

A Festival of Nine

# LESSONS & CAROLS



135 NE Randolph Avenue, Peoria, Illinois 61606  
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# A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

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December 20, 2023 - 7:00 p.m. (pre-service music begins around 6:45 p.m.)

## Participants

**Liturgist:** Pastor Matthew B. Synnott;

**Organist:** Peter Wykert

**Acolytes:** Mariah Ford, Evie Holloway

**Lights and Sound:** Chris Wahlmark

**Music:** Sanctuary Choir; Bells of Joy; Trinity Brass; Various Instrumentalists; Jubilation! Youth Choir; Jubilation! Little Levites; Jubilation! 2-6-year-olds as the Live Nativity;

**Lectors:** *(listed in the order in which they read)* Cindy Archer, Randy Irwin, Jeff Bettenhausen, Kim Vietti, Matt Hefflefinger, Joan Freudenburg, Mariah Ford, DCE Scott Rauch

## Pre-Service Music

"Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"

"Hymn Prelude on ST. LOUIS"

"Away in a Manger"

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

*Peter Wykert, organ*

*setting by Jacob B. Weber*

*setting by Ralph C. Schultz*

*setting by Jacob B. Weber*

*setting by Jacob B. Weber*

"Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel"

"On Christmas Night All Christians Sing"

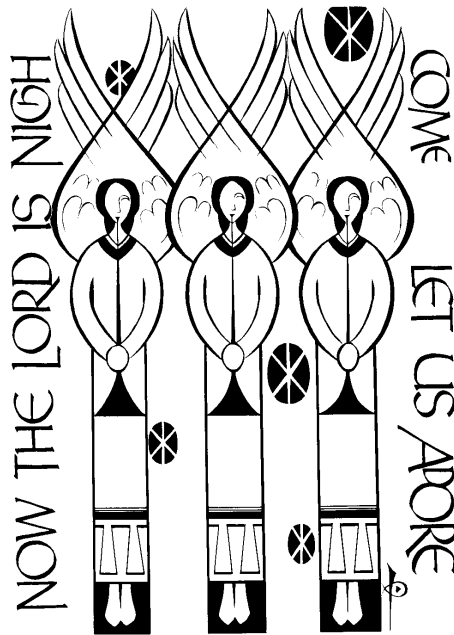
"Joy to the World"

*Bells of Joy*

*setting by J. Wayne Kerr*

*setting by J. Wayne Kerr*

*setting by Jeffrey Honoré*



## Ringling of the Bell

*Please stand and face the Processional Cross*

## Processional Carol

"Once In Royal David's City"

arr. Richard Proulx

*Sidney Draksler, violin;*

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

**☐ 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.**

**And through all His wondrous childhood  
He would honor and obey,  
love and watch the lowly maiden,  
in whose gentle arms He lay:  
Christian children all must be  
mild, obedient, good as He.**



Choir: *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.*

**And our eyes at last shall see Him,  
through His own redeeming love,  
for that child so dear and gentle  
is our Lord in heav'n above;  
and He leads His children on  
to the place where He has 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;  
where like stars His children crowned  
all in white shall wait around.**

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## Bidding Prayer

- ☐ Dearly beloved in Christ, it is our purpose and delight this evening to hear once again in both word and song the message of salvation that was brought to us by the angels and then, in both heart and mind, to follow the shepherds to Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass and the Babe lying in a manger. Therefore, let us read and hear from Holy Scripture the story of the loving purposes of God who, from the first days of our sin and disobedience, designed to bring to us glorious Redemption through this Holy Child. Let us also sing and make this sanctuary glad with our hymns of proclamation and our carols of praise. But first, let us pray to this Child for the needs of the whole world and the needs of all His people;

There will be a short pause after each petition to allow worshippers to offer their private petitions.

- ✠ that His peace and joy may rest bountifully upon us, upon our loved ones, and upon this church;
- ✠ that His kingdom may be enlarged in our hearts and minds and through us extended to the people of this community and to all those upon whom His favor rests;
- ✠ particularly at this time let us remember before Him the poor and the helpless, the cold, and the hungry;
- ✠ those sick in either body or mind;
- ✠ those that mourn;
- ✠ the lonely, the unloved, and those persecuted for the sake of the Christ Child;
- ✠ the aged, our parents, and our children;
- ✠ for all of us who in our sin have grieved His heart of love and for those caught in the bondage of addictions and other sins, that they may be freed to know the fullness of Your love and grace;
- ✠ we especially pray for all those who do not know the Lord Jesus or do not proclaim Him as their Lord, that they may be lead to the knowledge and joy of the salvation through Jesus Christ;

✠ lastly let us remember and thank God for all those who have gone before and who rejoice with us in heaven; whose hope is in the Word made flesh and whose souls now dwell with our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

## Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9–13*

## Concluding Petition

**P** May the Almighty God bless us with His grace. May the Christ Child give us the joys of everlasting life and bring us all to live with Him eternally in heavenly glory.

**C** Amen.

*Please be seated*

## Invitation to Hear the Good News

**P** Let us now hear the Good News of our salvation from the very beginning and respond to it with carols of joy and songs of thanksgiving.

**C** We praise You, O God, for our salvation.

## First Lesson - The Fall and the first promise of salvation

*Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19*

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Carol

"I Wonder As I Wander"

*Traditional Tune*

*Little Levites*

*I wonder as I wander out under the sky, how Jesus the Savior did come for to die,  
For poor sinful people like you and like I, I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.*

*When Mary birthed Jesus 'twas in a cow's stall, with wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.  
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall, and the promise of ages it then did recall.*

*I wonder as I wander out under the sky, how Jesus the Savior did come for to die,  
For poor sinful people like you and like I, I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.*

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## Second Lesson - God's promise to Abraham

*Genesis 22:15-18*

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

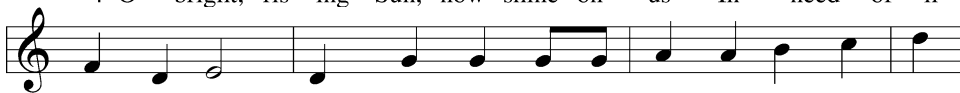
**Congregational Carol**

“Sing Praise to the God of Israel”

LSB 936



1 Sing praise to the God of Is - ra - el! Sing praise for His  
 2 God spoke by the proph - ets long a - go, His prom - ise on  
 3 You, child, will go on be - fore the Lord As proph - et, His  
 4 O bright, ris - ing Sun, now shine on us In need of il -



vis - i - ta - tion! Re - deem - ing His peo - ple from their sin,  
 oath re - call - ing— To A - bra - ham made in for - mer years:  
 way pre - par - ing; To speak on be - half of God Most High,  
 lu - mi - na - tion; Come scat - ter the shades of sin and death



Ac - com - pish - ing their sal - va - tion, Up - rais - ing a  
 Of van - quish - ing foes ap - pall - ing, That those He de -  
 His coun - sel of truth de - clar - ing: Rich mer - cy and  
 And shat - ter their dom - i - na - tion. Be guid - ing our



might - y horn with - in The house of His ser - vant Da - vid!  
 liv - ered from their fears Might glad - ly and tru - ly serve Him.  
 grace for all where - by In - iq - ui - ty is for - giv - en.  
 foot - steps on the path Of peace, in Your pres - ence dawn - ing!

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**Third Lesson – Isaiah foretells Christ’s birth and His kingdom**

*Isaiah 9:2, 6-7*

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Carol**

“Make Straight in the Desert a Highway”

*by David Music*

*Youth Choir*

*Make straight in the desert a highway, prepare the way of the Lord:  
 Let mountains and hills bow down humbly and valleys rise up for their King.  
 In joy shall the wilderness blossom, and streams through the desert be poured:  
 The eyes of the blind shall be opened, and tongues that were silent shall sing.*

*Break forth into singing, O Zion, your King is coming to you.  
 Jerusalem, shout with rejoicing, He comes to redeem you from fear.  
 For God shall bring peace and abundance, your praise and renown to renew:  
 Prepare to receive your salvation: the promised Redeemer is near.*

The reign of the Lord will be gracious, its blessings ever will last;  
 For then will God bring to fulfillment the promise of peace from above.  
 All creatures will prosper together, to plowshares all swords will be cast:  
 Earth's people will find their true freedom in God's perfect kingdom of Love.

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**Fourth Lesson – The peace that Christ will bring is foretold**

Isaiah 11:1-4, 6-9

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Congregational Carol**

“Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending”

LSB 336

**All:** 1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,  
**Women:** 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him  
**Choir:** 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion  
**All:** 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,  
 Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;  
 Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;  
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,  
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;  
 Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
 Those who set at naught and sold Him,  
 Cause of His end - less ex - ul - ta - tion  
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,  
 Swell the tri - umph of His train:  
 Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,  
 To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers,  
 Claim the king - dom as Thine own.  
**Men:** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,  
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,





lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.  
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

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**Fifth Lesson – The angel Gabriel visits Mary**

*Luke 1:26-38*

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Congregational Carol**

“From East to West”

LSB 385



1 From east to west, from shore to shore Let ev - 'ry  
 2 Be - hold, the world's cre - a - tor wears The form and  
 3 For this how won - drous - ly He wrought! A maid - en,  
 4 And while the an - gels in the sky Sang praise a -  
 5 All glo - ry for this bless - ed morn To God the



heart a - wake and sing The ho - ly child whom  
 fash - ion of a slave; Our ver - y flesh our  
 in her low - ly place, Be - came, in ways be -  
 bove the si - lent field, To shep - herds poor the  
 Fa - ther ev - er be; All praise to You, O



Mar - y bore, The Christ, the ev - er - last - ing king.  
 mak - er shares, His fall - en crea - tures all to save.  
 yond all thought, The cho - sen ves - sel of His grace.  
 Lord Most High, The one great Shep - herd, was re - vealed.  
 Vir - gin - born, And Ho - ly Ghost e - ter - nal - ly.

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**Sixth Lesson – Saint Luke tells of the birth of Jesus**

*Luke 2:1, 3-7*

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Carol**

**"Still, Still, Still"**  
Sanctuary Choir

setting by Kenneth T. Kosche

*Still, still, still, the Child asleep lies still,  
His mother Mary, sweetly singing, cradles close as dreams come winging,  
Still, still, still, the Child asleep lies still.*

*Sleep, sleep, sleep, my dearest Child, now sleep.  
The angels hover 'round rejoicing, anthems lovely they are voicing,  
Sleep, sleep, sleep, my dearest Child, now sleep.*

*Great, great, great, Your love is, oh, so great,  
Our God has left His throne of glory, dwells on earth, now tell the story,  
Great, great, great, Your love is, oh, so great.*

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**Seventh Lesson – The shepherds go to the manger**

Luke 2:8-16

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

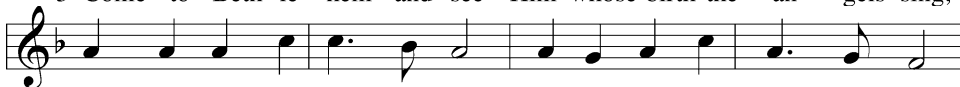
**Congregational Carol**

**"Angels We Have Heard on High"**

LSB 368



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav' - n - ly song?  
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Glo - - - - ri - a



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



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

**Eighth Lesson** - The wise men are led by the star to Jesus

Matthew 2:1-11

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Congregational Carol**

"A Carol for Epiphany"  
Sanctuary Choir

by Carl Schalk

*Through desert and mountain they came from afar to seek a new King as they followed a star.*

*They followed the star as they traveled the way that led to the Christ Child, once born in the hay.*

*They brought Him their treasure: myrrh, incense, and gold; All signs of a story that yet would unfold.*

*They brought Him their gifts as they knelt to adore then went on their way to be heard of no more.*

*Do wise men still journey from near and from far? Do wise men still seek Him and follow the star?*

*O come, let us hasten with hearts full of love to worship the Christ Child, God's Son from above.*

*O who are the wise men who seek Him today? The poor and the lowly or those who hold sway?*

*Let all come and worship, come kneel and adore God's Son in a manger, our Lord forevermore.*

*What gifts do we offer? What gifts do we bring? What myrrh, gold, or incense? Of whom do we sing?*

*We offer our finest, we sing of our Lord: Creator, Redeemer Incarnate, the Word.*

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*Please stand*

**Ninth Lesson** - Saint John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation

John 1:1-14

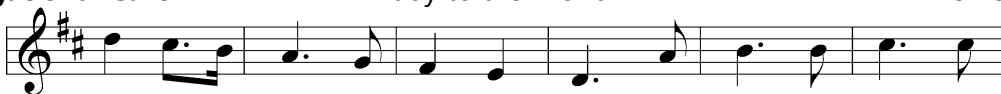
**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

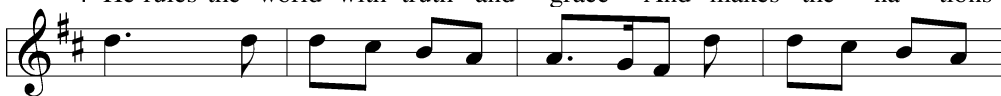
# Congregational Carol

# "Joy to the World"

LSB 387



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
play, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

## Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

## Collect

- P** Let us pray.
- C** 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 comes again to be our judge; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

## Blessing

**P** May He who gathered things earthly and heavenly into one by his incarnation, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, † the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always.

**C** Amen.

*Please be seated*

## Closing Carol

### "Oh Come, All Ye Faithful"

LSB 379



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,  
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;  
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;  
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
Je - sus, to Thee — be — glo - ry giv'n!

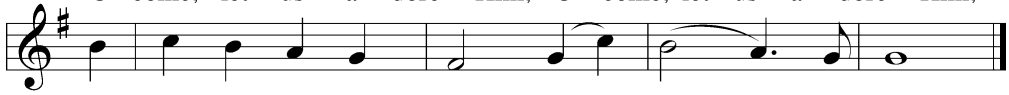


Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:  
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
Glo - ry to God — In — the — high - est:  
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

*Refrain*



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

## Silent Prayer

## Postlude

### "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

*setting by Jeffrey Blersch*

*Eric Hipple, piccolo trumpet; Peter Wykert, organ*





## **Christmas Worship Schedule**

**+ Saturday, December 23 +**

6:00 p.m. – Fourth Sunday of Advent Service with Holy Communion

**+ Sunday, December 24 - Christmas Eve +**

9:30 a.m. – Fourth Sunday of Advent Service with Holy Communion

5:00 p.m. – Candlelight Carol Service

7:00 p.m. – Candlelight Carol Service

11:00 p.m. – Candlelight Communion Service

**+ Christmas Day +**

10:00 a.m. – Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion

# CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS



*from all of us  
at Trinity Lutheran Church*