



Advent
SERVICE
of *Lessons*
and *Carels*

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 6, 2015 at 6:00 pm

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

OPENING VOLUNTARY - "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme" (BWV 645) by Johann Sebastian Bach

* CALL TO WORSHIP (*based on The Great O Antiphons*)

Rev. Tom Nichols

O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver,
the Expected of the nations and their Savior:
Come and save us, O Lord, our God.

O Wisdom, who came forth from the mouth of the Most High,
reaching from end to end, and ordering all things mightily and sweetly:
Come, and teach us the way of prudence.

O Adonai and Leader of the house of Israel,
who appeared to Moses in the flames of the bush and gave him the law of Sinai:
Come, and with your outstretched arm redeem us.

O Root of Jesse, who stands for an ensign of the people,
before whom kings shall keep silence and to whom the Gentiles
shall make their supplication:
Come, and deliver us and tarry not.

O Key of David and Scepter of the house of Israel,
who opens and no one shuts, who shuts and no one opens:
**Come, and bring forth from prison the captive who sits in darkness
and in the shadow of death.**

O Dayspring, Brightness of the light eternal and Sun of justice:
Come, and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

O King of the Gentiles and their Desired One, Cornerstone that makes both one:
Come, and deliver us whom you formed out of the dust of the earth.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 211 - "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (*Stanzas 1-4*)

* BIDDING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Jim Giddens

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. Amen.

FIRST LESSON - Psalm 24

Jerry Hanley, Reader

CHORAL ANTHEM - "Prepare the Royal Highway"

arr. Timothy Shaw

*Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley a level road appear!
Then greet the King of Glory foretold in sacred story:
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!*

*Then fling the gates wide open to greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation its tribute too should bring.
All lands will bow before him; their voices join their singing:
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!*

*His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding for kindness, so abounding:
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!*

SECOND LESSON - John 3:16-21

Lisa Birch, Reader

CHORAL ANTHEM - "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

arr. Paul Wohlgenuth

*Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!*

*O that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bare the Savior of our race;
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,
Evermore and evermore!*

*O ye heights of heaven adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King!
Let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore!*

THIRD LESSON - Isaiah 40:1-5

Andrew Bowen, Reader

CHORAL ANTHEM - "Every Valley"

by John Ness Beck

*Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain made low;
and the crooked made straight, and the rough places plain.
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together;
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.
Every valley shall be exalted. Amen.*

FOURTH LESSON - Isaiah 60:1-5

Michelle Johnson, Reader

CHORAL ANTHEM - "There Shall a Star Come Out of Jacob"

by Felix Mendelsohn

*There shall a star come out of Jacob,
And a scepter from Israel rise up,
And dash in pieces princes and nations.*

*The star of morning brightly beams,
As Jesus sends his holy streams
Of heavenly consolation.
Thy will, O Lord, stands beside us,
Always guides us, truth divining;
Praise the star that still is shining.*

FIFTH LESSON - Isaiah 9:2-7

Eric Howell, Reader

CHORAL ANTHEM - "Light One Candle"

by Natalie Sleeth

*Light one candle for hope
One bright candle for hope.
He brings hope to everyone.
He comes. He comes.
(Peace, joy, love)*

SIXTH LESSON - Luke 1:26-38

Rev. Devon Smyth, Reader

CHORAL ANTHEM - "Mary Did You Know"

arr. Bruce Greer

*Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?
This child that you've delivered will soon deliver you.
Mary, did you know?*

*Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to the blind man?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would calm a storm with his hand?
Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod?
And when you kiss your little baby you have kissed the face of God?
Mary, did you know?*

*The blind will see, the deaf will hear; the dead will live again!
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb!*

*Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will one day rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy is heaven's perfect Lamb?
And the sleeping child you're holding is the Great I Am!*

SEVENTH LESSON - Matthew 25:1-13

Mark Toth, Reader

CHORAL ANTHEM - "Keep Your Lamps"

arr. Andre Thomas

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.*

*Children, don't get weary,
Children, don't get weary,
Children, don't get weary,
'Til your work is done.*

*Christian journey soon be over,
Christian journey soon be over,
Christian journey soon be over,
The time is drawing nigh.*

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.*

EIGHTH LESSON - John 1:1-14

Maureen Field, Reader

CHORAL ANTHEM - "Come to My Heart"

arr. Tom Fettke

*Thou didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown,
When thou camest to earth for me;
But in Bethlehem's home was there found no room
For thy holy nativity.
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
There is room in my heart for thee.*

*Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang,
Proclaiming thy royal degree;
But of lowly birth thou didst come to earth,
And in great humility.
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
There is room in my heart for thee.*

*When the heavens shall ring, and the angels sing
At thy coming to victory,
Let thy voice call me home, saying, "Yet there is room,
There is room at my side for thee."
My heart shall rejoice, Lord Jesus,
When thou comest and callest for me.*

CHORAL ANTHEM - "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

arr. Craig Courtney

*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 heavenly 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,
Comes the powers of hell to vanquish,
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!*

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Rev. Tom Nichols

* HYMN NO. 196 - "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

* BLESSING & BENEDICTION

Rev. Jim Giddens

CONCLUDING VOLUNTARY - "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

arr. Carolyn Hamlin

(The congregation is asked to be seated for the Concluding Voluntary.)

** The People Standing, as able.*

*Tonight's service is being presented in loving memory of Alan Nicol (1929-2013).
Mr. Nicol was responsible for bringing the tradition of Lessons & Carols to our congregation.*

CHANCEL CHOIR

Peggy Breese	Ruth Freiburger	Betsy Longstreth	Betha Pingel
Marshall Brooks	Evan Goetz	George Longstreth	Linda Porter
Sharon Bury	Pat Goode	*Peter Louglas	Dick Prior
Jennie BurrIDGE	Bob Haney	David Marley	Sue Prior
Lucy Carillot	Erv Hietbrink	Toni Marwitz	*Ann Robertson
*Leah Coleman	Heather Hilton	Carol Melton	Mary Jane Rosenbaum
Betsy Daly	Jan Horn	Judy Meuleman	Katie Smyth
Seekie Drysdale	Dan Huffer	Minnie Moore	Abbey Terry
Wayne Drysdale	Phyllis Huffer	Gay Morison	Bob Wight
Sandie English	*Connie Jones	Cary Negley	Sue Wight
Leslie Fitzgerald	Beth Kern	Marion Nesterenko	Jan Wright
Karen Foulkes	Gwen Leathley	Rosalie Ober	

HANDBELL CHOIR

Nancy Colglazier	Judy Hanna	Toni Marwitz	Karen Owens
Linda Giddens	Jack Hart	Gay Morison	Louise Peterson
Evan Goetz	Phyllis Huffer	Marion Nesterenko	Nancy Sheets

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

*Daniel Birch	Emma Fredrich	Ally Lipp	Amelia Smith
Eva Bowen	Jacob Howard	Emme Lipp	Bennett Smyth
ShaVon Bush	Ellie Grace Johnson	Grace Loving	
Terrance Bush	Luke Johnson	William Loving	

MUSIC MINISTRY

Justin L. Addington, Director of Music & Worship
Anne Bowen, Chancel Choir Accompanist
Peggy Breese, Children's Choir Director

GUEST MUSICIANS

Jody Wooten, Percussion
Greg Smith, Cello

**Denotes instrumental & vocal soloists.*

LESSONS & CAROLS

The concept of this program finds its origins in the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols made famous by the Christmas Eve service at Kings College, Cambridge. The service was conceived by F. W. Benson, the Bishop of Truro Cathedral who later became the Archbishop of Canterbury. The service was used for the first time on Christmas Eve in 1880.

In 1934, Eric Milner-White composed another order of service, a Procession with Carols on Advent Sunday. In the same format as the original Nine Lessons and Carols, the purpose of this service was to “not celebrate Christmas, but to expect it.” The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols and the Procession with Carols on Advent Sunday both combine scripture and music in an intimate way to tell the story of the expectation and birth of Christ.

Tonight we adapt these two liturgies for this time, this space, and this community. May your hearts and minds be open to the coming of the Savior through these Lessons and Carols.

SEASON OF ADVENT

The Season of Advent, which marks the beginning of a new liturgical year, can trace its origins to fourth-century France. The word Advent comes from the Latin *adventus*, which means “coming.”

During the Advent season, we prepare for the coming of Christ in multiple ways: the promised coming of the Messiah to the Jews, the coming of Jesus being born in Bethlehem, the promised return of the risen Christ in final victory, and the continual coming of Christ into the hearts and lives of believers.

The color for Advent has traditionally been purple, signifying penitence and royalty. However, many churches (including ours) have recently adopted blue, which symbolizes hope.



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