*The shall we do Christ's own command,
E'en his own written word;
And when we die in heaven shall
Enjoy our living God.*

*Now mark the goodness of the Lord,
Which he for mankind bore,
His mercy soon he did extend
Lost man for to restore.*

*And now the tide is nigh at hand,
In which our Saviour came;
Let us rejoice and merry be
In keeping of the same:*

*And then for to redeem our souls
From death and hellish thrall,
He said his own dear Son should be
The Saviour of us all.*

*Let's feed the poor and hungry souls
And such as do it crave;
Then when we die, in heaven we
Our sure reward shall have.*

***Now let good Christians all begin
A holier life to live;
And to rejoice and merry be,
For this is Christmas Eve.***

LESSON II GENESIS 22:16-18

"God promises to Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed."

CAROL: "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen"

Traditional

Congregation:

***God rest you merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Savior Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power When we were gone astray:
O tidings of comfort and joy.***

***From God our heavenly Father A blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born The Son of God by name.
O tidings of comfort and joy.***

***Now to the Lord sing praises, All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas All others doth deface.
O tidings of comfort and joy.***

LESSON III ISAIAH 9:2,6,7

“Christ’s birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah”

Prepare the Way, O Zion

CHOIR

*Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.*

*Christ brings God’s rule, O Zion; He comes from Heaven above
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift High your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name.*

*Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior’s rule embrace.
And tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing,
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God’s most holy name*

LESSON IV ISAIAH 11:1-9

“The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown”.

CAROL

**“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”
Congregation:**

G.F. Handel

**While shepherds watched their flocks by night, All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down, And glory shone around.**

**“Fear not,” said he (for mighty dread Had seized their troubled mind);
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring To you and humankind.**

**“To you in David’s town this day Is born of David’s line
A Savior, who is Christ the Lord; And this shall be the sign:**

**“The heavenly Babe you there shall find To human view displayed
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands, And in a manger laid.”**

**Thus spake the Seraph; and forthwith Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus Addressed their joyful song:**

**“All glory be to God on high, And to the earth be peace;
Goodwill to all from highest heaven Begin, and never cease.”**

LESSON V LUKE 1:26-38

“The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary”

Magnificat

George Dyson

KIMBERLY IANNUZZI, *SOPRANO* IZABELA GRAJNER-PARTYKA, *MEZZO-SOPRANO*
ROLF STANG, *BARITONE*

*And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden:
for, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me; and holy is His name.
And His mercy is on them that fear Him from the throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with His arm; He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich He hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
As he promised to our fathers, Abraham, and his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and always shall be in all the ages. Amen.*

LESSON VI LUKE 2:1-7

“St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus”

“Masters in This Hall”

Traditional French
arr. Shaw-Parker

TOM OLIVA, *BARITONE*

*Masters in this hall, Hear ye news today Brought from oversea and ever I you pray:
Going o'er the hills, Through the milk-white snow, Heard I ewes bleat, While the wind did blow.
Then to Bethlem town, We went two and two, And in a sorry place Heard the oxen low.
Therein did we see A sweet and goodly May, And a fair old man, Upon the straw she lay.
And a little child On her arm had she, “Wot ye who this is?” Said the hinds to me.
This is Christ the Lord, Masters, be ye glad! Christmas is come in, And no folk should be sad.*

Refrain

*Nowell! Nowell! Nowell! Nowell sing we clear! Holpen are all folk on earth, Born the Son of God so dear.
Nowell! Nowell! Nowell! Nowell sing we loud! God today hath poor folk raised And cast adown the proud.*

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

“A Stable Lamp is Lighted”

David Hurd

Choir:

*A stable lamp is lighted Whose glow shall wake the sky:
The stars shall bend their voices, And every stone shall cry.*

*And every stone shall cry, And straw like gold shall shine;
A barn shall harbor heaven, A stall become a shrine.*

*This child through David's city Shall ride in triumph by;
The palm shall strew its branches, And every stone shall cry.*

*And every stone shall cry, Though heavy, dull, and dumb,
And lie within the roadway To pave his kingdom come.*

*Yet he shall be forsaken, And yielded up to die;
The sky shall groan and darken, And every stone shall cry.*

*And every stone shall cry, For hearts made hard by sin:
God's blood upon the spearhead, God's love refused again.*

*But now, as at the ending, The law is lifted high;
The stars shall bend their voices, And every stone shall cry.*

*And every stone shall cry, In praises of the child
By whose descent among us The worlds are reconciled*

LESSON VII LUKE 2:8-20

“The Shepherds go to the manger”

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Spiritual
arr: John W. Work

Choir:

KIMBERLY IANNUZZI, SOPRANO

Refrain

*Go tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere!
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.*

*While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.*

*The shepherds feared and trembled when lo above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that sang our Saviour's birth.*

*Down in a lowly manger our humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation, that blessed Christmas morn.*

LESSON VIII MATTHEW 2:1-12

“The Wise men are led by the Star to Jesus”

De Tierra Lejana Venimos (Song of the Wise Men)

Canciones Hispanas
arr. Audrey Snyder

*De tierra lejana venimos a verte,
nos sirve de guía la Estrella de Oriente.*

*From a distant land we come to find the Savior,
By the Eastern star we're guided to the manger.*

*O brillante estrella que anuncias la aurora,
no nos falte nunca tu luz bienhechora.*

*Brilliant Star of heaven, bring the dawn of glory;
never-failing star, you shine with light most holy.*

*Gloria en las alturas al Hijo de Dios,
Gloria en las alturas, y en la tierra amor.*

*Glory in the highest to the Son of heaven,
Glory in the highest, peace on earth to all.*

De tierra lejana venimos a verte Niño del cielo.

*From a distant land we come to find the Savior,
holy child of heaven.*

***CAROL “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing”**

Felix Mendelssohn

Congregation:

*Hark! The herald angels sing Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled;
Joyful all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies,
With the angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! The herald angels sing Glory to the newborn King.*

*Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come Offspring of a virgin's womb;
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing Glory to the newborn King.*

*Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, Risen with healing in his wings;
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing Glory to the newborn King.*

Wesley, Whitefield, Madan

SERMON:

A GIFT FOR THE FAMILY

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

OFFERTORY

“O Holy Night”

Adolphe Adam

KIMBERLY IANNUZZI, *SOPRANO*

*O holy night! The stars are brightly shining, It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining, Till He appeared, and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices, For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!*

*Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night, when Christ was born!
O night divine, O night divine!*

*Led by the light of faith serenely beaming, With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand;
So, led by light of a star sweetly gleaming, Here came the wise men from the Orient land.
The king of kings lay thus in lowly manger, In all our trials born to be our friend;*

*He knows our need, He guardeth us from danger;
Behold your king! Before the Lowly bend!
Behold your king! Before the Lowly bend!*

THE LITANY FOR CANDLE LIGHTING

Leader: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And God said,
"Let there be light."

People: **Jesus Christ is the light of the world, the light which no darkness can overcome.**

Leader: A star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel.

People: **Jesus Christ is the light of the world, the light which no darkness can overcome.**

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them the light has shined.

People: **Jesus Christ is the light of the world, the light which no darkness can overcome.**

Leader: This will be a sign unto you, you will find the babe wrapped
in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

People: **Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those whom he favors.**

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

Please hold lit candles upright and tilt unlit candle into flame, as we share the light of Christ

***CAROL "Silent Night! Holy Night!"**

Franz Gruber

Please sing verse 1 in the original German, or in the language in which you first learned this beloved carol.

Congregation:

*Stille nacht! Heilige nacht! Alles schlaft, einsam wacht,
Nur das traute hoch heilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar.
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh, Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!*

*Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin Mother and Child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.*

*Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.*

Stille Nacht

LESSON IX JOHN 1:1-14

"St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation"

***CAROL Angels We Have Heard on High**

Gloria

Congregation:

*Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
and the mountains, in reply, echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore, on bended knee, Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*See him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above,
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

French Carol, arr. Edward Shippen Barnes

THE BLESSING

May he who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Greet one another with “The Peace of Christ,”
then go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

May God bless us, everyone, with His peace and joy!

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We welcome all people of the community and region, as well as visiting family and friends.
May your lives be visited and brightened by God through worship this holy night.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Liturgist	THE REV. ADRIENNE FLIPSE HAUSCH
Preaching	THE REV. STEVEN R. EVERETT
Organist, Choir Director	GERALD ANDERS

Readers:

Lesson I	Victor Dadras	Lesson VI	Pastor Adrienne
Lesson II	Gerry Zidel	Lesson VII	Pastor Steve
Lesson III	Sally Ann Castle	Lesson VIII	Pastor Adrienne
Lesson IV	Sue Bottomley	Lesson IX	Pastor Steve
Lesson V	Ray Nelson	Lighting the Christ Candle	Pastor Adrienne & Roger

🎵 SPECIAL THANKS 🎵

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JEAN PIERRE SAVARY MUSIC FUND

Thank you to Margaret King for providing the music texts for all the holiday services.

GUEST ARTISTS

BLAISE LAELLA AND FAITH LAELLA, TRUMPETS

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONORS

Christmas 2004

Your Flower Committee wishes to express their grateful appreciation to the following people whose generosity has made it possible to decorate our Church this Joyous Christmas Season.

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Margaret King

In loving remembrance of...

William & Elsie Ferrares

Ricky Rose

of the Begley Family

Loved Ones

Our Parents

*My parents Frieda & Frank Denig
and Brother Frank G. Denig*

My Mother & Father

For Our Mother, Henrietta

*My Father (Wesley), Mother (Eleanor),
and sister (Linda)*

*Of our beloved mother,
Erna DeVencia*

Christmas Messages...

Merry Christmas

*Happy Holiday in Heaven,
Small Fry*

Merry Christmas

*"With gladness for our wonderful
Sunday School teachers and
joyous children."*

*Happy Holidays to all our friends
of the Community Church of
Douglaston*

Happy Holidays

Warm Christmas Wishes

From...

The Zidel Family

Candice Boyle

Sue Bottomley

Bill & Joan Rose

Harvey & Mary Moder

Joyce Moyal

Marguerite Espada

The Mueller &
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Jim Baker

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