

THE GRETCHEN R. IBEN SERIES

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols



11 December 2022

Westminster Church + Peoria, Illinois

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

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Four O'clock

THE ORGAN

Noel: Grand Jeu et duo
Vom Himmel Hoch
Pat-A-Pan
Puer Natus Est

Louis Claude d'Aquin
Gerald Near
Kirke Mechem
Everett Titcomb

*HYMN IN PROCESSION

Once in Royal David's City

Irby

(The soloist sings the first verse alone, then the congregation joins on verses 2 - 4)

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.

3. Jesus 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 feels for all our sadness,
And he shares in all our gladness.

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, oppressed and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

4. 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 has gone.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848
Music: Henry John Gauntlett, 1849

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

HYMN 9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

1. 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.

2. O come, Thou Dayspring come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel.

3. O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and discord cease;
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Text: 12th century Latin
Music: Gregorian; accompaniment: John Weaver, 1988

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis iii

Read by Kate Kortemeier

CAROL

The Lord at First Did Adam Make

June Nixon

1. The Lord at first did Adam make
Out of the dust and clay,
And in his nostrils breathed life
E'en as the scriptures say
And then in Eden's paradise
He placed him to dwell
That he within it should remain,
To dress and keep it well. *Refrain ...*

3. For in the day that thou shalt it touch
Or dost to it come nigh,
If so, thou do but eat thereof
Then thou shalt surely die"
But Adam did take no heed
Unto that only thing;
But did transgress God's holy law,
And so was wrapt in sin. *Refrain ...*

2. And thus within the garden
He was set to stay;
And in commandment, unto him
These words the Lord did say:
"The fruit which in the garden grows
To thee shall be for meat,
Except the tree in the midst thereof,
Of which thou shall not eat." *Refrain ...*

4. Now mark the goodness of the Lord,
Which he for mankind bore;
His mercy soon he did extend,
Lost man for to restore;
And therefore to redeem our souls
From death and hellish thrall,
He said his dear Son should be
The Savior of us all. *Refrain ...*

Refrain ... Now let all Christians all begin an holy life to live,
To live and to rejoice and merry be, for this is Christmas Eve!

HYMN 2

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Hyfrydol

1. 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
Joy of every longing heart.

2. Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone:
By thy all sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1744
Music: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831

THE SECOND LESSON

Genesis xxii

Read by James Burnham

CAROL

Creator of the Stars of Night

Sarum Plainsong

1. Creator of the stars of night,
Your people's everlasting light
O Christ redeemer of us all,
We pray you, hear us when we call.

3. At your great name, O Jesus, now
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow.
All things on earth with one accord
Like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.

2. When this old world drew on toward night,
You came, but not in splendor bright,
Not as a monarch, but the child
Of Mary, blameless mother mild.

4. To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, three in one,
Praise, honor, might and glory be
From age to age eternally. Amen

HYMN 28

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

In Dulci Jubilo

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart, and soul, and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before Him bow,
And he is in a manger now.
Christ is born today,
Christ is born today.

2. Good Christian friends rejoice
With heart and soul and voice
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this:
He hath opened heaven's door,
And we are blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this,
Christ was born for this.

3. Good Christian friends, rejoice With heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all To gain the everlasting hall,
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin

Music: German folk tune, 14th century

THE THIRD LESSON

Isaiah ix

Read by David Kortemeier

CAROL

What Is This Lovely Fragrance?

Healey Willan

1. What is this lovely fragrance wafting
Like to the scents of flow'rs in spring?
Shepherds, O tell us, whence such beauty,
Hear you not heavenly caroling?
What is the lovely fragrance wafting
Like to the scents of flow'rs in spring?

2. What is this light so fair, so tender
Breaking upon our wond'ring eyes?
Never the Morning Star so radiant
Followed his course o'er eastern skies,
What is this light so fair, so tender
Breaking upon our wond'ring eyes?

3. Shepherds, O haste with eager footsteps,
Seek the Saviour, born today.
Low at his feet we lay our treasures,
Heart's adoration, love for aye.
Shepherds, O haste with eager footsteps
Seek the Saviour, born today.

HYMN 44

O Little Town of Bethlehem

St. Louis

1. 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.

2. For Christ is born of Mary
And gathered all above;
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together
Proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to all on earth.

3. How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven,
No ear may hear his coming,
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

4. 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!

THE FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah xi

Read by Alan Willadsen

CAROL

What Sweeter Music

John Rutter

1. What sweeter music can we bring,
Than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King
Awake the voice! Awake the string!

3. Why does the chilling Winter's morn
Smile, like a field beset with corn?
Or smell, like to a mead new-shorn,
Thus, on the sudden? Come and see

5. We see Him come, and know Him ours,
Who, with His sunshine, and His showers,
Turns all the patient ground to flowers.

7. Of all the house here, is the heart,
Which we will give Him; and bequeath
This holly, and this ivy wreath,
To do Him honor; who's our King,
And Lord of all this reveling.

2. Dark and dull night, fly hence away,
And give the honor to this day,
That sees December turned to May.
That sees December turned to May.

4. The cause, why things thus fragrant be:
'Tis He is born, whose quick'ning birth
Gives life and luster, public mirth,
To heaven, and the under-earth.

6. The darling of the world is come,
And fit it is, we find a room
To welcome Him. The nobler part

8. What sweeter music can we bring
Than a carol for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King
The birth of this our heavenly King.

HYMN 48

Lo, How A Rose

Es ist ein' Ros

1. Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung,
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
By faithful prophets sung.
It comes a flowret bright,
Amid the cold of winter
When half-spent was the night.

2. 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 for us a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.

Text: German Carol; 15th century
Music: Michael Praetorius, 1609

THE FIFTH LESSON

St. Luke i

Read by Peggy Bragg

CANTICLE

Magnificat

C. Villiers Stanford

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations He hath shewed strength with his arm. He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things. And the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel as he promised to our forefathers Abraham, and his seed forever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

1. The first Nowell the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay
In fields where they lay a keeping their sheep,
On a cold winters night that was so deep, R.

2. They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so they continued both day and night. R.

3. And by the light of that same star,
There came three wise men from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went. R.

4. Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
That hath made heaven and earth of nought
And with His blood, our life hath bought. R.

REFRAIN:

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel!

Text and Music: 17th Century English

THE SIXTH LESSON

St. Matthew i

Read by Anna Bussian

CAROL

The Oxen

Michael Head

Christmas Eve, and twelve of the clock.
"Now they are all on their knees,"
An elder said as we sat in a flock
By the embers in hearthside ease.

We pictured the meek mild creatures where
They dwelt in their strawy pen,
Nor did it occur to one of us there
To doubt they were kneeling then.

So fair a fancy few would weave
In these years! Yet, I feel
If someone said on Christmas Eve,
"Come, see the oxen kneel,

"In the lowly barton by yonder coomb
Our childhood used to know,"
I should go with I in the gloom,
Hoping it might be so.

... Thomas Hardy

HYMN 24

Away in a Manger

Cradle Song

1. 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 in the hay.

2. The cattle are lowing,
the poor Baby wakes
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.

3. 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.

Text: Little Children's Book
Music: William James Kirkpatrick, 1895

THE SEVENTH LESSON

St. Luke i

Read by J. Douglas McQueen

CAROL

A Child Is Born in Bethlehem

Craig Phillips

(World Premier – Written for this service in honor of Rev. Denise M. Clark-Jones)

1. A child is born in Bethlehem. Alleluia.
Therefore rejoice Jerusalem. Alleluia.
Come, join the angel throng in one accord
Adoring Christ the Lord.

2. The babe within a manger poor. Alleluia.
Will rule the world forevermore. Alleluia.
Come join the angel throng in songs of joy
In one accord adoring Christ the Lord.

3. Upon this joyful Holy night. Alleluia.
We bless your name, O Lord of Light. Alleluia
We praise you Holy Trinity adoring you eternally.
Come join the angel throng in songs of joy
In one accord, adoring Christ the Lord.

... 14th Century Latin Carol

*HYMN 58

Winchester Old

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down
And glory shone around.

3. "To you, in David's town this day,
Is born of David's line
The Savior, who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign:

5. Thus spoke the seraph and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song:

2. "Fear not", said he, for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind;
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and humankind"

4. "The heavenly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All humbly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid."

6. "All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace:
Good will to all from highest heaven
Begin and never cease!"

Text: Nahum Tate, 1700

Music: Este's 'Psalmes', 1592

THE EIGHTH LESSON

St. Matthew i

Read by Matthew Winkler

CAROL

Joys Seven

Sir Stephen Cleobury

1 The first good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of one;
To see the blessed Jesus Christ
When He was first her son:

Chorus:

When He was first her son, good man:
And blessed may He be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.

2 The next good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of two;
To see her own son, Jesus Christ
To make the lame to go:

Chorus:

To make the lame to go, good man:
And blessed may He be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.

3 The next good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of three;
To see her own son, Jesus Christ
To make the blind to see;

Chorus:

To make the blind to see, good man:
And blessed may He be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.

4 The next good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of four;
To see her own son, Jesus Christ
To read the Bible o'er:

Chorus:

To read the Bible o'er, good man:
And blessed may He be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.

5 The next good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of five;
To see her own son, Jesus Christ
To bring the dead alive:

Chorus:

To bring the dead alive, good man:
And blessed may He be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.

6 The next good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of six;
To see her own son, Jesus Christ
Upon the crucifix:

Chorus:

Upon the crucifix, good man:
And blessed may He be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.

7 The next good joy that Mary had,
It was the joy of seven;
To see her own son, Jesus Christ
To wear the crown of heaven:

Chorus:

To wear the crown of heaven, good man,
And blessed may He be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.

THE NINTH LESSON

St. John i

Read by Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

*HYMN

Adeste Fideles

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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.

2. God of God,
Light of Light
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten, not created

*O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him,
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

3. 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?

4. Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God
In the highest.

5. Yea, Lord we greet thee
Born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing.

Text: John Francis Wade, 1740
Music: The English Hymnal, 1906

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Pastor: Let us pray.

***THE COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS**

Rev. Clark-Jones

***THE BLESSING**

***HYMN 31**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

1. 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 angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

2. Christ by highest heaven adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail the Incarnate Deity,
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Risen with healing in His wings,
Mild He lays his glory by, Born that we no more may die.
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739
Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

THE POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

J.S. Bach

LEADING IN WORSHIP

The Rev. Denise M. Clark-Jones, M.Div., *Pastor of Westminster*

Thomas Clark-Jones, *Organist and Choirmaster*

The Westminster Choir

Elder Larry Hicks, *Video Production*

Christmas at Westminster ...

December 24 ... Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m. -

Communion by Candlelight (Organ Music begins at 3:45 p.m.)

Sermon by Rev. Clark-Jones, music by the Westminster Choir

December 25 ... Christmas Day at 10:00 a.m. -

Celebration of the Nativity of our Lord

THE CHOIR OF WESTMINSTER ...

Laurel Cramer, Shane Strauss, Denise Clark-Jones, sopranos

Kate Kortemeier, alto

J. Douglas McQueen, Aaron Roos, tenors

David Kortemeier, Matthew Winkler, basses

**The staff of Westminster Church
Wishing all a Merry Christmas!**

The Rev. Denise M. Clark-Jones, pastor

Thomas R. Clark-Jones, organist-choirmaster

Mary Lee Caudle, Administration and Communication

Denise Wirth, Financial Secretary

Steve Sager, Building and Grounds

Valerie Sager, Westminster Infant Care

A happy Christmas to all from the Westminster music program!

WESTMINSTER CHURCH + PEORIA

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church, USA in the Presbytery of the Great Rivers

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OPEN HANDS, OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS