

LESSONS & CAROLS SERVICE

December 24, 2023 | 6:00 P.M.

Prelude

Geneva Handbell Ringers

†PROCESSIONAL HYMN #639

“Once in Royal David’s City”

Verse 1 - Solo

† Verses 2-5 - Congregation

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER OF ADORATION

Micah 5:2,4-5

INVITATORY CAROL: “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”

Redeemer Choir

FIRST

LESSON: Genesis 3:1-15

Will Gunter

God promises that the Seed of the woman will crush the head of the serpent.

CAROL: “Silent Night”

COTR Children’s Choir

SECOND

LESSON: Genesis 22:1-18

Samson Hilleke

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

CAROL: † “O Come, O Come, Emanuel” #147

Congregation

THIRD

LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7

Paul Taylor

Isaiah prophesies the birth and kingdom of the Messiah

CAROL: “Unto Us a Child is Born”

COTR Children’s Choir

FOURTH

LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-9

Hays Porter

Isaiah prophesies the blessedness of Messiah’s reign

CAROL: “What Sweeter Music”

Redeemer Choir

†The congregation is invited to stand.

FIFTH

LESSON: Luke 1:26–38

Matt Wilkins

The angel Gabriel salutes the virgin Mary

CAROL: † “Angels We Have Heard on High” #60 (SH) Congregation

SIXTH

LESSON: Luke 2:1-7

Cameron Savage

Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

CAROL: “All My Heart this Night Rejoices”

Redeemer Choir

SEVENTH

LESSON: Luke 2:8-20

Jim Turner

The Shepherds go to the manger.

CAROL: † “While Shepherds Watched” #156

Congregation

EIGHTH

LESSON: Matthew 2:1–12

Zach Parker

The magi are led by the star to Jesus.

CAROL: “What Child is This”

Redeemer Choir

NINTH

LESSON: John 1:1-14

Steve Wilkins

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation

CAROL: † “O Come, All Ye Faithful” #151

Congregation

COLLECT & BENEDICTION

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

Saints: And also with you.

†Pastor: Let us pray . . .

†The congregation is invited to stand.

† **The Collect for Christmas Eve:**

Pastor: 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 for our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold Him, when He shall come to be our judge; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *AMEN.*

† **CLOSING HYMN** “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” #168 **Congregation**

BENEDICTION

Postlude

Instrumental

Merry Christmas!

CHURCH *of the* **REDEEMER**

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THE CHRISTMAS SEASON begins tonight and consists of twelve full days of celebration, till the evening January 5th, “Twelfth Night.” The season ends with the second major feast of the Christian Year, Epiphany, on January 6th. The “twelve days of Christmas” are important because they give us time to reflect on the glorious mystery of the Incarnation. We have not just one day but an extended “season” to celebrate the wonder of God becoming man and all that was accomplished by our Savior. So let us rejoice throughout the entire season of Christmas for God’s indescribable gift!

A SERVICE OF NINE

LESSONS &
CAROLS



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