



*The Church of the Holy Trinity,  
Rittenhouse Square*

CHRISTMAS EVE

*Lessons & Carols*

# **WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY**

## **ABOUT THIS SERVICE**

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols was first celebrated at King's College, Cambridge on Christmas Eve, 1918. It was an adaptation of a similar service that had been written for the cathedral at Truro in 1880. The lessons were reordered in 1919, and what follows are the lessons that have been used since that time. At King's College, the Festival is a Christmas Eve service, and the lessons, and music, move deliberately from the season of Advent into Christmastide. Many other parishes have adopted the tradition, occasionally modifying it as needed.

## **A VIRTUAL SERVICE**

**CHRISTMAS EVE 2020**  
**FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS**  
**8:00 PM**

**Prelude:** *Variations on Humility (See, amid the winter's snow)* **June Nixon**

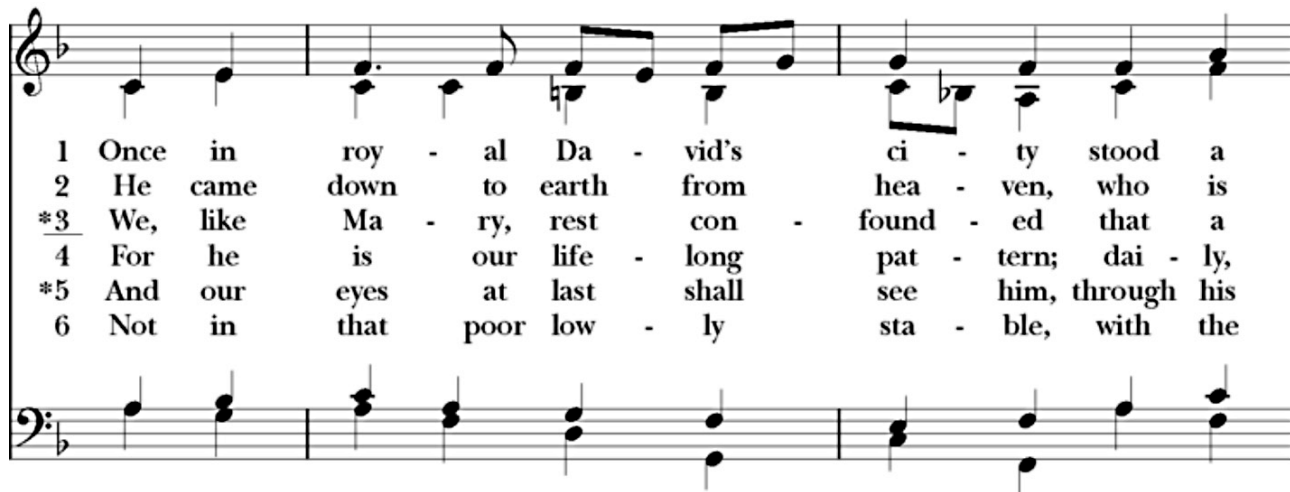
**THE ENTRANCE RITE**

**Entrance Hymn**

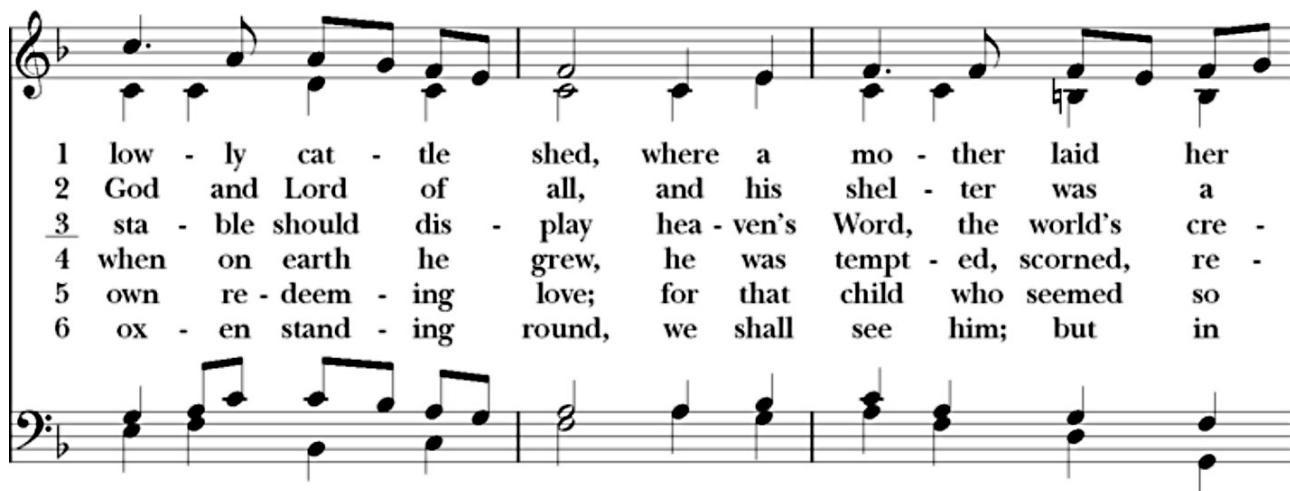
*Once in Royal David's city*

**Hymnal 102**

*Irby (The congregation will join in at verse 4)*



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a  
2 He came down to earth from hea - ven, who is  
\*3 We, like Ma - ry, rest con - found - ed that a  
4 For he is our life - long pat - tern; dai - ly,  
\*5 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his  
6 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the



1 low - ly cat - tle shed, where a mo - ther laid her  
2 God and Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a  
3 sta - ble should dis - play hea - ven's Word, the world's cre -  
4 when on earth he grew, he was tempt - ed, scorned, re -  
5 own re - deem - ing love; for that child who seemed so  
6 ox - en stand - ing round, we shall see him; but in



1 ba - by in a man - ger for his bed: Ma - ry  
2 sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall; with the  
3 a - tor, cra - dled there on Christ - mas Day, yet this  
4 ject - ed, tears and smiles like us he knew. Thus he  
5 help - less is our Lord in heaven a - bove; and he  
6 hea - ven, where his saints his throne sur - round: Christ, re -

1 was that mo - ther mild, — Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child. —  
 2 poor, the scorned, the low - ly, lived on earth our Sa - vior ho - ly.  
 3 child, our Lord and bro - ther, brought us love for one an - oth - er.  
 4 feels for all our sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.  
 5 leads his chil - dren on — to the place where he is gone. —  
 6 vealed to faith - ful eye, — set at God's right hand on high. —

### Opening Acclamation

Officiant            The people who walked in darkness  
**People**                **have seen a great light.**

Officiant            For to us a child is born,  
**People**                **to us a Son is given.**

Officiant            His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
**People**                **the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

Officiant            Glory to God in the highest,  
**People**                **and peace to God's people on earth.**

### Bidding Prayer

*Officiant*            Dear People of God: In this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy

Child Jesus, and let us make this church glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city of Philadelphia.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

Officiant      The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above, may the King of Angels bring us all.

**People      Amen.**

The people are seated.

## Invocatory

*Sussex Carol*

arr. **Bob Chilcott**

*On Christmas night all Christians sing to hear the news  
the angels bring. News of great joy, news of great mirth,  
news of our merciful King's birth.*

*Then why should we on earth be sad, since our  
Redeemer made us glad? When when from our sin He set  
us free, all for to gain our liberty?*

*When sin departs before His grace, then life and health  
come in its place; angels and men with joy may sing, all  
for to see the newborn King.*

*All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels  
sing this night: "Glory to God and peace to men, now  
and forevermore. Amen."*

(Traditional English carol)

## First Lesson

**Genesis 3:8-15**

Read by Andy Gutknecht

*God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that  
his seed will bruise the serpent's head.*

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you

among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”

Thanks be to God.

**Carol**

*The Lord at first did Adam make*

**David Willcocks**

*The Lord at first did Adam make out of the dust and clay,  
And in his nostrils breathèd life, e'en as the Scriptures say.  
And then in Eden's paradise He placèd him to dwell,  
That he within it should remain, to dress and keep it well.*

*Refrain*

*Now let good Christians all begin a holier life to live,  
And to rejoice and merry be, for this is Christmas Eve.*

*And thus within the garden he was set, therein 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 shalt not  
eat.” [Refrain]*

*For in the day thou shalt it touch or dost to it come nigh,  
If so thou do but eat thereof, then thou shalt surely die.  
But Adam he did take no heed unto that only thing,  
But did transgress God's holy Law, and so was wrapt in sin.  
[Refrain]*

*Now mark the goodness of the Lord, which He for mankind  
bore;  
His mercy soon He did extend, lost man for to restore;  
And then, for to redeem our souls from death and hell and  
thrall,  
He said His own dear Son should be the Savior of us all.  
[Refrain]*

*(Traditional English Carol)*

*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed.*

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, 'By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.'

Thanks be to God.

**Carol***Look unto Abraham***Alice Parker**

*Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him. For the Lord shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.*

*Isaiah 51:2-3 (KJV)*

**Third Lesson****Isaiah 9:2-7**

Read by James Otwell

*The Prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness--on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the



trampling warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn

*On this day  
Personent hodie*

Hymnal 92

*Introduction*



1 On this day earth shall ring  
 2 His the doom, ours the mirth;  
 3 God's bright star, o'er his head,  
 4 On this day an - gels sing;



with the song child - ren sing to the Lord, Christ our King,  
 when he came down to earth Beth - le - hem saw his birth;  
 Wise Men three to him led; kneel they low by his bed,  
 with their song earth shall ring, prais - ing Christ, hea - ven's King,



born on earth to save us; him the Fa - ther gave us.  
 ox and ass be - side him from the cold would hide him.  
 lay their gifts be - fore him, praise him and a - dore him.  
 born on earth to save us; peace and love he gave us.

*Refrain*



Id - e - o - o - o, Id - e - o - o - o,



Id - e - o glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

*"Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!" is Latin for "Therefore, glory to God in the highest!"*

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.  
Thanks be to God.

**Carol**

*There is no rose*

**John Joubert**

*There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare  
Jesu: Alleluia.*

*For in this rose contained was heaven and earth in little  
space: Res Miranda (thing to be marveled at).*

*By that rose we may well see there be one God in  
persons three: Pares forma (of equal form).*

*Then leave we all this worldly mirth and follow we this  
joyous birth: Transeamus (let us cross over).*

*Anonymous, 15th century*

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her. Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

Thanks be to God.

**Carol**

*I sing of a maiden*

**Patrick Hadley**

*I sing of maiden That is makeless  
King of all kings To her son she ches.  
He came all so still Where His mother was,  
As dew in April That falleth on the grass.  
He came all so still To His mother's bower,  
As dew in April That falleth on the flower.  
He came all so still Where His mother lay,  
As dew in April That falleth on the spray.  
Mother and maiden Was never none but she:  
Well may such a lady God's mother be.*

*Traditional*

**Sixth Lesson**

**Luke 2:1-7**

Read by Dr. Ben Leiby

*Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Thanks be to God.

All stand to sing. The Choir only will sing verse 3.

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,  
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!  
 \*4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,  
 5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
 2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
 3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
 4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;  
 5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;  
 2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!  
 3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
 4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,  
 5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
 2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.  
 3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.  
 5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem” was written by Phillips Brooks (our second Rector) for the Sunday School at The Church of Holy Trinity in 1868, after he had visited Bethlehem in 1865. The fourth stanza was not included in the hymnal until 1940 and is still missing from many hymnals. Brooks’ organist, Lewis H. Redner, wrote the original tune for these words. The hymn was first published in 1874 and the tune was named St. Louis.*

**Seventh Lesson**

**Luke 2:8-16**

Read by Christopher Jungers

*The Shepherds go to the manger.*

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!’ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem

and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.  
Thanks be to God.

## **Carol**

*The Shepherd's Cradle Song*

**Karl Leuner, arr. Charles MacPherson**

*O sleep, thou heaven-born treasure, thou  
Sleep sound, thou dearest child  
White angel wings shall fan thy brow  
With breezes soft and mild  
We shepherds poor are here to sing  
A simple lullaby to our King  
Lullaby, lullaby  
Sleep, sleep softly, lullaby*

*See Mary has with mother's love  
A bed for thee outspread  
While Joseph stoops him from above  
And watches at thy head  
The lambkins in the stall so nigh  
That thou may sleep  
Have hushed their cry  
Lullaby, lullaby  
Sleep, sleep softly, lullaby*

*And when thou'rt big and art a man  
Full woe's in store for thee;  
For cruel men thy death will plan  
And hang thee on a tree  
So sleep, my baby, whilst thou may  
'Twill give thee rest against that day  
Lullaby, lullaby  
Sleep, sleep softly, lullaby*

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

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.

Thanks be to God.

**Carol***My Lord has Come***Will Todd**

*Shepherds, called by angels, called by love and angels:  
No place for them but a stable. My Lord has come.*

*Sages, searching for stars, searching for love in heaven;  
No place for them but a stable. My Lord has come.*



*His love will hold me, his love will cherish me, love will cradle me.*

*Lead me, lead me to see him, sages and shepherds and angels;*

*No place for me but a stable. My Lord has come.*

**Ninth Lesson: John 1:1-14**

Read by *The Rev. John Gardner*

*All stand*

*St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. Thanks be to God.

**Hymn**

*O Come, all ye faithful,  
Adeste Fidelis*

**Hymnal 83**

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
 2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 \*4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,  
 \*5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
 3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;  
 4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
 5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;  
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;  
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;  
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

*Refrain*

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

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
 born this happy morning;  
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
 Word of the Father,  
 now in flesh appearing;

*Refrain*

Officiant: Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

**Sermon**

*The Reverend Rachel Wenner Gardner*

**Anthem**

*A heavenly Song*

**Cecilia McDowall**

*This is the song that you shall hear:  
 God is come from his empire  
 And is made man with high desire this day.  
 A heavenly song I dare well say,  
 is sung on earth to man this day.*

*He took our kind all of a maid;  
 By ox and ass he was laid;  
 Now is fulfilled that Scripture said this day.  
 A heavenly song...*

*Aye, I wonder this in my mind:  
That he that all may loose and bind  
Would be laid by beasts unkind this day.  
A heavenly song...*

*He is a lord, and by nature  
a maiden's breast he sucked full pure;  
Heaven and earth are in his cure, (care) this day.  
A heavenly song...*

*15th c. English, adapted by Rosemary Greentree*

### **The Collect for the Nativity**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

**People**      **And also with you.**

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.

Officiant:      O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the  
brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have  
known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy  
him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit  
he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

People      **Amen.**

**Carol**

*Silent Night  
Stille Nacht*

Hymnal 111

*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 Christmas Blessing**

Officiant      May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

**People**      **Amen.**

Officiant      May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

**People**      **Amen.**

Officiant      May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

**People**      **Amen.**

Officiant      And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

**People**      **Amen.**

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!  
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

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.  
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in-car - nate De - i - ty.  
 Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
 hail, the Sun of Right-eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

*Refrain*

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

## Postlude *Fantasia - In dulci júbilo* (BWV 729) Johann Sebastian Bach

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