

# Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols

**Prelude: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

Cecelia McDowall

## Carol

- 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.
- 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 meek and lowly,  
lived on earth our Savior holy.
- 3 And our eyes at last shall see him,  
through his own redeeming love;  
for that child so dear and gentle  
is our Lord in heav'n above;  
and he leads his children on  
to the place where he is gone

## First Lesson

*God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.* Genesis 3:8-15; 17-19

## Carol

- 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;  
O Sun of justice, now draw near.  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadow put to flight.  
*Refrain*
- Refrain*  
***Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to you, O Israel.***
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come,  
O Cornerstone that binds in one:  
refresh the hearts that long for you;  
restore the broken, make us new.  
*Refrain*

**Bell Response: People, Look East**

arr. Linda R. Lamb

## Second Lesson

*God Promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.* Genesis 22:15-18

### Carol

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,  
from heav'n's all-gracious king."  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
to hear the angels sing.
- 4 For lo! The days are hast'ning on,  
by prophets seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years  
shall come the time foretold,  
when peace shall over all the earth  
its ancient splendors fling,  
and all the world give back the song  
which now the angels sing.

## Third Lesson

*The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.* Isaiah 9:2; 6-7

Message

Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

### Carol

- 1 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 flow'r so bright,  
amid the cold of winter,  
when half-spent was the night.
- 2 Isaiah had 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
- 4 O Savior, child of Mary,  
who felt our human woe;  
O Savior, king of glory,  
who dost our weakness know:  
bring us at length, we pray,  
to the bright courts of heaven  
and into endless day.

## Fourth Lesson

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown* Isaiah 11:1-3a; 4a; 6-9

### Carol

- 1 In the bleak midwinter,  
frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron,  
water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter,  
long ago.
- 2 Heaven cannot hold him,  
nor earth sustain;  
heav'n and earth shall flee away  
when he comes to reign;  
in the bleak midwinter  
a stable place sufficed  
the Lord God almighty,  
Jesus Christ.
- 3 What can I give him,  
poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd  
I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man  
I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him—  
give my heart.

**Bell Response: Carol of the Bells**

arr. Jason W Krug

## Fifth Lesson

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.* Luke 1:26-35; 38

### Choral Response

**The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy**

**Brian Trant**

### Carol

#### *Refrain*

***Go tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
go tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!***

- 1 While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light. *Refrain*
- 2 The shepherds feared and trembled  
when, lo, above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*
- 3 Down in a lonely manger  
the humble Christ was born;  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

## Sixth Lesson

*St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

Luke 2: 1; 3-7

### Carol

- 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 on the hay.
- 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender  
care  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you  
there.

## Seventh Lesson

*The shepherds go to the manger.*

Luke 2:8-16

### Carol

- 1 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.
- 2 Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!
- 3 Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from your holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

### Offertory

**Bell Response: What Child Is This?**

arr. Jason W. Krug

## Eighth Lesson

*The Wise men are led by the star to Jesus.*

Matthew 2:1-12

### Carol

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 We three kings of Orient are;<br>bearing gifts we traverse afar,<br>field and fountain, moor and mountain,<br>following yonder star.  | 3 Frankincense to offer have I;<br>incense owns a deity nigh;<br>prayer and praising, gladly raising,<br>worshiping God Most High. <i>Refrain</i>                   |
| <b>Refrain:</b><br><b><i>Oh, star of wonder, star of night,<br/>star with royal beauty bright;<br/>westward leading, still proceeding,<br/>guide us to thy perfect light!</i></b> | 4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume<br>breathes a life of gathering gloom;<br>sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,<br>sealed in the stone-cold tomb. <i>Refrain</i> |
| 2 Born a king on Bethlehem's plain,<br>gold I bring to crown him again;<br>king forever, ceasing never,<br>over us all to reign. <i>Refrain</i>                                   |   |

## Ninth Lesson

*St. John unfolds the great mystery of Incarnation*

John 1:1-14

### Benediction

### Carol

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 O come, all ye faithful,<br>joyful and triumphant!<br>O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;<br>come and behold him,<br>born the king of angels: | 3 Sing, choirs of angels,<br>sing in exultation,<br>sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!<br>Glory to God<br>in the highest: <i>Refrain</i>               |
| <b>Refrain</b><br><b><i>O come, let us adore him,<br/>O come, let us adore him,<br/>O come, let us adore him,<br/>Christ the Lord!</i></b>     | 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,<br>born this happy morning;<br>Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!<br>Word of the Father,<br>now in flesh appearing: <i>Refrain</i> |

**Postlude: Joy to the World**

Michael Burkhardt

**Grace Lutheran Church**  
**Eau Claire, WI**  
**December 24, 2020**

Rev. Dr. Philip Ruge-Jones, Pastor  
Elaine Mann, Organist, Music Director  
Julie DeBoer, Choir Director  
Karen Lionberger, Pacibells Director

**Grace Lutheran Choir**

**Soprano**

Stacey Geist  
Wilma Hovland  
Sharon Kappus  
Barb Piper  
Diane Pomplun  
Diana Cataldi  
Joanna Simpson

**Alto**

Jan Adams  
Kathy Delfosse  
Barb Eidahl  
Kathi Sue Krause  
Norma Lionberger  
Linda Simpson  
Eva Puschautz

**Tenor**

Randy Adams  
Paul Lokken  
Paul Rosenau

**Bass**

Rick Long  
Dean Simpson  
Jon Thorpe  
Joseph Hubbard  
Pete Lokken  
Collin Pomplun  
Roger Pomplun  
Judy Rosenau

**Pacibells**

Karen Lionberger  
Norma Lionberger  
Andrea Phan  
Julie DeBoer  
Kathy Delfosse  
Katrina Cooper

**Grace Children's Choir**

Annie Ram  
Quinn Ram  
Corban Simpson  
Braelyn LaDew  
Cadence LaDew  
Violet Cooper

**Readers**

Rev. Philip Ruge-Jones  
Anita Reid  
Norma Lionberger  
Jan and Randy Adams  
Suzette Peltier  
Ember Ewings  
Dean and Linda Simpson  
Arthur Grothe and Molly Wilson  
Lynne Ziehr

**Once in Royal David's City**

**Treble Soloist**, Wilma Hovland

**The Three Kings**

Melchior: Pete Lokken  
Balthazar: Rick Long  
Caspar: Roger Pomplun

**Video Editing** by Julie DeBoer

**Photographs** by Rick Long

**In Person Carols Filmed** by Iconostar Video

