

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols



December 14, 2013
4 p.m.

ORGAN PRELUDE

Puer Natus In Bethlehem, BuxWV 217

DIETRICH BUXTEHUDE

Chorale Prelude on 'In dulci jubilo'

JOHANN MICHAEL BACH

CAROL FOR GATHERING

All my heart this night rejoices

All my heart this night rejoices,
As I hear, Far and near, sweetest angel voices;
'Christ is born!' their choirs are singing,
Till the air Everywhere Now with joy is ringing.

Hark! a voice from yonder manger,
Soft and sweet, Doth entreat, 'Flee from woe and danger!
Brethren, come! from all doth grieve you,
You are freed; All you need I will surely give you.'

Come, then, let us hasten yonder!
Here let all, Great and small, Kneel in awe and wonder!
Love him who with love is yearning!
Hail the star That from far Bright with hope is burning!

Thee, dear Lord, with heed I'll cherish,
Live to thee, And with thee, Dying, shall not perish;
But shall dwell with thee for ever,
Far on high, In the joy That can alter never.

Words by PAUL GERHARDT
tr. CATHERINE WINKWORTH
Music by JOHANN GEORG EBELING
Oxford University Press

PROCESSIONAL CAROL

Hark the herald-angels sing!

All stand and joining in singing



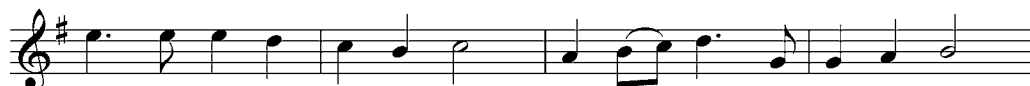
1. Hark! the he - rald - an - gels sing — Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!



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 see, — 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.

MENDELSSOHN

Words by 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...

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: Mikailyn Fowler, 2nd grade, Spencerville Adventist Academy

God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall 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 was 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.

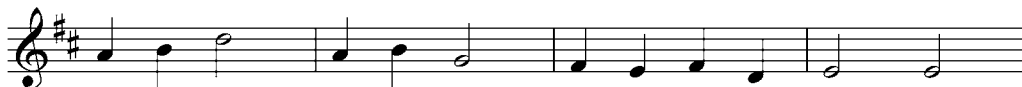
Thanks be to God.

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 - pect - 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.

CAROL

The Truth From Above

This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love;
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But hearken all both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate
Is that God did man create,
The next thing which to you I'll tell,
Woman was made with him to dwell.

Then after this was God's own choice
To place them both in Paradise,
There to remain, from evil free,
Except they ate of such a tree.

And they did eat which was a sin,
And thus their ruin did begin,
Ruined themselves, both you and me,
And all of their posterity.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes,
Till God the Lord did interpose,
And so a promise soon did run,
That He would redeem us by his Son

HEREFORDSHIRE CAROL

Words and Music: English Traditional Carol

Arr. James Bingham

v. 5 by Ralph Vaughan Williams

SECOND LESSON

READER: Raquel Fuller, 8th grade, Spencerville Adventist Academy

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

AND nd 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

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.
Rule in all; hope of all.
Come, expected Jesus. Come.

Words by CHARLES WESLEY
Music by ROBERT A. HOBBY
MorningStar

THIRD LESSON

READER: Maximillian Kwun Tran, senior, Bethesda Chevy Chase High School

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah. 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, 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

O come, divine Messiah!

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 by ABBÉ SIMON-JOSEPH PELLEGRIN

Tr. MARY FRANCES LESCHER

Music: 16TH CENTURY FRENCH CAROL

Arranged by HOWARD HELVEY

Oxford University Press

FOURTH LESSON

READER: Kaiya Kretschmar, senior nursing student,
Washington Adventist University

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 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 suckling 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

O come, O come Immanuel

O come, O come, Immanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel,
shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave. **R.**

3. O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight. **R.**

4. O come, o come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height,
In ancient times did give the law
In cloud, and majesty, and awe. **R.**

5. O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home,
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. **R.**

VENI EMMANUEL

Words: 18TH-CENTURY LATIN

Music: 15TH-CENTURY FRENCH MELODY

Arranged by JOHN RUTTER

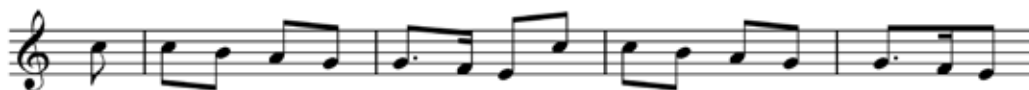
Oxford University Press

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

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, Nor thorns 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 from Psalms and ISAAC WATTS

Music from HANDEL'S *MESSIAH*

Arranged by LOWELL MASON

The congregation is seated.

FIFTH LESSON

READER: Robert Fuller, Patent Examiner, United States Patent
and Trademark Office

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

People, Look East

People, look East, the time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look East, and sing today.
Love, the guest, is on the way.

Farrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flow'r may flourish.
People look East, and sing today:
Love, the rose, is on the way.

Birds, though ye long have ceased to build,
guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen
He for fledging time has chosen.
People, look East, and sing today.
Love, the Bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
one more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look East and sing today:
Love, the Star, is on the way.

Angels, announce to man and beast
Him who cometh from the East.
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming
with the word the Lord is coming.
People, look East, and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

BESANÇON CAROL
Words by ELEANOR FARJEON
Music: FRENCH CAROL
Arr. BRUCE NESWICK
Paraclete Press

CAROL

I Sing of a Maiden

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
God's mother be.

Words: 15TH-CENTURY ENGLISH
Music by PATRICK HADLEY
Oxford University Press

SIXTH LESSON

READER: Eve Princler, Director of Workforce Development, Education
and Training, United States Government Printing Office

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 Caesar 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 Judaea, 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

Christmas Intrada

Gloria! Sing gloria!
Let earth receive her King!
Gloria! Sing gloria!
Let every heart prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing!
Let heaven and nature sing!

Sing with all the hosts of heaven
on this blessed Christmas morn;
Jesus Christ, the great Messiah,
Savior of the world is born!

From a palace to a stable,
Holy baby, lowly birth;
Son of God and Son of Mary,
King of heaven come to earth.

Gloria! Sing gloria!
Let earth receive her King!
Gloria! Sing gloria!
Let every heart prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing!
Gloria! Gloria! Sing gloria!

Words by SUSAN BENTALL BOERSMA
Music by DAVID LANTZ III
Beckenhorst Press

CAROL

Silent Night

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 by JOSEPH MOHR
Tr. JOHN F. YOUNG
Music by FRANZ GRUBER AND J. S. BACH
Arr. DOUGLAS E. WAGNER
Beckenhorst Press

SEVENTH LESSON

READER: Richard Benjamin, Recycling Manager, Montgomery County
Public Schools

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.

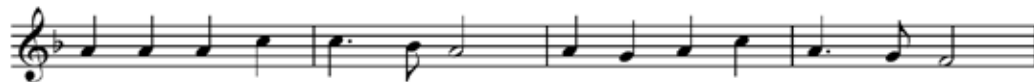
Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

Sung by all, standing



1. An - gels we have heard on high, Sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
 2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;
 4. See Him in a man - ger laid Whom the an - gels praise a - bove;



And the moun - tains in re - ply Ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
 What great bright - ness did you see? What glad ti - dings did you hear?
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, While we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - - - - -



- - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

GLORIA

Words and Music: TRADITIONAL FRENCH CAROL

Arr. EDWARD SHIPPEN BARNES

The congregation is seated.

CAROL

Angel's Carol

Have you heard the sound of the angel voices
Ringing out so sweetly, ringing out so clear?
Have you seen the star shining out so brightly
As a sign from God that Christ the Lord is here?
Have you heard the news that they bring from heaven
To the humble shepherds who have waited long?
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the angels sing their joyful song.

He is come in peace in the winter's stillness,
Like a gentle snowfall in the gentle night;
He is come in joy like the sun at morning
Filling all the world with radiance and with light.
He is come in love as the child of Mary;
In a simple stable we have seen his birth:
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the angels singing 'Peace on earth'.

He will bring new light to a world in darkness,
Like a bright star shining in the skies above;
He will bring new hope to the waiting nations
When he comes to reign in purity and love.
Let the earth rejoice at the Saviour's coming;
Let the heavens answer with the joyful morn:
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Hear the angels singing 'Christ is born'.

Words and Music by JOHN RUTTER
Oxford University Press

EIGHTH LESSON

READER: Stella Hegstad, minister's wife, mother and grandmother

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

NOW when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea 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 Judaea: 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 privately 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

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 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

Arr. DAN FORREST
Oxford University Press

NINTH LESSON

READER: Ted Wick, retired minister

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. Ant 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: which 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

The babe in glory crowned

The shepherds travelled to Bethlehem, so tells the Christmas story,
when angels gave their message of God's majesty and glory.

A babe was born that night in the town of Bethlehem,
in a stable full of hay Child in swaddling lay.

Three Wise Men were on their way bearing gifts of great expense.
God and myrrh and frankincense to honour the Holy Boy.

God in man had come to earth by Mary meek and mild,
and here were brought glad tidings by the birth of the newborn Christ-child.
Raise a song with Christmas cheer: saviour of the world is here,
pilgrims come from far and near to worship the newborn King.
Sweet carols we shall sing, these gifts our offering
to the Lord of everything; praise to the Holy Boy.

When King Herod heard the news he tried to reprimand:
if he could have his way the boy would die at his command.
Lain in the stable bare, ox and ass and camel there,
we celebrate in prayer the babe in glory crowned.
God on earth is here to stay, born to us this holy day,
so we celebrate with joy the birth of the Holy Boy.

Words and Music by THOMAS HEWITT JONES
The Royal School of Church Music

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

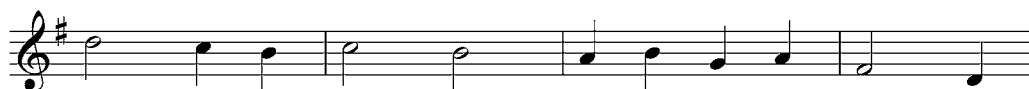
Sung by all, standing



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 by JOHN FRANCIS WADE

Arr. DAVID WILLCOCKS

Oxford University Press

The congregation is seated.

RECESSIONAL

Fantaisie on 'In Dulci Jubilo'

Johann Sebastian Bach

*Thank you 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.*

LEADER OF SERVICE

Pastor Jerry Lutz

CHOIRS

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

DIRECTOR

James Bingham

ACCOMPANIST

Mark Willey

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. The original service was adapted from an Order (of service) 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. By 1919, the order of service had been revised and refined and from that date to ours, the backbone of the service, the lessons and the prayers, has remained virtually unchanged.

Wherever the service is heard and however it is adapted, whether the music is provided by choir or congregation, or both as is the case this evening, 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'. 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.

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

SPENCERVILLE
EVENSONG CONCERT SERIES

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