



*“Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his  
favor rests.”*

## Sunday Schedule

9:00 Christian Formation  
10:00 Worship

*Nursery for Ages 0-5 and Mother's Room:* We have a safe and fun nursery located at the end of the hall in the Veritas Cafe. Please follow the signs. We use a Kid Check program for security.

*Video:* There is a video feed of the worship live-streamed to the Conference Room at the end of the hallway for anyone who needs to step out of the service.

## Lessons and Carols

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is a service of Christian worship celebrating the birth of Jesus that is traditionally followed at Christmas. The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus is told in nine short Bible readings from Genesis, the prophetic books and the Gospels, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols, hymns and choir music.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 24, 2018 | The Eve of the Birth of our Lord

## Welcome and Prayer

**Almighty God, who gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the light of the world: We praise you that in him you have revealed your saving love to all people. With those of old who brought their tribute to his feet, we present the worship of our grateful hearts and ask you to receive the gift of ourselves, our prayers, and songs, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

A Savior is given to you, who is Christ the Lord.

Sing to the LORD a new song;  
**Sing to the LORD, all you lands.**  
Sing to the LORD, bless his name.  
**Announce his salvation, day after day.**  
Tell of his glory among the nations;  
his wonderful deeds among all people.

from Psalm 96:1-3

# O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

JOHN FRANCIS WADE, 1743



1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - umph - ant;
2. Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion;
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



O come ye, O come\_ ye to Beth - le - hem!  
O sing, all ye bright hosts of heav'n\_\_\_ a - bove!  
\_ Je - sus, to thee\_\_\_ be all glo - ry giv'n;



Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels!  
Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est!  
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

O come, let us a - dore him! O come, let us a - dore him!

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ\_\_\_ the Lord!

# The First Lesson

Genesis 3:8-15

Adam and Eve flee from God and hear the first proclamation of the Gospel.

## LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE

LITURGY OF ST. JAMES, 5TH C.



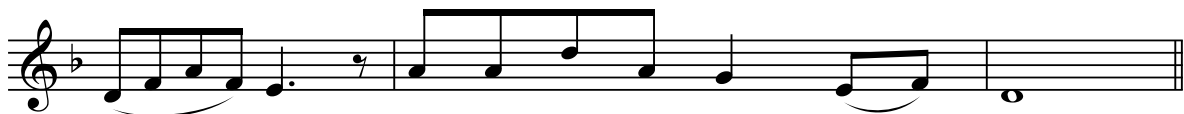
1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep\_\_ si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling  
2. Rank on rank the host of \_\_ heav - en spreads its van - guard on the\_\_  
3. At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim, with sleep - less  
4. King of kings, yet born of \_\_ Ma - ry, as of old on earth he\_\_



stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly\_\_ mind - ed,  
way, as the Light of light de - scend - ed  
eye, veil their fac - es to his\_\_ pres - ence,  
stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man\_\_ ves - ture,



for with bless - ing in his\_\_ hand, Christ our God to earth de -  
from the realms of end - less day, that the pow'rs of hell may  
as with cease - less voice they cry, "Al - le - lu - ia, al -  
in the bod - y and the\_\_ blood, he will give to all the



scend - ed, our full hom - age to de - mand.  
van - ish as the dark - ness clears a - way.  
le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most\_\_ High!"  
faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly\_\_ food.

*Ending*



# The Second Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-14; 11:1-3

Christ's birth and his eternal kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

## O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

LATIN ANTIPHONS, 12TH C.



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's  
3. O come, thou Son of Da - vid, come and o - pen wide our



Is - - - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple  
heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads\_\_\_ on



here, un - til the Son of God\_\_\_ ap - pear.  
save, and give them vic - t'ry o'er\_\_\_ the grave.  
high, and close the path to mis - er - y.

### *Refrain*



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



# The Third Lesson

Micah 5:2-6

The prophet Micah foretells the future glory of little Bethlehem in Judah.

## O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

PHILLIPS BROOKS, 1867



1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we\_ see thee lie;  
2. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous Gift is giv'n!



a - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by:  
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless-ings of his heav'n.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;  
No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,



the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
where meek souls will re - ceive him still, the dear Christ en - ters in. *Choir  
Ending*

## The Fourth Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

The Angel Gabriel appears to Mary and announces that she will bear a holy child.

## MARY DID YOU KNOW

SOLO: NATALIE SHAW

## The Fifth Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem where she gives birth to her child.

## AWAY IN A MANGER

ANONYMOUS, 19TH C.



1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,  
2. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask you to stay



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.  
close by me for - ev - er, and love me, I pray.



The stars in the sky \_\_\_\_\_ looked down where he lay;  
Bless all the dear child - ren in your ten - der care,



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.  
and fit us for heav - en to live with you there.

# SILENT NIGHT

JOSEPH MOHR, 1818



1. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm,  
2. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake  
3. Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of God,



all is bright 'round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.  
at the sight! Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,  
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,



Ho - ly in - fant so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly  
heav'n - ly hosts — sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sav - ior, is  
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy



peace, — sleep — in heav - en - ly peace.  
born! — Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
birth, — Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.



# The Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:8-20

Angels appear in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah.

## HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

CHARLES WESLEY, 1739



1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, — "Glo - ry to the new - born King;  
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!  
3. Hail, the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
Late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb:  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; — hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty, —  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, — born that man no more may die, —



with an - gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is — born in Beth - le - hem!"  
pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.  
born to raise the sons of earth, born to — give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry — to the new - born King."  
Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry — to the new - born King."  
Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry — to the new - born King!"

# The Seventh Lesson

Matthew 2:1-11

Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah and offer gifts to Jesus.

## AS WITH GLADNESS, MEN OF OLD

WILLIAM CHATTERTON DIX, 1860



1. As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be - hold,
2. As they of - fered gifts most rare at that cra - dle rude and bare,
3. Ho - ly — Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way,



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
and when mor - tal things are past, bring our ran - somed lives at last



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more your splen - dor see.  
all our cost - liest treas - ures bring, Christ to you, our heav'n - ly King.  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds your glo - ry hide.

# The Eighth Lesson

John 1:1-5, 14

John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation—the Word became flesh.

## O HOLY NIGHT

PLACIDE CAPPEAU, 1847



1. O ho-ly night! the stars are bright-ly shin - ing; it is the  
2. Led by the light\_ of faith se - rene - ly beam-ing, with glow-ing



night of the dear Sav ior's birth. Long lay the world in sin and er - ror  
hearts by his cra - dle we stand. So led by light of a star\_ sweet-ly



pin - ing, till he ap - peared and the soul felt its worth.  
gleam - ing, here came the Wise Men from O - ri - ent land.



A thrill of hope: the wea-ry world re-joic - es, for yon - der breaks a  
The King of kings lay in a low - ly man-ger, in all our tri - als



new and glo-rious morn! Fall\_ on your knees!\_ O\_ hear the an - gel  
born to be our Friend. Christ is the Lord!\_ O\_ praise his name for-



voic - es! O night\_ di - vine, \_ O\_ night when Christ was born! \_  
ev - er! His pow'r\_ and glo - ry\_ ev - er - more pro - claim!\_



O night, \_ O ho - ly night, O night di - vine!  
His pow'r\_ and glo - ry ev - er - more pro - claim!

RECEIVE THE SON

HERB FROMBACH, 2013



1. The Fa - ther's gift, his love for all is  
 2. The Fa - ther's gift, a ba - by boy, brings  
 3. The Fa - ther's gift for ev - 'ry - one, his



wrapped with - in a man - ger stall.  
 hope of peace and end - less joy.  
 Word made flesh, his ver - y Son.



God sends his Son with us to dwell;  
 God's gift of light is giv - en birth;  
 Be - hold his gift, this Child of Light,



re - ceive his gift, Em - man - u - el.  
 re - ceive his gift, in all the earth. *Refrain*  
 re - ceive his gift, this ho - ly night. *Refrain*

*Refrain*



No great - er gift does God im - part than he who comes in -



to our hearts. Let earth re - ceive her new - born king;



re - ceive his Son the King of kings! *Choir Ending*

## To Ponder This Christmas

That man should be made in God's image is a wonder, but that God should be made in man's image is a greater wonder. That the Ancient of Days would be born. That he who thunders in the heavens should cry in the cradle?

—Thomas Watson

The incarnation means God laying aside his glory, an acceptance of hardship, isolation, ill-treatment, malice, and misunderstanding and finally a death. So the 'Christmas spirit' means reproducing in human lives the temper of him who for our sakes became poor. It does not shine out in the snob or person who aspires to higher social standing. The Christmas spirit is rather that of those who, like their Master, live their lives on the principle of making themselves poor, spending and being spent, to do good to others and not just their own friends.

—JI Packer

Infinite and yet an infant. Eternal and yet born of a woman. Almighty, and yet nursing at a woman's breast. Supporting a universe, and yet needing to be carried in a mother's arms. Heir of all things, and yet the carpenter's despised son.

—Charles Spurgeon

What a wonder that two natures infinitely distant should be more intimately united than anything in the world...That the same person should have both a glory and a grief; an infinite joy in the Deity, and an inexpressible sorrow in the humanity! That a God upon a throne should be an infant in a cradle; the thundering Creator be a weeping babe and a suffering man; the incarnation astonishes men upon earth, and angels in heaven.

—Stephen Charnock

*Make me a channel of your peace  
Where there is hatred let me bring your love  
Where there is injury, your pardon Lord  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you*

*Oh, master grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console  
To be understood as to understand  
To be loved as to love with all my soul*

*Make me a channel of your peace  
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope  
Where there is darkness, only light  
And where there's sadness ever joy*

# JOY TO THE WORLD

ISAAC WATTS, 1719



1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth re-ceive her King. \_\_\_\_  
2. He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the na-tions prove \_\_\_\_



Let ev - 'ry \_\_\_\_ heart \_\_\_\_ pre - pare \_\_\_\_ him \_\_\_\_ room, \_\_\_\_  
the glo - ries \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_ his righ - teous - ness \_\_\_\_



and heav'n and na - ture \_\_\_\_ sing, and heav'n and na - ture \_\_\_\_  
and won - ders of his \_\_\_\_ love, and won - ders of his \_\_\_\_



sing, and heav'n and heav'n \_\_\_\_ and na - ture sing.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

## Sending and Benediction

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the Magi, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.