



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2022



Fort Worth Presbyterian Church

# A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

---

December 18, 2022  
6:00 p.m.

---

*Directors*

Dr. Justin Pierce  
Ashley Pierce

*Piano*

Dr. Jae Kim  
Lily Whitehurst

*Violins*

Lee Anne Chenoweth Lawson  
Emily Klophaus

*Viola*

Dr. Tim Angel

*Cello*

Drew Johnson

*Guitar*

Dave Ratliff

*Bass*

Dowell Stackpole

*Fort Worth Presbyterian Church Adult Choir*

Nancy Allison  
Rita Black  
Brenna Blacklock  
David Blacklock  
Bobbi Cansick  
Peter Cansick  
Melody Daniel  
Karen Domel  
Necia Eggar  
Carol Fitzgerald  
Donna Ogden  
Annie Olsen  
Steve Rook  
Lora Smith  
Jason Sommerlad  
Dowell Stackpole  
Tim Watt  
Clay Whitehurst



## A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME & INTRODUCTION TO LESSONS & CAROLS

We are glad you have joined us for our Annual Festival of Christmas music. May God's blessings in Christ be with you.

The Service of Lessons and Carols is an annual tradition that began at Kings' College Chapel, Cambridge. The original liturgy was devised in 1878 by E.W. Benson, but Eric Milner-White, Dean of Kings' College-Cambridge, adapted Benson's liturgy for use at Cambridge in 1918. The format continues today every Christmas Eve at Cambridge and has been adopted throughout the world for use in local congregations.

The heart of the Lessons and Carols service is the presentation of the redemptive story of Scripture. Nine passages combine to declare the wondrous story from the fall of humanity, through the promise of a Savior, to the birth of Jesus. Congregational carols and musical anthems highlight the meanings of each text with their lyrical poetry, thoughtful melodies and artistic beauty. Where the congregation is called to listen, we have provided the lyrics for reference and prayerful meditation.

Through Lessons and Carols, we learn to embrace Advent and anticipate Christmas by telling ourselves, once again, in Word and in song, the true story of the loving purposes of God in our beautiful Messiah. May the rich tradition of Lessons and Carols remind us of the historic nature of our Christian faith. Let us sing with countless others across time and space of our Immanuel!

## OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: Beloved in Christ, throughout this season of Advent and as we await Christmastide, 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, the babe lying in the manger. Therefore let us read in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious redemption brought to us by this Holy Child. 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 this, our own 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 in body and mind and them that mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and 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 rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are one forevermore. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of Heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**





CAROL

Red Trinity Hymnal #194

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

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

*Rejoice! Rejoice!*

*Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe.

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

*Latin antiphons, 12<sup>th</sup> cent.; Latin hymn, 1710*

## FIRST LESSON – Genesis 3:8-15

Read by Carol Whaylen

God announces in the Garden of Eden that  
the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, 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?" And 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 of 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 of 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 deceived me, and I ate."

The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on 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 her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."





## CAROL

## Red Trinity Hymnal #193

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
for with blessing in his hand,  
Christ our God to earth descendeth,  
our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
as of old on earth he stood;  
Lord of lords, in human vesture,  
in the body and the blood,  
he will give to all the faithful  
his own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven  
spreads its vanguard on the way,  
as the Light of light descendeth  
from the realms of endless day,  
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish  
as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph;  
cherubim, with sleepless eye,  
veil their faces to the presence,  
as with ceaseless voice they cry,  
"Alleluia, alleluia,  
alleluia, Lord Most High!"

*St. 1,3, Charles Wesley; St. 2 Mark E. Hunt; HYFRYDOL  
Music by Rowland Hugh Pritchard*

SECOND LESSON – Genesis 22:15-18

Read by Rev. K. Adrian Scott

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

And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

CAROL

Choir

*Emmanuel, Expected Jesus*

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

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel;  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

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,  
hope of every longing heart.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to the, O Israel.  
Come, O come, expected Emmanuel.

*Arranged by Ruth Elaine Schram*







### THIRD LESSON - Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Read by Carlos Santana

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

CAROL

Choir

*Prepare the Way of the Lord*

Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway, a highway for our God, a highway for our God. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd, and carry the lambs in his arms, for he is meek and lowly of heart, and we shall find rest for our souls.

Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway, a highway for our God, a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, every mountain and hill made low, crooked made straight, the rough place is plain, the crooked made straight and the rough places plain.

Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert highway, a highway for our God, a highway for our God. Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way.

*Michael Larkin*

## FOURTH LESSON – Micah 5:2-4

Read by Gabbie Shafer

The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem.

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore, he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

## CAROL

Red Trinity Hymnal #201

### *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!  
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.





## FIFTH LESSON - Luke 1:26-35

Read by Kristina Keffer

The angel Gabriel salutes the blessed virgin Mary.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name 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 father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered 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 called holy—the Son of God. And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

CAROL

String Quartet

*O Holy Night*

*Christmas Sanctus*

See the weary pair,  
nestled in a stable bare,  
gazing at their baby boy,  
filled with love and praise.

Earth and heaven sing,  
worshipping the new born King,  
who has come to change the world.  
Join in songs of praise:

Holy, holy, holy is the blessed one.  
Heav'n and earth are filled with your glory.  
Holy, holy, holy is the promised Son.  
Glory be to God in the highest!

See the shepherds run,  
searching for God's precious Son;  
kneeling at his manger bed,  
filled with love and praise.

Ev'ry knee will bow.  
Ev'ry tongue confessing now,  
Jesus Christ is Lord of all.  
Join in songs of praise:

Holy, holy, holy is the blessed one,  
Heav'n and earth are filled with your glory.  
Holy, holy, holy is the promised Son.  
Glory be to God in the highest!

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.





## SIXTH LESSON - Luke 2:1-7

Read by Madelyn Fitzgerald

Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

CAROL

Choir

### *One Night Long Ago Eternity Came*

One night long ago, Eternity came and entered the flow of time He had made. In knowledge and being, the Constant One, He learned and grew into a man. So we, whose lives are as short as a morning and frail like a tiny spring flower, can live in our Jesus who lives forever, and be changed by His changeless power.

Invincible Warrior, now weak as a babe, once wrapped in the clouds, now in swaddling cloth laid. The One who upholds ev'ry world by His might now is held by His mother and cries. Through all of his suffering he walked in the light, no trace of our darkness within. Then wielding the pow'r of his pure, perfect life, he rescued his people from sin.

Great giver of life, His own life He gave. The joy of all Heaven was laid in our grave. But bursting in glory, Victorious King, He arose to eternally reign! And pour out on us His life-giving Spirit, on us who were dead in our sin. Our Jesus, our God who now, like us, is human, will change us to be like Him.

Light once inapproachable, fatal to see, now shines in His smile as He beckons to me. With Kindness Eternal I come face to face and Grace Everlasting embrace. God's infinite glory fit into a body His infinite mercy to show, So come and receive the deep love He offers; by His Spirit he'll make you His own.

*By Jason Sommerlad*

CAROL

Justin Pierce & Dave Ratliff

*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

SEVENTH LESSON - Luke 2:8-20

Read by Peter Graber

The shepherds go to the manger.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths 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, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.





CAROL

Choir

*God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay.  
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day  
to save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray:  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our Heavenly Father a blessed Angel came,  
and unto certain Shepherds brought tidings of the same,  
how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by Name:  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

"Fear not, then", said the angel, "Let nothing you affright.  
This day is born a Savior a blessed, holy sight.  
To free all those who trust in Him from Satan's power and might."  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place,  
and with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace;  
this holy Child of Christmas shall fill our hearts with grace;  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

*Arranged by Larry Shackley*

## EIGHTH LESSON – Matthew 2:1-11

Read by Ellie Bryan

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: “And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.” Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.







CAROL

Red Trinity Hymnal #213

*What Child Is This*

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:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate,  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, 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!

*Traditional English carol; English melody*

*Beautiful Star of Bethlehem*

Oh Beautiful Star of Bethlehem  
Shining afar through shadows dim  
Giving the light for those who long have gone  
Guiding the wise men on their way  
Unto the place where Jesus lay  
Oh Beautiful Star of Bethlehem shine on.

*Refrain: Oh Beautiful Star of Bethlehem  
Shine upon us until the glory dawns.  
Give us a light to guide the way  
Unto the land of perfect day  
Oh Beautiful Star of Bethlehem, shine on*

Oh Beautiful Star the hope of light  
Guiding the pilgrims through the night  
Over the mountains till the break of dawn  
Into the light of perfect day  
It will give out a lovely ray  
Oh Beautiful Star of Bethlehem shine on

*Refrain*

Oh Beautiful Star the hope of rest  
For the redeemed the good the blessed  
Yonder in glory when the crown is won  
Jesus is now the star divine  
Brighter and brighter he will shine  
Oh Beautiful Star of Bethlehem shine on

*Refrain*



## NINTH LESSON - John 1:1-14

Read by Alexander Hammons

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 were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood not of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

## CAROL

### *O Come All Ye Faithful*

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.*

God of God, light of light,  
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;  
very God, begotten not created:

#### *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God in the highest:

#### *Refrain*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

#### *Refrain*





PRAYER

THE BLESSING

Pastor Brandon Eggar

POSTLUDE

String Quartet

*Hallelujah Chorus*

*Sound*  
Micah Jones

*Livestream*  
Doug Giddings

**Christmas Eve Service**  
December 24 – 5:00 p.m.

**Christmas Day Service**  
December 25 – 11:00 a.m.

**New Year's Day Service**  
January 1 – 11:00 a.m.



## Fort Worth Presbyterian Church

Senior Pastor: Rev. Brandon Eggar  
Director of Operations: Steve Fults  
Director of Children's Ministry: Rebecca York  
Director of Music Ministry: Justin Pierce  
Director Women's Ministry: Jill Davis  
Men's Ministry: Chris Jordan  
Director of Youth: Collin Ryan  
Nursery Coordinator: Neecia Eggar  
Office Manager: Cynthia E. Scott  
Communications Coordinator: Kelly Calvert  
Youth Intern: Travis Robnett

6251 Oakmont Trail, Fort Worth TX 76132  
(817) 731-3300 • [fwpca@fortworthpca.org](mailto:fwpca@fortworthpca.org)  
Website: [fortworthpca.org](http://fortworthpca.org)

