

FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS



December 8, 2012
4 p.m.

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

A Christmas service of lessons and carols has been presented here at Spencerville every year for more than two decades, as a part of the Evensong Concert Series. Our service at Spencerville has adhered, more or less closely, to the format and content of the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, developed by the clergy and musicians of King's College, Cambridge. That service was first held on Christmas Eve 1918. It was planned by Eric Milner-White, who, at the age of thirty-four, had just been appointed Dean of King's after experience as an army chaplain which had convinced him that the Church of England needed more imaginative worship. (He devised the College's Advent Carol Service in 1934, and was a liturgical pioneer and authority during his twenty-two years as Dean of York.) The music was then directed by Arthur Henry Mann, Organist from 1876–1929. The choir included sixteen trebles as laid down in King Henry VI's statutes, but until 1927 the men's voices were provided partly by Choral Scholars and partly by older Lay Clerks. Since 1927, the membership has consisted of fourteen undergraduates.

A revision of the Order of Service was made in 1919, involving rearrangement of the lessons, and from that date the service has always begun with the hymn 'Once in royal David's city'. In almost every year the choice of carols has varied, and some new ones have been introduced by successive Organists: Arthur Henry Mann; Boris Ord, 1929–57; Harold Darke (his substitute during the war), 1940–45; Sir David Willcocks, 1957–73; Sir Philip Ledger, 1974–82 and, from 1982, Stephen Cleobury. The backbone of the service, the lessons and the prayers, has remained virtually unchanged. The original service was, in fact, adapted from an Order drawn up by E. W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, for use in the wooden shed, which then served as his cathedral in Truro, at 10 p.m. on Christmas Eve 1880.

A. C. Benson recalled: 'My father arranged from ancient sources a little service for Christmas Eve – nine carols and nine tiny lessons, which were read by various officers of the Church, beginning with a chorister, and ending, through the different grades, with the Bishop'. The idea had come from G. H. S. Walpole, later Bishop of Edinburgh. Almost immediately other churches adapted the service for their own use. A wider frame began to grow when the service was first broadcast in 1928 and, with the exception of 1930, it has been broadcast annually, even during the Second World War, when the ancient glass (and also all heat) had been removed from the Chapel.

Sometime in the early 1930s the BBC began broadcasting the service on overseas programmes. It is estimated that there are millions of listeners worldwide, including those to Radio Four in the United Kingdom. In recent years it has become the practice to broadcast a recording of the service on Christmas Day on Radio Three, and since 1963 a shorter service has been filmed periodically for television. Recordings of carols by Decca and EMI have also served to spread its fame. In these and other ways the service has become public property.

From time to time the College receives copies of services held, for example, in the West Indies or the Far East and these show how widely the tradition has spread. The broadcasts, too, have become part of Christmas for many far from Cambridge. One correspondent writes that he heard the service in a tent on the foothills of Everest; another, in the desert. Many listen at home, busy about their own preparations for Christmas. Visitors from all over the world are heard to identify the Chapel as 'the place where the Carols are sung'.

Wherever the service is heard and however it is adapted, whether the music is provided by choir or congregation, the pattern and strength of the service, as Dean Milner-White pointed out, derive from the lessons and not the music. 'The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God ...' seen 'through the windows and the words of the Bible'. Many of those who took part in the first service must have recalled those killed in the Great War when it came to the famous passage 'all those who rejoice with us, but on another shore and in a greater light'. The centre of the service is still found by those who 'go in heart and mind' and who consent to follow where the story leads.

This year, for the first time here at Spencerville, we incorporate yet another of the elements from the service held at King's College: an extended organ prelude prior to the beginning of the service. We do so this year, as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the installation of the Moller pipe organ, an instrument that has provided the bulk of the accompaniments for the service through the years. We hope this prelude will serve to prepare you for the hearing of the lessons and the singing of the carols that is to come.

Thank you for making this service a part of your Christmas celebrations this year. We wish, for you and for your family, the joys and blessings of the season.

adapted from the service description published by King's College, Cambridge

ORGAN PRELUDE

Silent Night

DAVID CONTE

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Toccata on *Veni Emmanuel*

ANDREW CARTER

CAROLS FOR GATHERING

Lux,
calida gravisque pura velut aurum
et canunt angeli molliter
modo natum.

*Light,
warm and heavy as pure gold
and the angels sing softly
to the new-born baby.*

Words, EDWARD ESCH
Translated, CHARLES ANTHONY SILVESTRI
Music, ERIC WHITACRE
Publisher

Ding dong! merrily on high in heav'n the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! verily the sky is riv'n with angel singing.

Refrain: Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,
And i-o, i-o, i-o, by priest and people sungen.

Pray you dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rime your eve-time song, ye singers.

Words, GEORGE RATCLIFFE WOODWARD
Music, 16TH CENTURY FRENCH CAROL
Arranged, CHARLES WOOD
Publisher

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

All stand and joining in singing



1. Hark! the he - rald - an - gels sing— Glo - ry to the new-born King;
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild,— God and sin - ners re - con - ciled:
Late in time be - hold him come,— Off-spring of a vir - gin's womb:
Light and life to all he brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings;



Joy - ful all ye na - tions rise,— Join the tri-umph of the skies,—
Veiled in flesh the God-head sec,— I hail th'in-car-nate De - i - ty!—
Mild he lays his glo - ry by,— Born that man no more may die,—



With th'an-gel - ic host pro-claim, Christ is— born in Beth - le - hem.
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Je - sus,— our Em - ma - nu - el.
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to— give them se - cond birth.



Hark! the he - rald - an - gels sing Glo - ry— to the new-born King.

Words, CHARLES WESLEY
Music, arranged from FELIX MENDELSSOHN
Setting by DAVID WILLCOCKS
Oxford University Press

BIDDING PRAYER

Then, all standing, this bidding prayer is said.

PASTOR:

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 purpose of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious redemption brought us by this Holy Child: and let us make this Spencerville Church, dedicated to Him, glad with our carols of praise.

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 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 lonely 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 once rejoiced with us, and give us courage and grace to determine to meet upon that other shore, in a greater light, as part of that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus Christ, we are one forevermore.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the Throne of Heaven, in words which Christ Himself has taught us, saying (together):

ALL:

Our Father, which 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory for ever and ever. AMEN.

PASTOR:

May the Almighty God bless us with His love, May Christ give us joys of everlasting life. And to the fellowship of angels above, may the King of Angels bring us all.

ALL: Amen.

The congregation sits.

FIRST LESSON

READER: Emily Barnabas, 3rd grade, Jackson Road Elementary School

God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head. GENESIS 3

AND they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden. And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: and I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

Sung by all, standing



1. Long a - go, pro-phets knew Christ would come, born a Jew,
2. God in time, God in man, This is God's time-less plan:
3. Ma - ry, hail! Though a - fraid, She be - lieved, She o - beyed.
4. Jour - ney ends! Were a - far Beth - lem shines, like a star,



Come to make all things new; Bear his Peo-ple's bur - den,
He will come, as a man, Born him - self of wo - man,
In her womb God is laid: Till the time ex - spect - ed,
Sta - ble door stands a - jar. Un - born Son of Ma - ry,



Free - ly love and par - don. *Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!* *Sing, choirs, sing,*
God di - vine - ly hu - man.
Nur - tured and pro - tect - ed,
Sa - viour, do not tar - ry!



sing, sing! *When he comes, when he comes, Who will make him wel - come?*
(v.4) Je - sus comes! Je - sus comes! We will make him wel - come!

PERSONET HODIE
1582, Piae Cantiones

The congregation sits.

SECOND LESSON

READER: Alexander Hess, 6th grade, Spencerville Adventist Academy

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed. GENESIS 22

AND the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, and said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: that in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming,
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
As those of old hath sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it,
The Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to us a Savior
When half-spent was the night.

This Flow'r, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
The darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God;
From sin and death He saves us,
And lightens ev'ry load.

Words, 15TH CENTURY GERMAN
Translated, THEODORE BAKER
Music, 14TH CENTURY GERMAN
Arranged, DEBORAH GOVENOR
Beckenhorst Press

THIRD LESSON

READER: Brandon Enriquez, senior, High School, Spencerville Adventist Academy

The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour. ISAIAH 9

THE people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Refrain:

O come, divine Messiah!
The world in silence waits the day
When hope shall sing its triumph,
And sadness flee away.

Dear Saviour haste;
Come, come to earth,
Dispel the night and show your face,
And bid us hail the dawn of grace.

You come in peace and meekness,
And lowly will your cradle be;
All clothed in human weakness
Shall we your Godhead see.

O Christ, whom nations sigh for,
Whom priest and prophets long foretold,
Come break the captive fetters;
Redeem the long-lost fold.

Words, ABBÉ SIMON-JOSEPH PELLEGRIN
Translated, MARY FRANCES LESCHER
known as SISTER MARY OF ST PHILIP
Music, 16TH CENTURY FRENCH CAROL
Arranged, HOWARD HELVEY
Oxford University Press

FOURTH LESSON

READER: Lerone Carson, workplace consultant, Gallup Organization

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown. ISAIAH II

AND there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots: and the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and

might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; and shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD. With righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

There's a rose in the middle of winter,
a rose which has no thorn,
into the garden it comes,
like a child that is waiting to be born.
And while he waits for the rose to bloom,
the gard'ner sings:
and the clouds all dance to his tune.

There's a bird in the middle of winter,
a bird whose song is a prayer,
into our dreams it comes,
like a child who is almost here.
And while he waits for the bird to sound,
the gard'ner sings:
and the stars all dance in a round.

There's a child in the middle of winter,
 a child like a flower in the snow,
 into our days he come,
 like a child who is with us now.
 While he listens to the song of a rose,
 the gard'ner sings:
 and the child is a dance in his soul.

Words, CHARLES BENNETT
 Music, BOB CHILCOTT
Oxford University Press

HYMN

Sung by all, standing



1. Joy to the world, the Lord shall come! Let earth re-ceive her King,
 2. No more let sins and sor-rows grow, Northorns in-fest the ground;
 3. He'll rule the world with truth and grace, And make the na-tions prove



Let ev-ry heart pre-pare Him room,
 He comes to make his bless-ings flow
 The glo-ries of His righ-teous-ness,



And heav'n and na-ture sing, And heav'n and na-ture
 Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
 And won-ders of His love, And won-ders of His



sing, And heav-en, and heav-en and na-ture sing.
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, And won-ders, and won-ders of His love.

ANTIOCH
 Words, PSALMS, ISAAC WATTS
 Music, FROM HANDEL'S MESSIAH
 Arranged, LOWELL MASON

The congregation is seated.

FIFTH LESSON

READER: Somer Knight, middle and high school chaplain/Bible teacher,
Spencerville Adventist Academy

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary. LUKE I

AND in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

I sing of a maiden
That is makeless; (*matchless*)
King of all kings
To her son she ches. (*chose*)

He came all so still
Where his mother was,
As dew in April
That falleth on the grass.

He came all so still
To his mother's bower,
As dew in April
That falleth on the flower.

He came all so still
Where his mother lay,
As dew in April
That falleth on the spray.

Mother and maiden
Was never none but she;
Well may such a lady
Godës mother be.

Words, 15TH-CENTURY ENGLISH
Music, JAMES BINGHAM

CAROL

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing:
Of Mary the mother of Jesus our king.

Refrain:
Ave, ave, ave Maria,
Ave, ave, ave Maria.

How bless'd is the birth of her heavenly child,
Who came to redeem us in Mary so mild.

The archangel Gabriel foretold by his call
The Lord of creation, and Saviour of all.

Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare,
And marveled in awe at then babe in her care.

Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray;
Sing praise to the Saviour, sing endless 'Ave.'

Words, THE VENERABLE BEDE
Paraphrased, ANDREW CARTER
Music, FRENCH CAROL
Arranged, ANDREW CARTER
Oxford University Press

SIXTH LESSON

READER: Yong Ng, director of Laboratory Operations, a Division of Laboratory Medicine at Children's National Medical Center

St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus. LUKE 2

AND it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

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!

Words, JOSEPH MOHR
Translated, JOHN F. YOUNG
Music, FRANZ GRUBER AND J. S. BACH
Arranged, DOUGLAS E. WAGNER
Beckenhorst Press

CAROL

Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the new born King.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er their flocks by night,
God with man is now residing;
Yonder shines the Infant Light:

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the new born King.

Sages, leave your contemplations;
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of Nations;
Ye have seen his natal star:

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the new born King.

Saints below the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In his temple shall appear:

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the new born King.

Words, JAMES MONTGOMERY
Music, MALCOLM ARCHER
Oxford University Press

SEVENTH LESSON

READER: Ramesh Thamby, ATT in IT government solutions,
Network Operations Center

The shepherds go to the manger. LUKE 2

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. 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.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

The landscape was bare,
The snowfall had come:
Glinting across the whiteness,
A glimmer of sun.

The twilight drew on,
The night was so calm;
Silent slept the sheep,
Away from all harm.

Then suddenly shone
A star in the sky:
Sparkling with fire,
A sign from on high.
A heavenly choir
Of angels did sing:
'God is come to earth;
Joyful tidings we bring.'

A baby so small,
A message so great:
We kneel in breathless wonder,
In hope we shall wait.

Words and Music, ALAN BULLARD
Oxford University Press

CAROL

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyful strains.

Refrain:
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him Whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

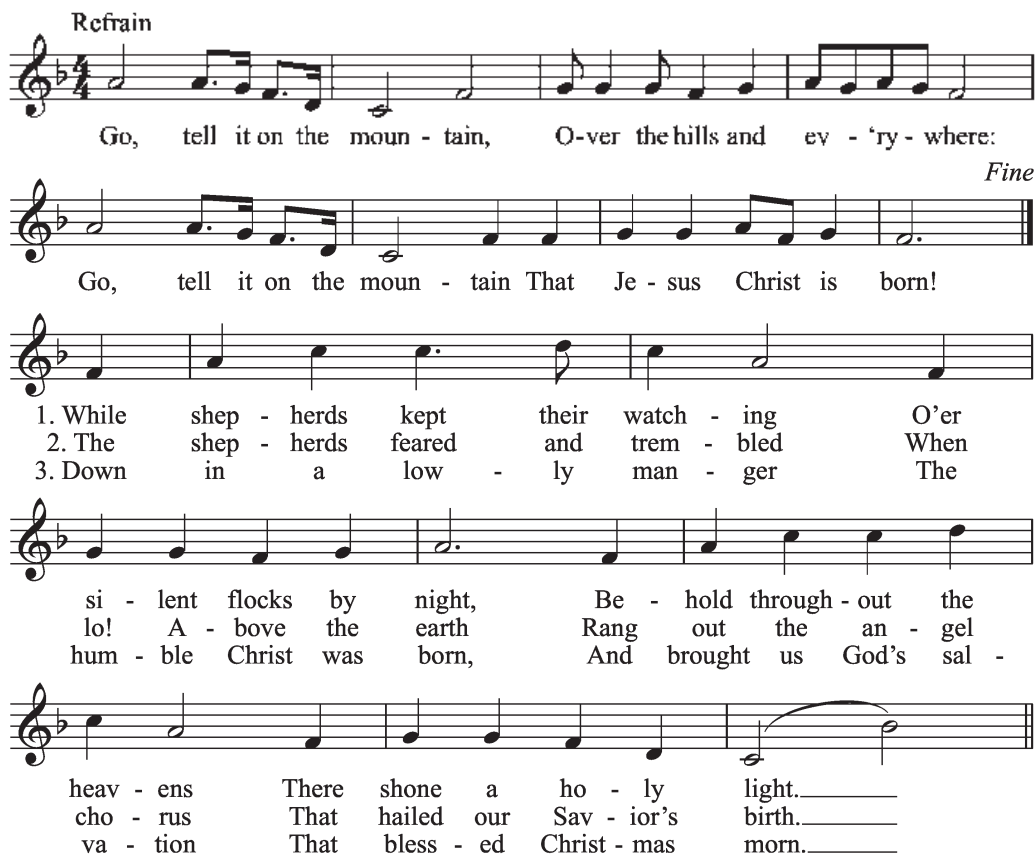
See Him in a manger laid
Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
With us sing our Savior's birth.

Words, FRENCH CAROL
 Translated, HENRI FREDERICK HEMY,
 Crown of Jesus Music, Part II, 1862, alt.
 Music, TRADITIONAL FRENCH CAROL
 Arranged, HOWARD HELVEY
Beckenhorst Press

HYMN

Sung by all, standing

Refrain



Go, tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where:

Fine

Go, tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

1. While shep - herds kept their watch - ing O'er
 2. The shep - herds feared and trem - bled When
 3. Down in a low - ly man - ger The

si - lent flocks by night, Be - hold through - out the
 lo! A - bove the earth Rang out the an - gel
 hum - ble Christ was born, And brought us God's sal -

heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light. _____
 cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth. _____
 va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn. _____

Words and Music, AMERICAN NEGRO SPIRITUAL
 Adapted and arranged, JOHN W. WORK

The congregation is seated.

EIGHTH LESSON

READER: Anne Willsey, pastor's wife and grandmother

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus. ST MATTHEW II

NOW when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judæa in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judæa: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright
What star is this, with beams so bright,
More lovely than the noon-day light?
'Tis sent to announce a newborn King,
Glad tidings of our God to bring.

'Tis now fulfilled what God decreed,
"From Jacob shall a star proceed;"
And lo! The Eastern sages stand
To read in heav'n the Lord's command.

O Jesus, while the star of grace
Impels us on to seek your face,
Let not our slothful hearts refuse
Guidance of your light to use.

To God the Father, God the Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in one,
May ev'ry tongue and nation raise
An endless song of thankful praise.

Words, CHARLES COFFIN
Translated, JOHN CHANDLER
Music, 15TH CENTURY GERMAN
Arranged, KENNETH LOWENBERG
Art Masters Studio Inc.

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

Sung by all, standing



1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are; Bear - ing gifts we trav - erse a - far
2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, Gold I bring to crown Him a - gain,
3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; In - cense owns a De - i - ty night;
4. Glo - rious now be - hold Him a - rise, King and God and sac - ri - fice;



Field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, Fol - low - ing yon - der star.
King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er O - ver us all to reign.
Prayer and prais - ing all men rais - ing, Wor - ship Him, God on high.
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain



O — star of won - der, star of night, Star with roy - al beau - ty bright,



West - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, Guide us to Thy per - fect light.

KINGS OF ORIENT
Words and Music, JOHN H. HOPKINS

The congregation is seated.

CAROL

The first Noel, the angels did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay,
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far.
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,
And with His blood mankind hath bought.

Words, TRADITIONAL ENGLISH CAROL, c. 1823
Music, WILLIAM SANDY'S *CHRISTMAS CAROLS*, 1833
Arranged, DAN FORREST
Oxford University Press

NINTH LESSON

READER: Gaspar Colon, Professor, Department of Religion,
Washington Adventist University

St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation. JOHN I

IN the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that light, but was sent to bear witness of that light. That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power

to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only-begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Shepherds, rise look up and see
New light yonder breaking,
Brighter than the noonday sun,
All your sheep awaking.
Wonder, whisper, "Ah, Noe!"
Christ is born this holy day!
He is come to you,
Lowly shepherds, true!
He is come unto you;
Morning Star and New Day!
Wonder, whisper, "Ah Noe!"

Shepherds, turn your eyes and see
In the manger, sleeping,
Prince of Peace and Heav'nly King,
In His mother's keeping.
Worship Him who brings Noe
He who turns the night to day!
He is come to you,
Lowly shepherds, true!
He is come unto you;
Morning Star and New Day!
Worship Him who brings Noe!

Shepherds, look about and see
In the darkness pining
All God's children long to hear
Of the new Light shining.
Witness of the true Noe!
Share glad tidings of this day!

He is come to you,
Lowly shepherds, true!
He is come unto you;
Morning Star and New Day!
Witness of the true Noe!

Shepherds, run to us and see
Here we are awaiting thee.
Let your voices ring for 'aye
Christ is born! Noe! Noe!

Words, DAVID WARNER
Music, FRENCH CAROL FROM *LES NOËLS BRESSANS*
Arranged, MACK WILBERG
Oxford University Press

COLLECT AND BLESSING

PASTOR: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And with thy spirit.

PASTOR: Let us pray.

O GOD, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he shall come to be our judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

ALL: Amen.

PASTOR:

CHRIST, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, grant you the fullness of inward peace and goodwill, and make you partakers of the divine nature; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

ALL: Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

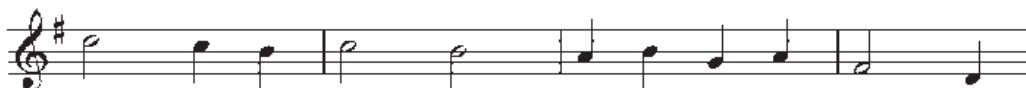
Sung by all, standing



1. O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2. God of God, Light of Light,
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing,



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
Lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
Sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heav'n a - bove;
Je - su, to thee be glo - ry giv'n;



Come and be - hold him Born the King of An - gels:
Ve - ry God, Be - got - ten, not cre - a - ted:
Glo - ry to God In the high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, Now in flesh a - pear - ing:



O come, let us a - dore him. O come, let us a - dore him, O



come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

ADESTE FIDELIS

Words and Music, JOHN FRANCIS WADE

Arranged, DAVID WILLCOCKS

Oxford University Press

The congregation is seated.

RECESSIONAL

Fantaisie on 'In Dulci Jubilo'

Johann Sebastian Bach

LEADER OF SERVICE

Pastor Patrick Morrison

READERS

Emily Barnabas
Alexander Hess
Brandon Enriquez
Lerone Carson
Somer Knight
Yong Ng
Ramesh Thamby
Anne Willsey
Gaspar Colon

CHOIRS

The Sanctuary Choir of Spencerville Church
Columbia Collegiate Chorale of Washington Adventist University

DIRECTOR

James Bingham

PIANIST

Mark Di Pinto

ORGANIST

Mark Willey

Thank for attending the service this afternoon. All are invited to a reception, held in the fellowship hall, following the service today.

A free-will offering will be received at the end of the service today. The proceeds will go towards the expenses of the Evensong Concert Series.

SPENCERVILLE
EVENSONG CONCERT SERIES

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