



A Festival of Lessons and Carols

sung upon

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Parish Choir

Mark Engelhardt, director

19 December 2021

4 o'clock in the afternoon

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

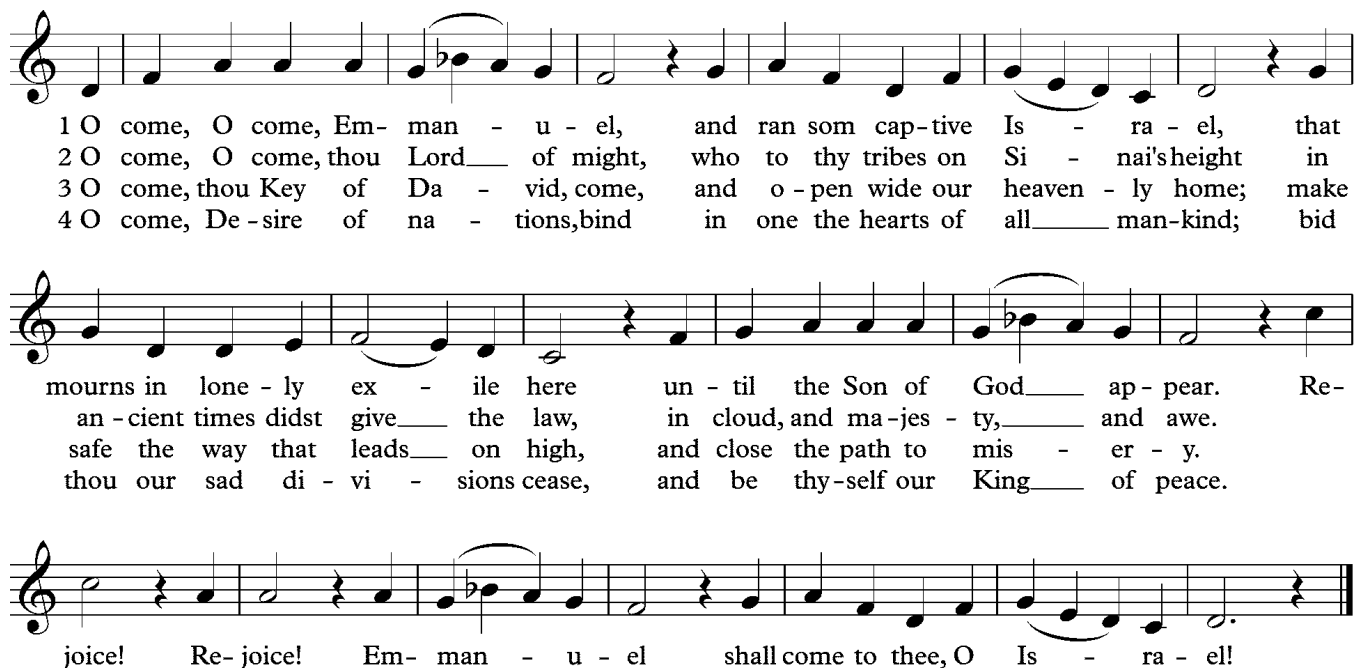
Opening Voluntary Prelude on “Veni Emmanuel”

Philip Moore

The congregation stands to sing the hymn at the Procession.

Hymn at the Procession

Tune: Veni, veni, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em- man - u - el, and ran som cap-tive Is - ra - el, that
2 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Si - nai's height in
3 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our heaven - ly home; make
4 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man-kind; bid

mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re-
an - cient times didst give the law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy-self our King of peace.

joice! Re-joice! Em- man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

I. Darkness to Light

The Collect for the First Sunday of Advent

Officiant

Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Bidding Prayer

Beloved in Christ, in this season, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and 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 his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

Our Father . . .

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. *Amen.*

All are seated for the reading of the First Lesson

The First Lesson

Adam and Eve rebel Against God

Genesis 3:1-15

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

A Carol

Thomas Ravenscroft (ca. 1590-1633)
arr. Mark Schweizer

Remember O thou man, thy time is spent, how thou art dead and gone, for our sake
God sent His Son, Repent, that this for us is done. Remember O thou man, that Adam's
fall from heaven to hell, condemned us ever to dwell, in darkness there perpetual.
Remember O thou man God's goodness, And the promise made, Our flesh to take, our
sin to pay, Remember and be not afraid. Our flesh to take, our sin to pay, Remember and
be not afraid.

—Thomas Ravenscroft, alt.

II. The Prophets proclaim that God will come to save us

The Collect for the Second Sunday of Advent

Officiant Let us pray.
Merciful God, who sent thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance
and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings
and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ
our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Second Lesson

Isaiah 9:2; 6-7

The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his
shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his
kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward
and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Carol

Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)
ed. Thomas Gibbs, Richard Shephard

Now come, Redeemer of us all;
Now come, thou blest Redeemer.
Thou child of a Virgin born.
Mortals over all the earth,
Marvel at thy holy birth.

The Third Lesson

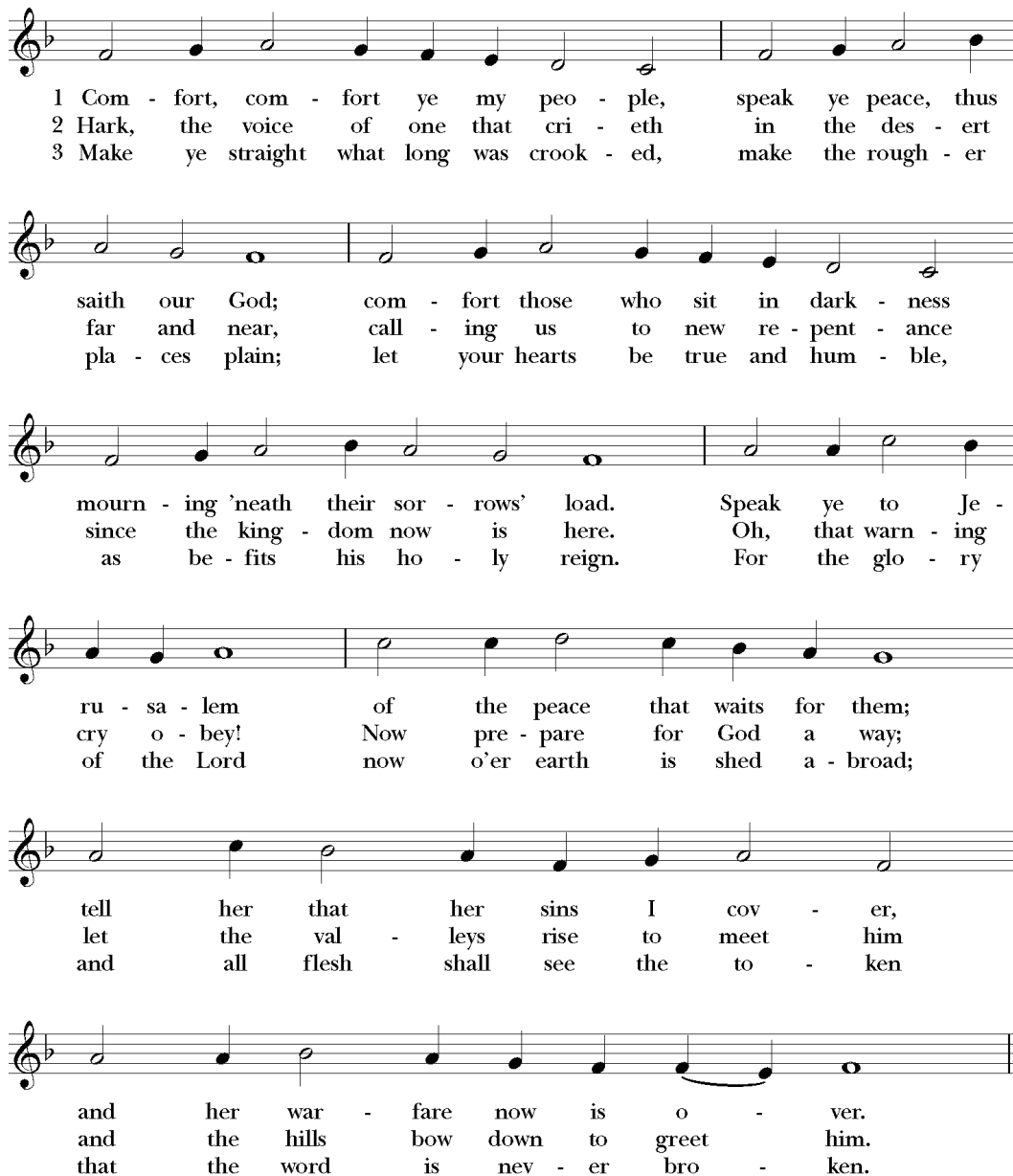
Isaiah 40:1-5

God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

All stand to sing the Carol

The Carol



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er

saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,

mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry

ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;

tell her that her sins I cov - er,
let the val - leys rise to meet him
and all flesh shall see the to - ken

and her war - fare now is o - ver.
and the hills bow down to greet him.
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Psalm 42*, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. Hymnal 1982

The Fourth Lesson

Zephaniah 3:14-18

The Lord will be among us, and we are summoned to rejoice and sing

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

The Carol

Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

arr. Mark Schweizer

Zion hears the watchmen singing,
And all her heart with joy is springing;
She wakes, she rises from her gloom;
For her Lord comes down all glorious,
The strong in grace, in through victorious.
Her star is risen, her Light is come.
Ah come, Thou blessed One,
God's own beloved Son: Alleluia!
We follow till the halls we see,
Where Thou hast bid us sup with Thee.

— Philipp Nicolai, 1599
tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1858

III. The World Awaits the Coming of the Messiah

The Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent

Officiant

Let us pray.

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

The Fifth Lesson

Luke 1:26-35; 38

The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign

over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Carol

Basque Carol, arr. Richard Shephard

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
"All hail, said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favored lady," Gloria!
"For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honor thee,
thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
most highly favored lady," Gloria!
Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!"
Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say
"Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

The Sixth Lesson

Luke 1:57-80

John the Baptist is born and his father rejoices that his son will prepare the way of the Lord.

The time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, "No; he is to be called John." They said to her, "None of your relatives has this name." Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, "What then will this child become?" For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him. Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy: "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them." The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

The Carol

Ian Higginson

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding.
“Christ is nigh,” it seems to say;
“Cast away the works of darkness,
O ye children of the day.”

Wakened by the solemn warning,
let the earthbound soul arise;
Christ, our Sun, all fear dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heaven;
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one all to be forgiven;

So when next he comes in glory,
and the world is wrapped in fear,
may he with his mercy shield us,
and with words of love draw near.


Honor, glory, might, and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit,
while unending ages run. Amen.

— Edward Caswall

The congregation stands to sing the hymn at the offering. The Offering taken this evening will be for the benefit of the Music at St. Peter's Concert Series. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

The Hymn at the Offering

Tune: Divinum Mysterium



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be -
2 O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin,
3 Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly

gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
prais - es sing; powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him,
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing,

he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that
bore the Sa - vior of our race; and the Babe, the
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on
and un - wea - ried prais - es be; hon - or, glo - ry

are, that have been, and that fu - ture
world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his
earth be si - lent, ev - ery voice in
and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal

years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410?); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt.
Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th cent.; adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956), harm. Copyright ©1984, Bruce Neswick.
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The congregation is seated following the hymn.

IV. The Birth of Jesus

The Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

Officiant

Let us pray.

We beseech thee, Almighty God, to purify our consciences by thy daily visitation, that when thy Son our Lord cometh he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Seventh Lesson

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus

Luke 2:1, 3-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 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.

The Carol

Traditional, arr. Malcolm Archer

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
come, greet the infant Lord, the babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the Son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh, all tongues and peoples own him.
The King of kings salvation brings, let every heart enthrone him:
Raise, raise your song on high, while Mary sings a lullaby:
joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the Son of Mary!

The Eighth Lesson

The Shepherds go to the Manger

Luke 2:8-16

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

The Carol

Traditional, arr. Barbara Wallace

Ding dong merrily on high, in heaven the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! Verily the sky is riven with angel singing.
Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,
And "Io, Io, Io!" by priest and people sungen.
Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chine, ye ringers:
May you beautifully rime your evetime song, ye singers.
Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!

The Ninth Lesson

John 1:1-11

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Carol

Traditional Carol, arr. Richard Shephard

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day,
I would my true love did so chance,
To see the legend of my play,
To call my true love to my dance.
Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love.
Then was I born of a virgin pure,
Of her I took fleshly substance,
Thus was I knit to man's nature,
To call my true love to my dance.
Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love.
In a manger laid and wrapped I was,
So very poor, this was my chance,
Between an ox and silly poor ass,
To call my true love to my dance.
Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love.
Then afterwards baptized I was,
The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard from above,
To call my true love to my dance.
Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love.
Tomorrow shall be my dancing day,
I would my true love did so chance,
To see the legend of my play,
To call my true love to my dance.
Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,
This have I done for my true love.

The congregation stands

The Collect for the First Sunday after Christmas Day

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who has poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate Word: Grant that the same light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Carol (*sung by all*)

Tune: *Adeste fidelis*; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906
Descant: David Willcocks

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come, and behold him, born the King of angels;
Refrain:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.
2. See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;
Refrain:
3. Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,
we would embrace thee, with love and awe;
who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?
Refrain:
4. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God, glory in the highest;
Refrain:
5. God from God, Light from Light eternal,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
only begotten Son of the Father;
Refrain:

The Blessing

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

Amen.

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. *Amen.*

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Closing Voluntary—Fantasia on “Adeste fidelis”

David Blackwell

— For the Service —

Officiant

The Right Reverend Johncy Itty

Lectors

Jean Gunn, *Parish Choir*

Thaddeus Perry, *Acolyte*

Nancy Maia, *Parish Choir*

Brian Clark, *Senior Warden*

Anne Perry, *Sunday School*

Clyde Payne, *Lectors Coordinator*

Juanita Moon, *Member of the Altar Guild*

Sara Alves, *Usher*

Acolyte

Will Logan

Ushers

Barbara and Charlie Becker

The Parish Choir

Jean Gunn, Lynn Hajek,

Robin Lombardo, Nancy Maia, Bevin Shaw (*Soprano*)

Lee Flemming, Susan Peverley (*Alto*)

Jeff Flemming, Richard Scillia, (*Tenor*)

Will Logan, Kue John Lor (*Bass*)

Mark Engelhardt, *Organist and Director of Music*



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by serving our parish and community
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