

CANDLELIGHT LESSONS & CAROLS
DECEMBER 24, 2018



THE CHILD OF GOD

Candlelight Lessons & Carols Service

December 24, 2018

6:00 & 11:00 p.m.

While the tradition of Lessons and Carols has evolved since the model service was held in 1918, the Scriptures and music still help us to trace the loving purposes of God from prophecy through fulfillment.

Greeting

Karl Zinsmeister

One: The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

All: Oh, come, let us adore him.

One: Let us prepare for worship.

Preparation for Worship

The church rejoices in Christ's first coming and eagerly looks forward to Christ's coming again. We pray for the coming of Christ in glory, even as we give thanks for the mystery of God with us, Emmanuel.

Prelude

Harp (6:00) - Concert Variations on ADESTE FIDELIS

Carlos Salzedo (1885-1961)

String Quartet (11:00) - Overture, MESSIAH

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Organ - Andante sostenuto from Symphony No. 9, Op. 70

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

Carol medley:

121 O Little Town of Bethlehem; Stanzas 1 & 2

ST. LOUIS

115 Away in a Manger; Stanzas 1 & 2

MUELLER

119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing;

Stanza 1: MEN; Stanza 2: WOMEN; Stanza 3: ALL

MENDELSSOHN

Christian Welcome and Announcements

(6:00) Gary Fulton; (11:00) Gloria Johnson

Call to Worship and Lighting of the Christ Candle (all singing)

Star-Child, v. 5; (text: Shirley Erena Murray; music: Carlton Young)



1. Star - Child, earth - Child, go be - tween of God, love Child, Christ Child, hea - ven's light - ning rod,
2. Street child, beat child, no place left to go, hurt child, used child, no one wants to know,
3. Grown child, old child, mem - 'ry full of years, sad child, lost child, sto - ry told in tears,
4. Spared child, spoiled child, hav - ing, want - ing more, wise child, faith child, know - ing joy in store
5. Hope for peace Child, God's stu - pen - dous sign, down to earth Child, Star of stars that shine,



this year, this year, let the day ar - rive when Christ - mas comes for ev - ery - one, ev - ery - one a - live!

One: The Savior of the world is born, the Holy Child.

All: In this child we see God's promise fulfilled.

One: In this Holy Child we see the great Light entering a world of deep darkness.

All: For the one named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, we rejoice!

One: For the one named Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, we give thanks.

Bidding Prayer

adapted from King's College Lessons and Carols Service

One: We have gathered to hear, in readings from the Holy Scriptures, how the prophets of Israel foretold that God would visit and redeem his waiting people. We rehearse again the account of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience to the glorious redemption brought us by our Lord Jesus Christ. We rejoice, in carols and hymns, that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled. But first let us pray for the needs of God's whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth.

All: Let us remember the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind, them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children, and all who do not know the loving kindness of the Lord.

One: We also remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which none can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh.

All: Almighty God, lead us to live our lives, trusting in your abundant grace, seeking to live in unity and fellowship with all your people and reverent of all that you have made, to the glory of Jesus, our Lord, Amen.

Processional - Carol 140 – Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

Please remain seated until stanza 2.

Stanza 1: Soloist

Stanzas 2-4: ALL

The First Lesson – Genesis 3:8-15; pew Bible p. 3 (6:00) Cate Church Norman; (11:00) Robert Galloway

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

The Second Lesson – Genesis 22:15-18, pew Bible, p. 17 (6:00) Gary Fulton; (11:00) Chip Pope

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

Carol 51 – To Abraham and Sarah

LLANFYLLIN

Stanza 1: choir/soloist

Stanzas 2-3: ALL

The Third Lesson – Isaiah 9:2-7, pew Bible p. 600
The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.

(6:00) Cate Church Norman; (11:00) Jim Ferry

The Fourth Lesson – Isaiah 11:1-9, pew Bible, p. 602
The Messiah will come from the root of Jesse to restore the peace of creation.

(6:00) Gary Fulton; (11:00) Gloria Johnson

Christmas Eve Meditation

Christopher Edmonston

(6:00) **Anthem** – *There is No Rose*

Philip Stopford (b. 1977)

There is no rose of such virtue, as is the rose that bare Jesu. Alleluia. For in this rose contained was heaven and earth in little space. Resmiranda. (Wondrous thing) For by that rose we may well see that he is God in persons three. Pariforma. (One in form) The angels sungen the shepherds to: Gloria in excelsis Deo. (Glory to God in the highest) Gaudeamus. (Let us rejoice) Leave all this worldly mirth and follow we this joyful birth. Transeamus. (Let us cross over) There is no rose of such virtue, as is the rose that bare Jesu.

(11:00) **Solo** – *A Lute Caroll*

Mary E. Caldwell (1909 – 2003)

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing the birth of this our heav'nly king? Awake the voice! Awake the string! Heart, ear, and eye, and ev'rything awake! The darling of the world is come, and fit it is, we find a room to welcome him, to do him honor, who's our king and lord of all rejoicing! (text by Robert Herrick, 1591-1674)

The Fifth Lesson - Luke 1:26-38, pew Bible, p. 53

(6:00 & 11:00) Cate Church Norman

An angel appears to Mary and announces that she will bear a holy child.

***Carol** – *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE

choir/soloist 1. The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came, his
ALL 2. "For know a bless - ed moth - er you shall be, all
ALL 3. Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head, "To
wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes — as flame; "All hail," said he, "O low - ly maid - en
gen - er - a - tions praise con - tin - ual - ly, your Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by
me be as it pleas - es God," she said, "my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's
Ma - ry,"
seers fore - told." most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
ho - ly name."

Christmas Eve Offering

(6:00) Gary Fulton; (11:00) Robert Galloway

Offertory

(6:00) **Anthem** – *Where Riches Is Everlastingly* Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)
Into this world this day did come Jesus Christ both God and man, Lord and servant in one person, born of the blessed Virgin Mary. I pray you be merry and sing with me in worship of Christ's nativity. He that was rich without a need appeared in this world in right poor weed to make us that were poor indeed, rich without any need truly. A stable was his chamber; a crib was his bed, he had not a pillow under his head; with maiden's milk that babe was fed, in poor clothes was wrapped the Lord Almighty. A noble lesson here is taught, to set all worldly riches at naught, but pray that we may be thither brought where riches is everlastingly.

(11:00) **Solo** – *Et Exsultavit* from *Magnificat* Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo. Translation: And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

***The Sixth Lesson** - Luke 2:1-7; pew Bible p. 54 (in unison) (6:00) Gary Fulton; (11:00) Jim Ferry
Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem, where Mary gives birth to her child.

ALL: In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

(6:00) **Anthem** – *This Little Babe* (from *Ceremony of Carols*) Benjamin Britten (1913-76)
This little babe so few days old is come to rattle Satan's fold; all hell doth at his presence quake though he himself for cold do shake; for in this week unarmed wise the gates of hell he will surprise. With tears he fights and wins the field his naked breast stands for a shield; his battering shot are babish cries, his arrows looks of weeping eyes; his martial ensigns Cold and Need, and feeble flesh his warrior's steed. His camp is pitched in a stall, his bulwark but a broken wall; the crib his trench, haystalks his stakes, of shepherds he his muster makes; and thus as sure his foe to wound the angels' trumps alarum sound. My soul with Christ join thou in fight; stick to the tents that he hath pitched, within his crib is surest ward; this little Babe will be thy guard; if thou wilt foil thy foes with joy, then flit not from this heavenly Boy!

(11:00) **Solo** – *The Virgin's Slumber Song* Max Reger (1873-1916)
Amid the roses Mary sits and rocks her Jesus-Child, while amid the treetops sighs the breeze so warm and mild, and soft and sweetly sings a bird upon the bough. Ah, baby, dear one slumber now. Happy is thy laughter; holy is thy silent rest. Lay thy head in slumber fondly on thy mother's breast. Ah, baby, dear one slumber now.

The Seventh Lesson - Luke 2:8-16, pew Bible, p. 54 (6:00) Cate Church Norman; (11:00) Gloria Johnson
Angels appear to the shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah.

***Carol 113** – *Angels We Have Heard on High*

GLORIA

The Eighth Lesson - Matthew 2:1-11, pew Bible, p. 1 (6:00) Gary Fulton; (11:00) Chip Pope
Led by the star, wise men from the East come seeking the Messiah and offer gifts to the baby Jesus.

Carol 147 – *The First Nowell*

THE FIRST NOWELL

Stanza 1: choir/soloist

Stanza 2: WOMEN

Stanza 3: MEN

Stanza 4: WOMEN

Stanza 5: MEN

Stanza 6: ALL

Prayer for Peace and Goodwill and the Lord's Prayer (in unison)

(6:00) Cate Church Norman; (11:00) Gary Fulton

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Ninth Lesson – John 1:1-5, 14, pew Bible, p. 86 (6:00) Gary Fulton; (11:00) Robert Galloway
The Word of God becomes flesh and lives among us, full of grace and truth.

Lighting of the Candles

(6:00) Gary Fulton; (11:00) Robert Galloway

Carol 122 – *Silent Night, Holy Night*

STILLE NACHT

**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! Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."**

**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.**

Please hum an additional stanza.

Raise your candles when invited. Extinguish your candles when the next hymn begins.

***Christmas Blessing and Benediction**

(6:00) Gary Fulton; (11:00) Christopher Edmonston

Carol 134 – *Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

**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.**

**Joy to the world! The Savior reigns: let us our songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.**

**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, wonders of his love.**

***The Chiming of the Trinity**

Please return all candles and candle holders to the containers provided. Thank you.

Postlude - *In dulci jubilo*, BWV 729

Kirsten Homdrom, organ

J. S. Bach

Welcome to worship at White Memorial Presbyterian Church! We are particularly glad to have visitors with us. If you would like more information about White Memorial or are interested in membership, contact Elizabeth Viohl at 919-834-3425, ext. 206.

Please silence cell phones and pagers, and please do not take photographs during worship.

Service Participants: Participants: (6:00) Members of the Chancel, Sanctuary and Seasonal Choirs; Anita Burroughs-Price, harp; Amelia Edmonston, John Thagard, treble soloists. (11:00) Susannah Rhodes Stewart, soprano; Carol Chung and Margaret Garriss, violins; Ri-Shea Schlitter, viola; Angela Blackburn, cello.

Thank you to the ushers, greeters and treasurer's assistants who are serving this evening.

The offering this evening goes to Christmas Share to support community and global missions. Our offerings support children and youth at risk, families in crisis, those who are in danger of not having enough food to eat and those not living in adequate housing. Our global mission partners share the good news of the gospel in Haiti, the Middle East, Poland and Russia.

WHITE MEMORIAL
— PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH —