

weary world

rejoices

**A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS** | December 24, 2023 | 10:30pm  
Christ Church *Downtown*



# A Festival of Lessons and Carols

## The Solemn Eucharist

*Sunday, December 24, 2023 at 10:30 p.m.*

The Service you are about to experience is based upon the famed Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols held each year at King's College in Cambridge, England. This very popular service has a long, rich history in England, and in more recent years has become a beloved tradition in this country as well. The following is a brief history of the service at King's College.

“Our Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols was first held on Christmas Eve, 1918. It was planned by Eric Milner-White, who at the age of thirty-four had just been appointed Dean of Kings after experience as an army chaplain, which had convinced him that the Church of England needed more imaginative worship. (He devised our Advent Carol Service in 1934, and was a liturgical pioneer and authority during his twenty-two years as Dean of York.) The music was then directed by Arthur Henry Mann, Organist 1876–1929. The choir included sixteen trebles, as laid down in King Henry VI's statutes, but until 1927, the men's voices were provided partly by Choral Scholars and partly by older Lay Clerks, and not, as now, by fourteen undergraduates.

A revision of the Order of Service was made in 1919, involving rearrangement of the lessons, and from that date the service has always begun with the hymn ‘Once in royal David's city’. In almost every year, some carols have been changed and some new ones introduced by successive Organists: Arthur Henry Mann; Boris Ord, 1929–57; Harold Darke (his substitute during the war), 1940–45; Sir David Willcocks, 1957–73; Philip Ledger, 1974–82 and, from 1982, Stephen Cleobury. The backbone of the service, the lessons and the prayers, has remained virtually unchanged.

The original service was, in fact, adapted from an Order drawn up by E.W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, for use in the wooden shed, which then served as his cathedral in Truro, at 10 p.m. on Christmas Eve, 1880. A.C. Benson recalled: ‘My father arranged from ancient sources a little service for Christmas Eve – nine carols and nine tiny lessons, which were read by various officers of the Church, beginning with a chorister, and ending, through the different grades, with the Bishop.’ The suggestion had come from G.H.S. Walpole, later Bishop of Edinburgh.

Almost immediately, other churches adapted the service for their own use. A wider fame began to grow when the service was first broadcast in 1928, and, with the exception of 1930, it has been broadcast annually, even during the Second World War, when the ancient glass (and also all heat) had been removed from the Chapel and the name of kings could not be broadcast for security reasons. Sometime in the early 1930s, the BBC began broadcasting the service on overseas programs. It is estimated that there are millions of listeners worldwide, including those to Radio Four in the United Kingdom. In recent years, it has become the practice to broadcast a digital recording on Christmas Day on Radio Three, and since 1963, a shorter service has been filmed periodically for television. Recordings of carols by Decca and EMI have also served to spread its fame.

In these and other ways, the service has become public property. From time to time, the College receives copies of services held, for example, in the West Indies or the Far East, and these show how widely the tradition has spread. The broadcasts, too, have become part of Christmas for many far from Cambridge. One correspondent writes that he heard the service in a tent on the foothills of Everest; another, in the desert. Many listen at home, busy about their own preparations for Christmas. Visitors from all over the world are heard to identify the Chapel as ‘the place where the Carols are sung’.

Wherever the service is heard, and however it is adapted, whether the music is provided by choir or congregation, the pattern and strength of the service, as Dean Milner-White pointed out, derive from the lessons and not the music. ‘The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God ...’ seen ‘through the windows and words of the Bible’. Local interests appear, as they do here, in the bidding prayer, and personal circumstances give point to different parts of the service. Many of those who took part in the first service must have recalled those killed in the Great War when it came to the famous passage ‘all those who rejoice with us but on another shore and in a greater light’. The centre of the service is still found by those who ‘go in heart and mind’ and who consent to follow where the story leads.”

— *from the website of King's College, Cambridge, England*

*We are pleased you have joined us for this evening's service. Please silence all cell phones.*

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# A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS

## THE VOLUNTARIES

*Arcangelo Corelli - Concerto op. 6 No. 8*

Christmas Concerto

*What Child Is This*

Traditional

*Josef, lieber Josef Mein (Joseph, Dearest Joseph Mine)*

Leonhart Schröter

*Good Christian Men, Rejoice*

Traditional

Mark Miller, *violin*, Andres Bravo, *violin*, Utc Miller, *viola*, Dan Totan, *cello*

*The Congregation remains seated until verse three.*

## THE HYMN IN PROCESSION

*Once in Royal David's City*

Text: C. F. Alexander (1818-1895)

Music: H. J. Gauntlett (1805-1876)

### *Trebles:*

1. 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.

### *Choir:*

2. 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.

### *all stand and join in singing:*

3. *And through all his wondrous childhood / He would honour and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly maiden, / In whose gentle arms he lay:  
Christian children all must be / Mild, obedient, good as he.*
4. *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.*
5. *And our eyes at last shall see him, / Through his own redeeming love,  
For that child so dear and gentle / Is our Lord in heaven above;  
And he leads his children on / To the place where he is gone.*
6. *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;  
When like stars his children crowned / All in white shall wait around.*

## THE BIDDING PRAYER

The Reverend David A. Luckenbach, *Rector*

Beloved in Christ, on this Christmas Eve 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, and with the shepherds and the Magi adore the Child lying in his Mother's arms.

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 this Holy Child; and in company with the whole Church in heaven and earth, let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

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 congregation. And because this would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind, and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all who know not the Lord Christ, 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 for evermore are one. And let us pray that we may be counted among that communion of saints, receiving grace to offer unto God reasonable service, living in unity and fellowship with all his people and giving reverence to all that he hath made.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven in the name of him who came to be our light and salvation, even Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

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.*

#### THE CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

*Joy to the World*

Tunc: 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.*

*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 FIRST LESSON

*The Peace that Christ will give is foreshown .*

Reader: Jim Huggler, *Christ Church Member*



#### THE CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*

Text: 15<sup>th</sup> Century

Music: Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung. It came, a blossom bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.*

*Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind, with Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind, To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior, when half spent was the night.*



### THE SECOND LESSON

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

Reader: Allison Jarvis, *Christ Church Member*



### THE ANTHEM

*Carol of the Crib*

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926)

Music: Joanna Forbes L'Estrange (b. 1971)

Light to the world, a child is born; Dark is the night before the dawn: Day is upon us, darkness is dying, With Mary's child in slumber lying, Christ has come, our life to share; Sorrows and sins and griefs to bear. See where above us the heav'ns are clear, The angels are singing for Christ is here! Light for a world gone far astray, Dawn of the hope of God's new day; songs for out sighing, joy for our weeping, with Mary's child so softly sleeping, Christ has come, our life to share; Sorrows and sins and griefs to bear. See where above us the heav'ns are clear, The angels are singing for Christ is here! Light of the world, God's only Son! Now is the day of grace begun: Love is among us, love beyond dreaming, With Mary's child for our redeeming, Christ has come, our life to share; Sorrows and sins and griefs to bear. See where above us the heav'ns are clear, The angels are singing for Christ is here!



### THE THIRD LESSON

*Saint Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

Reader: Jeffrey Richards, *Christ Church Member*



### THE CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

*Away in a Manger*

Music: 19th cent. American

Music: James R. Murray (1841-1905)

*(Men) Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

*(Women) The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

*(Everyone) Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.*



### THE FOURTH LESSON

*The Shepherds go to the Manger.*

Reader: Jill Johnson, *Christ Church Member*



## THE CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

*Angels we have heard on high*

Text: James Chadwick (1813-1882)

Music: Edward Barnes (1887-1958)

1. *(everyone) Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night, and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.*  
Refrain: *Gloria in excelsis Deo.*  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*
2. *(men) Shepherds why this Jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer? What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear? Refrain (everyone)*
3. *(trebles) Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing; come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. Refrain (everyone)*
4. *(everyone) See him in a manger laid whom the angels praise above; Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love. Refrain*



## THE FIFTH LESSON

*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.*Reader: The Rev. Stephen Stine, *Deacon*

## THE ANTHEM

*We Three Kings of Orient are*

Text &amp; Melody: John Henry Hopkins (1820-91)

Music: Paul Leddington Wright (b.1951)

We three kings of Orient are; Bearing gifts we traverse a far, Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star: O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light. Born a King on Bethlehem plain, Gold I bring, to crown him again, King forever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign: O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light. Frankincense to offer have I; Incense owns a deity nigh: Prayer and praising, all men raising, Worship him, God most high: O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light. Glorious now, behold him arise, King, and God and sacrifice! Heav'n sings alleluia, alleluia the earth replies: O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light.

*The Congregation stands and remains standing through the carol.*

## THE SIXTH LESSON

*Saint John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*Reader: The Rev. David Luckenbach, *Rector*

## THE CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

*O come, all ye faithful*

Text &amp; Music: John Francis Wade (c. 1711-1786)

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. *Child, for us sinners, Poor and in the manger,  
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;  
Who would not love thee, Loving us so dearly? Refrain*
3. *Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God in the highest: Refrain*
4. *Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning,  
Jesus to thee be glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing. Refrain*

*The Congregation is seated.*

## THE SERMON

The Rev. David A. Luckenbach, *Rector*

## THE NICENE CREED

*We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Book of Common Prayer, p. 328*

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers especially Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, Presiding Bishop, Andy, Jeff, Hector, and Kai, our Bishops; our parish clergy: David, Cole, Ted, Stephen, and Tim, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land especially Joe, our President; Greg, our Governor; and Don, our Mayor; that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. *Amen.*

#### THE CONFESSION OF SIN

*Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

#### THE ABSOLUTION

*Following the Absolution, the People respond: Amen.*

#### THE PEACE

*Celebrant  
People*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*And with thy spirit.*

#### THE GREETING



# THE SOLEMN EUCHARIST

The Rev. David A. Luckenbach, *Celebrant*

## THE ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY:

*The Holly and the Ivy*  
Text: Traditional English  
Music: June Nixon (b. 1933)

The holly and the ivy when they are both full grown, of all the trees that are in the wood the holly bears the crown, O the rising of the sun, the running of the deer, the playing of the organ sweet singing in the choir, sweet singing in the choir. The holly bears a prickle as sharp as any thorn and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ on Christmas day in the morn, O the rising of the sun, the running of the deer, the playing of the organ, sweet singing in the choir, sweet singing in the choir. The holly bears a bark as bitter as any gall and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ for to redeem us all, O the rising of the sun, the running of the deer, the playing of the merry organ sweet singing in the choir sweet singing in the choir. The holly and the ivy when they are both full grown of all the trees in the wood the holly bears the crown, O the rising of the sun, the running of the deer, the playing of the organ, sweet singing, sweet singing sweet singing in the choir.

## THE PRESENTATION HYMN

Tune: Old 100th

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Eucharistic Prayer II*

*The Celebrant continues, the People kneeling*

The musical notation consists of four staves. The first two staves are for the Celebrant and the People, with lyrics: "The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with lyrics: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them up un - to the Lord." The fourth staff is for the People, with lyrics: "Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God. It is meet and right so to do."

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said.*

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

## THE SANCTUS ET BENEDICTUS, S-114

Healey Willan

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of  
Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -  
ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Celebrant continues, all kneeling.*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

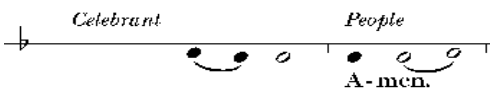
Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.



And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

*Celebrant & People*

*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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

**THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

**THE FRACTION ANTHEM: Agnus Dei, S-158**

Healey Willan

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -  
 way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -  
 on us. O Lamb of God, that  
 ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have  
 mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of  
 God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the  
 world, grant us thy peace.

**THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS**

*We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.*

## THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*The Communion Welcome*

*In the Episcopal Church all baptized Christians, regardless of denominational affiliation, are invited to receive Holy Communion. To receive the host, place one hand over the other with palms facing upward. You may intinct (dip) the host into the chalice of wine, or you may consume the host and then drink from the chalice, gently guiding it to your lips by the base. If you prefer not to receive, you may come forward for a blessing. Please indicate your desire to receive a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.*

## THE MUSIC AT COMMUNION

## THE VOLUNTARIES AT COMMUNION

*Lo, How a Rose*

*Gelobet seist Du, Jesu Christ (Praise Be to You, Jesus Christ)*

*O Holy Night*

*Uns ist ein Kindlein heut geboren (Unto Us A Child Is Born)*

*Silent Night*

*Break Forth, O Beautiful, Heavenly Light*

*Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland (Savior of the nations, Come)*

*It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

*O Jesulein Zart (O Jesus, Sweet Child)*

*The First Noel*

Luther/Gumpelzhaimer

Adolph Adam, arr. David Bussick

Kuhnau/Bach

Traditional

J.S. Bach

J.S. Bach

Traditional

Samuel Scheidt

Traditional

Mark Miller, *violin*, Andres Bravo, *violin*, Utc Miller, *viola*, Dan Totan, *cello*

## THE CANDLE LIGHTING

*The congregation will now light their individual candles from those of the acolytes. Please receive the light from your neighbor's candle by tilting your unlit candle towards the lighted candle so as not to spill wax.*

## THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.*

*Remaining kneeling, the Congregation joins in singing.*

## A HYMN OF ADORATION

Tune: 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.*

**THE BLESSING**

*Following the Blessing, the People respond: Amen.*

*The Congregation extinguishes their candles.*

**THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN:**

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

*Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem!  
Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King.*

*Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come Off-spring of a virgin's womb:  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail th'incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel  
Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King.*

*Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, Ris'n with healing in his wings;  
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King.*

**THE DISMISSAL**

*Deacon*        Go in peace to love and serve our Newborn King. Alleluia! Alleluia!

*People*        Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**THE VOLUNTARY:** *God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen*

Traditional

Mark Miller, *violin*, Andres Bravo, *violin*, Utc Miller, *viola*, Dan Totan, *cello*

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

*The flowers on this Eve of the Nativity are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Bracken and Mrs. W.M. Roberts by their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren,  
and in loving memory of Dr. & Mrs. E.W. Clawater, Sr., Dr. & Mrs. E.W. Clawater, Jr.,  
Mr. & Mrs. R.O. Shaw, Sr., Mr. & Mrs. R.O. Shaw, Jr. and Ro Shaw by the Clawater family.*

**Lay Ministers Today**

**Verger/Lector/Intercessor/Lightboard Operator:** Bryan Rossman

**Acolytes:** Marigny Teagarden

**Ushers:** Lynne & H.V. Bordeaux; Bob Westbrook; **Greeters:** Linda Harvin, Beth Buchinger

**Altar Guild Team 2, 3:** Julie Hicks & Carolc Bergfeld

# Christmas Poinsettias

In memory of . . .

*Upton Beall* by Trixie Beall      *My husband, Jim Hill* by Pamela Hill  
*Nancy Berkhouse* by Julie Becker      *Elaine & James Miller* by Rebecca Miller  
*Ashley Bracken* by Susan Bracken      *Rev. John R. & Betty Bentley, Michael Seago*  
*Harold W. Francis* by Debbie Finley      & *Martel Shuttlesworth* by Trudy & Mark Shuttlesworth  
*Robert & Carolyn Fry, Dewey & Virginia Newton,*  
*Wayne Curtis and Breck Watson*  
by Dorinda & Crews Fry      *In loving memory of our parents Lynn & Ken Fight, and Grace*  
*Frank O. McClendon III* by Leigh McClendon & Family      & *John Russell* by Leslie Fight & Wayne Russell  
*My mother, Vivian Rodgers* by Ginger Sawyer  
*Elsie Upshaw and Lola Cox* by Rita & Bobby Upshaw

In thanksgiving for . . .

*Our clergy and staff and Christ Church* by Pamela Hill      *Our children & grandchildren* by Madeline & Eric Jensen  
*Ernie Becker* by Julie Becker      *Our children* by Krystal & Burkitt Jensen  
*Our children and grandchildren* by Carole & Bob Bergfeld      *Bob, Connor, Alexa and Lydia* by Liz McKinney  
*Our families past & present, The H.C. Hood Family,*  
*The J.L. Bergfeld Family, The Lofquist Family,*  
*The J.A. Bergfeld Family, The Brad Bergfeld Family*  
by Susan & Julius Bergfeld      *Joyce McGee* by Matthew, Conner, Olivia & Adelaide  
*Lila, Wright, Hank, Bates, Pierce*  
by Laura & Wayne Brown      *Our children & grandchildren & all our blessings*  
by Marilyn & Peyton Luckett  
*The blessings of family and friends*  
by DeeDee & John Bufe      *Our children & grandchildren* by Debbie & Robert Peveto  
*For God's abundant grace* by Leslie Fight & Wayne Russell      *Our children & grandchildren* by Trudy & Mark Shuttlesworth  
*Alan and Laura Sanders* by Ginger & Jerry Sanders  
*Family & friends* by Elizabeth & Gregory Vadasdi

In general thanksgiving from...  
Honey

## Christmas Music

In memory of . . .

*Upton Beall* by Trixie Carlock      *Tommy Paul* by Laura  
*Virginia Day & Fred R. Bufe, Marti Cason Oge,*  
*Patricia Payne Oge, George W. Oge, Sr.*  
*and George W. Oge, Jr.* by DeeDee & John Bufe      *Lola Cox and Elsie Upshaw* by Rita & Bobby Upshaw  
*Evelyn & Sylvan Law* by Rebecca Miller      *Bob Edge* by Carol & Jack Langston and Barbara Gabriel  
*Gary Boyd* by his family

In thanksgiving for . . .

*The choir and Jeffrey Ford* by Pamela Hill      *Our clergy & staff*  
by Marilyn & Peyton Luckett  
*Our clergy and staff* by Carole & Bob Bergfeld      *My children & grandchildren*  
by Leigh McClendon & Family  
*Lila, Wright, Hank, Bates, Pierce*  
by Laura & Wayne Brown      *The life and ministry of my beloved wife, Laurie M. Dowell*  
by The Rev. Stephen Stine  
*Jeffrey, A.J., and the chancel choir* by Debbie Finley      *Family & friends*  
by Elizabeth & Gregory Vadasdi  
*Norma Edge Halfpenny*  
by Carol & Jack Langston and Barbara Gabriel

In general thanksgiving from...  
Sharon & James Wynne; Honey

NEW ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASS | SUNDAY SCHOOL  
begins January 7, 2024



*A Call to Faithful Living*

# Bible Study

WITH the Rector

## 1 Peter

*begins the 2nd week of January*

Men: Tuesdays 8:00am

Women: Thursdays 10:30am

Christ Church *Downtown*

Faith formation is essential in the life of Christ Church. We hear from God's word every Sunday, and throughout the week we gather, as Archbishop Cranmer commended to 'read, mark, learn, an inwardly digest' the Holy Scriptures. Beginning Sunday January 7, we will begin a new adult faith formation class **1 Corinthians: A Call to Faithful Living**. Each Sunday at 10:00am, chapter by chapter, we will study this essential epistle. Please join us in the Ascension Room downtown or Carr Hall at Christ Church South!

*Women's  
Depth Group*



1ST & 3RD WED | 6PM- 8  
CHRIST CHURCH SOUTH  
RESUMES JANUARY 3RD



venite  
TWENTY - FORTY SOMETHINGS  
**WINTER WARMING POTLUCK FEAST**  
stew + bread + beer

**venite**  
TWENTY - FORTY SOMETHINGS

Bring along your loved ones as we celebrate Epiphany with a **winter warming potluck feast** at the home of Paige & George Lollis. The pot-luck theme is *stew + bread + beer*. Bring your favorite soup/stew or bread, along with your favorite drink to share with folks and families of Christ Church!

**When:** Saturday Jan. 6th @ 6pm

**Where:** 2842 Stewart Way Tyler

**RSVP:**

[www.christchurchtyler.org/venite](http://www.christchurchtyler.org/venite)



**CHRIST**  
CHURCH • EPISCOPAL

## Midnight Christmas Party

Immediately following  
10:30 Christmas Eve Service

*The Finney's*  
925 W Connally St.  
(Formerly the home of the Boulters)

*music, food & drinks provided*

## REGULAR SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

*Resumes January 7, 2023*

### CHRIST CHURCH DOWNTOWN

7:30am Holy Eucharist Rite I  
9:00am Holy Eucharist Rite II<sup>\*+</sup>  
10:00am Christian Formation<sup>\*</sup>  
11:00am Holy Eucharist Rite I<sup>~</sup>

### CHRIST CHURCH SOUTH

10:00am Christian Formation<sup>\*</sup>  
11:05am Holy Eucharist Rite II<sup>\*+</sup>

<sup>\*</sup>Nursery is available at both campuses.

<sup>+</sup>Children's Chapel

<sup>~</sup>livestreamed at [christchurchtyler.org](http://christchurchtyler.org)

# This Week (*and more*) at Christ Church

## Sunday, December 24

7:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite I—CCD  
11:05 am Children's Christmas Pageant—CCS+  
4:00 pm Children's Christmas Pageant—CCD+  
7:30 pm Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist—CCD+  
10:30 pm Midnight Mass—CCD+  
+Live Streamed [www.christchurchtyler.org](http://www.christchurchtyler.org)

## Monday, December 25

offices closed reopen 27th–29th 8:30-12  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist—CCD

## Tuesday, December 26

8:00am Men's Bible Study with the Rector resumes Jan 9

## Thursday, December 28

9:00 am Yoga with Sarah Jones | CCD 4th Floor  
10:30am Women's Bible Study with the Rector resumes Jan 11  
Noon 1928 Eucharist & Healing Service resumes Jan 4  
6:00 pm Loaves & Fishes—Team 4

## Sunday, December 31

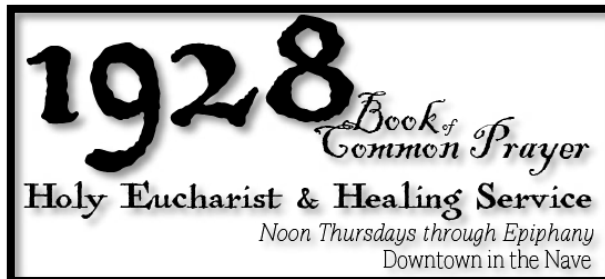
7:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite I—CCD  
9:00 am Holiday reception *no Christian formation* | CCD  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist—CCD  
10:00 am Holiday reception *no Christian formation* | CCS  
11:05 am Holy Eucharist Rite II—CCS+

## Monday, January 1

office closed open 8:30 am the 2nd

## Sunday, January 7

10:00 am New Christian Formation Class | CCD & CCS  
1 Corinthians



## In Our Prayers

*Please consider including the Prayer List in your daily devotions.*

***Let us remember those who celebrate the anniversaries of their births, especially:***

12/24 John Crutchfield, 12/25 Christin Morgan, 12/26 Vernon Gross, 12/26 Nan Ferguson,  
12/27 Barb Markee, 12/27 Ronnie Fix, 12/28 Beth Buchinger, 12/29 Lloyd Mercer, 12/29 Jean Morgan

***And those who celebrate the anniversaries of their marriages.***

12/26 Randy & Deborah Moore, 12/27 Craig & Karen Hughes, 12/27 Mark & Deborah Race,  
12/28 Patrick & Valerie Bonds, 12/28 Peyton & Marilyn Lockett, 12/30 Jim & Valerie Huggler

***And also those with special needs and concerns, especially:***

Lisa, Yeva, YK, Iryna, Nora, Yevgeny, Isabelle, Tommy, Lorelei, Cody, Paul, Lucy, Dylan, Lindzey, Amber,  
Briggs, Margaret, Maggie, Jennifer, Linda, Chris, Mike, Mark, Mariam, Dalton, Verdie

## Prayer Requests

*If you would like to add or take off a name on the prayer list, parishioners should notify  
The Rev. Stephen Stine at [sssti@tjc.edu](mailto:sssti@tjc.edu).*

## Christ Church • Episcopal

Christ Church Downtown\* 118 South Bois d'Arc Tyler, Texas 75702

903-597-9854 Fax: 903-597-5723 [www.christchurchtyler.org](http://www.christchurchtyler.org)

Regular Office Hours 8:30 am–5:00 pm Monday through Thursday; Friday 8:00 am–4:00 pm

*\*Office for downtown and south locations*

Christ Church South: 15747 Old Jacksonville Hwy Tyler, Texas 75703

[www.christchurchtyler.org](http://www.christchurchtyler.org)