

Dear Friends,

During this Advent season, we join with other Christians around the world in celebrating the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ with a celebration called *A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols*. The festival was developed in 1880 at Truro Cathedral, in the city of Truro, Cornwall, England. Since 1918, this service has been held at sunset on Christmas Eve in King's College Chapel, Cambridge, England. Since its first radio broadcast in 1928, and its first television broadcast in 1958, the *Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* has gained worldwide popularity.

Many variations and adaptations of the service can be found throughout the world, but here at Christ Church, we are following the traditional form of the service regularly used in King's College Chapel; a format we have followed for more than 30 years. The Bidding Prayer, written by the service's creator, Rev. Eric Milner-White (1884-1963), calls us together around the world, "... to hear again the message of the angels." The prayer can be adapted to include current prayer concerns, both local and global. The strength of the service lies in the scripture readings, which tell the story of our salvation beginning with Creation and the fall of mankind. The story then shifts to the prophecy of the coming Savior and the joys he will bring, his birth, adoration by the shepherds and the visit from the Wise Men. Since these scripture lessons tell a story, the service begins with, "*Once upon a time...*" as we sing the traditional opening carol, "*Once In Royal David's City*." Music is carefully chosen to bring a new and current light to the ancient scriptures as they are read. In the past, we have used the King James Version (KJV) of the Bible for all the scripture readings mainly because of its poetic language. As an experiment, tonight we will be using the New King James Version, which maintains the original poetic nature but is more in line with the Biblical language used today. Each lesson will conclude with the traditional phrase, "*This is the Word of the Lord.*" The people's response is, "**Thanks be to God.**"

Because the *Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* is a worship service, it is designed to unfold in a given manner. Therefore, we gratefully request that there be...

**NO APPLAUSE AND NO FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY AT ANY TIME.**

**Again, this is a worship service, not a performance, and flash photography and applause would disrupt the flow of the unfolding Biblical story.**



**Also, please turn OFF alarms and ringers on all cell phones, pagers, watches, etc. These items are particularly disruptive during any worship service. Tonight's festival is also being livestreamed through the Christ Church Facebook page.**

Music is a beautiful and glorious gift from God, and all of us in some shape or form, can utilize this gift. You are encouraged to participate in the congregational singing with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength because, "*If you believe what you are singing, then sing it like you believe it.*" The words to all the congregational hymns are printed in ***bold italic type***. If you prefer, please sing parts on these hymns, which can also be found in the United Methodist Hymnal or in the other supplement materials between the seats.

This year, I decided to add a creed after the 9<sup>th</sup> lesson. The "Christmas Creed" was written by Rev. William Russell Bowie (1882-1969), an Episcopalian priest who spent much of his ministry working with social justice issues. I first saw this creed published on the front of a Christ Church worship bulletin that is stored in the church archives dated December 29, 1957. With all the political, social and religious division in the United States today, I thought this creed needed to be added to tonight's festival as we all strive to work toward unity in Jesus Christ.

*Rev. David F. Donathan, Deacon*  
Minister of Worship Arts/Organist  
Christ Church United Methodist

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### PRELUDE (4:00)

*"On Christmas Night all Christians Sing"*.....SUSSEX CAROL/ arr. Lloyd Larson

*"Traditions of Christmas"*.....Chip Davis

Chancel Ringers

*"Silent Night"*.....arr. Stan Swim/ Kayson Brown

Lily Chongswatdi, cello

*"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*.....HYFRYDOL/ arr. Jason W. Krug

*"Impromptu"*.....David Childers

Chancel Ringers, Lily Chongswatdi, Cello

*"Still, Still, Still"*.....arr. John Beyrent

Brass Ensemble

### LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*"Largo" from Sonata in Eb*.....Georg Philipp Telemann

Jenny Morris, Oboe; Lily Chongswatdi, Cello

### PROCESSION OF THE CHOIR

*"Variation on ES IST EIN ROS"*.....Michael Burkhardt

### CAROL

Ephraim Thomas, solo; Choir & Congregation

*"Once In Royal David's City"*

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 mean, and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

(During the brass interlude, please stand.)

**3. And through all his wondrous childhood  
He would honour and obey,  
Love, and watch the lowly maiden,  
In whose gentle arms he lay;  
Christian children all must be  
Mild, obedient, good as he.**

**4. For he 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 feeleth for our sadness,  
And he shareth in our gladness.**

**5. 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 is gone.**

**6. Not in that poor lowly stable  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see him; but in heaven,  
Set at God's right hand on high;  
When like stars his children crowned  
All in white shall wait around.**

WORDS-Cecil Francis Alexander  
MUSIC-IRBY, Henry Gauntlett  
ARRANGER-Sir David Willcocks (adapted)  
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*(Please remain standing)*

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Timothy Bias, Lead Pastor

Beloved in Christ, during this Advent season, may it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass, and the babe lying in a manger.

Therefore, let us hear again from Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our sin unto the glorious redemption brought us by this Holy Child, and let us make the Centrum of Christ Church United Methodist glad with our carols of praise.

But first, because this of all things would rejoice His heart, let us pray to Him for the needs of the whole world, and all his people; for peace upon the earth He came to save; for love and unity within the one church He did build; for brotherhood and good will among all people.

And particularly at this time let us remember before God all those who have experienced pain and loss as the result of acts of war, terrorism, gun violence, drug abuse and hate crimes; all who are experiencing the ravages of illness, war, wildfires, storms and other natural disasters; the poor, the cold, the hungry, the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love Him not, or who by sin have grieved His heart of love.

Lastly let us remember before Him those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, the multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself taught us:

***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 forever. Amen.***

May the Almighty God bless us with His grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. ***Amen.***

(Please be seated)

INVITATORY CAROL

Chancel Choir

*"Cradle Hymn"*

1. Hush my dear, lie still and slumber,  
Holy angels guard thy bed.  
Heavenly blessings without number  
Gently falling on thy head.

2. See the kindly shepherds round him  
Telling wonders from the sky!  
When they sought him, there they found him,  
With his virgin mother by.

3. See the lovely babe a-dressing;  
Lovely infant, how he smiled.  
When he wept, the mother's blessing  
Soothed and hush'd the holy child.

4. May'st thou live to know and fear him,  
Trust and love him all thy days;  
Then go dwell forever near him,  
See his face and sing his praise. Amen.

WORDS - Isaac Watts

MUSIC - Kim André Arnesen

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## † THE FIRST LESSON - Genesis 3: 8-15

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

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?" So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself." And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?" Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate." And the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." So the Lord God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; on your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."

This is the word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

CAROL

Chancel Choir

*"Adam Lay Ybounden"*

Adam lay ybounden,  
Bounden in a bond;  
Four thousand winter,  
Thought he not too long.  
And all was for an apple,  
An apple that he took.  
As clerkes findin,  
Written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been,  
The apple taken been,  
Ne had never our lady,  
Abeen heavené queen.  
Blessed be the time  
That apple taken was,  
Therefore we moun singen:  
Deo gratias!

WORDS - Anonymous (Middle English)

MUSIC - Philip Stopford

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† THE SECOND LESSON - Genesis 22: 15-18

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

Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, and said: "By myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son — blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

This is the Word of the LORD.

***Thanks be to God.***

CAROL

Chancel Choir

*"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"*

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

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

3. O come, O Bright and Morning Star,  
And bring us comfort from afar!  
Disperse the shadows of the night  
And turn our darkness into light.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.  
God with us, Emmanuel.

WORDS - Latin, translation John Mason Neale

MUSIC - VENI EMMANUEL

ARRANGER - Thomas Helmore, Tim Kile

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(Please stand)

CAROL

Choir & Congregation

*"Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending)*

Please see the next page for the hymn.

Please sing unison on Verses 1 & 4, parts on 2 & 3.

(This hymn talks about the second coming of Jesus Christ,  
which is also an important theme of any Advent season.)

# “Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending”

(Please be seated)

† THE THIRD LESSON - Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

*"The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior."*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined. For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

This is the Word of the LORD.

***Thanks be to God.***

CAROL

Chancel Choir

*"Savior of the Nations, Come"*

1. Savior of the nations, come!  
Virgin's Son, make here your home.  
Marvel now, both heaven and earth,  
That the Lord chose such a birth.

2. Wondrous birth! Wondrous child  
Of the Virgin undefiled!  
Mighty God and Mary's son,  
Eager now his race to run!

3. Thus on earth the Word appears,  
Gracing his created spheres:  
Hence to death and hell descends,  
Then the heavenly throne ascends!

4. Come, O Father's saving Son,  
Who o'er sin the victory won.  
Boundless shall your kingdom be;  
Grant that we its glories see.  
Come, Savior, Come.

WORDS - Martin Luther (after Ambrose of Milan)

MUSIC - NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

ARRANGER - Richard Nance

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## † THE FOURTH LESSON - Micah 5: 2-4

*"The Prophet Micah Foretells the Glory of Little Bethlehem"*

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting." Therefore, He shall give them up, until the time that she who is in labor has given birth; then the remnant of His brethren shall return to the children of Israel. And He shall stand and feed His flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord His God; and they shall abide, for now He shall be great to the ends of the earth.

This is the Word of the LORD.

***Thanks be to God.***

CAROL

Jubilate II

*"Long, Long Ago"*

- |                                                                                                |                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Winds through the olive trees softly did blow,<br>'Round little Bethlehem, long, long ago.  | 3. Then from the happy skies angels bent low<br>Singing their songs of joy, long, long ago. |
| 2. Sheep on the hillside lay whiter than snow;<br>Shepherds were watching them long, long ago. | 4. For in a manger bed, cradled we know,<br>Christ came to Bethlehem long, long ago.        |

WORDS - Katherine Parker (1915)

MUSIC - Gary Alan Smith

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## † THE FIFTH LESSON - Luke 1: 26-35, 38

*"The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary."*

Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

This is the Word of the LORD.

***Thanks be to God.***

CAROL

Jubilate I

*"Mary Had a Baby"*

1. Mary had a baby, yes, Lord.  
Mary had a baby, yes, my Lord.  
Mary had a baby, yes, Lord.  
Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem.

2. Shepherds came to see him, yes, Lord.  
Shepherds came to see him, yes, my Lord.  
Shepherds came to see him, yes, Lord.  
Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem.

3. Wise Men brought him presents, yes, Lord.  
Wise Men brought him presents, yes, my Lord.  
Wise Men brought him presents, yes, Lord.  
Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem.

4. Mary had a baby, yes, Lord.  
Mary had a baby, yes, my Lord.  
Mary had a baby, yes, Lord.  
Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem.

WORDS - Verse 1 - Traditional American

Verse 2 & 3 - Ruth Crawford Seeger

MUSIC - Traditional American Tune

Text and tune are public domain

† THE SIXTH LESSON - Luke 2: 1, 3-7

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

And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her first-born Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

This is the Word of the LORD.  
***Thanks be to God.***

(Please stand)

CAROL #238

Choirs and Congregation

*"Angels, We Have Heard on High"*

***1. Angels, we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains.  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!***

***2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!***

***3. Come to Bethlehem and see  
Christ whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!***

***4. See him in a manger laid,  
Whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
While our hearts in love we raise.  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!***

WORDS - Traditional, based on Luke 2:6-20  
MUSIC - GLORIA, French Carol  
ARRANGER - Larry Shackley  
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(Please be seated)

CAROL

Jubilate II

*"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"*

**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 the manger now  
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 blest forever.  
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 his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save!**

WORDS - John Mason Neale  
MUSIC - IN DULCI JUBILO  
ARRANGER - Daniel Gawthrop  
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## † THE SEVENTH LESSON - Luke 2: 8-16

*"The shepherds go to the manger."*

Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

This is the Word of the LORD.

***Thanks be to God.***

CAROL

Chancel Choir

*"In the Bleak Midwinter"*

1. In the bleak midwinter  
Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron,  
Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow  
In the bleak midwinter long ago.

2. Our God, heaven cannot hold him  
Nor earth sustain;  
Heaven 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. Angels and archangels  
May have gathered there,  
Cherubim and seraphim  
Thronged the air,  
But only his mother in her maiden bliss  
Worshiped the beloved with a kiss

4. 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.

WORDS - Christian Rossetti

MUSIC - Bob Chilcot

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## † THE EIGHTH LESSON - Matthew 2: 1-11

*"The Wise Men are led by the star to Jesus."*

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you shall come a Ruler who will shepherd My people Israel.' " Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also." When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

This is the Word of the LORD.

***Thanks be to God.***

CAROL

Chancel Choir

### *"Christmas Lullaby"*

1. Clear in the darkness  
A light shines in Bethlehem;  
Angels are singing, their sound fills the air.  
Wise Men have journeyed  
To greet their Messiah;  
But only a mother and baby lie there.  
Ave Maria, hear the soft lullaby  
The angel hosts sing.  
Ave Maria, Maiden and mother of  
Jesus our King.

2. Where are his courtiers,  
And who are his people?  
Why does he bear neither  
Sceptre nor crown?  
Shepherds his courtiers,  
The poor for his people,  
With peace as his sceptre  
And love for his crown.  
Ave Maria, hear the soft lullaby  
The angel hosts sing.  
Ave Maria, Maiden and mother of  
Jesus our King.

3. What though your treasures  
Are not gold or incense?  
Lay them before him with hearts full of love.  
Praise to the Christ Child  
And praise to his mother  
Who bore us a Savior by grace from above.  
Ave Maria, hear the soft lullaby  
The angel hosts sing.  
Ave Maria, Maiden and mother of  
Jesus our King.

WORDS-John Rutter  
MUSIC-John Rutter  
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(At the conclusion of this carol, please stand and turn toward the center aisle.)

† THE NINTH LESSON - John 1: 1-14

"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 were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

This is the Word of the LORD.

***Thanks be to God.***

(Please be seated)

CAROL

Chancel Choir  
Taylor Shaw, soloist

*"The Word Made Flesh"*

1. I sing the birth was born tonight,  
The author of both life and light;  
The angels so did sound it,  
And, like the ravished shepherds said,  
Who saw the light, and were afraid,  
Yet searched, and true they found it.

2. The Son of God, the eternal King,  
That did us all salvation bring,  
And freed our soul from danger,  
He whom the whole world could not take,  
The Word, which heaven and earth did make,  
Was now laid in a manger.

3. The Father's wisdom willed it so,  
The Son's obedience knew no,  
No; both wills were in one stature,  
And, as that wisdom had decreed,  
The Word was now made flesh indeed,  
And took on him our nature.

4. What comfort by him we do win,  
Who made himself the price of sin,  
To make us heirs of glory!  
To see this babe, all innocence,  
A martyr born in our defense,  
Can man forget the story?

WORDS - Ben Johnson

MUSIC- Philip Wilby

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(Please stand)

A CHRISTMAS CREED

Written by William Russell Bowie

Let us join our voices as one as we proclaim our faith in Jesus Christ, the Emmanuel:

*I believe in the One whose spirit glorified a little town;  
and whose spirit still brings music to persons all over the world,  
in towns both large and small.*

*I believe in the One for whom the crowded inn could find no room,  
and I confess that my heart still sometimes wants to exclude Christ from my life today.*

*I believe in the One who the rulers of the earth ignored and the proud could never understand;  
whose life was among common people, whose welcome came from persons of hungry hearts.*

*I believe in the One who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible.*

*I believe in the One whose cradle was a mother's arms,  
whose modest home in Nazareth had love for its only wealth,  
who looked at persons and made them see what God's love saw in them,  
who by love brought sinners back to purity,  
and lifted human weakness up to meet the strength of God.*

*I confess my ever-lasting need of God:  
the need of forgiveness for our selfishness and greed,  
the need of new life for empty souls,  
the need of love for hearts grown cold.*

*I believe in God who gives us the best of himself.*

*I believe in Jesus, the Son of the living God, born in Bethlehem on Christmas night,  
for me and for the world. Amen!*

CAROL

Choirs and Congregation

"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:*

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*

*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. Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God,  
All glory in the highest:*

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*

*4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born this happy morning,  
Jesu, to thee be all glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing:*

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*

WORDS - John Wade

MUSIC - ADESTE FIDELES, John Wade

SETTING - David Willcocks (adapted)

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(Please remain standing)

THE COLLECT

Rev. Dr. Timothy Bias

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only Son, Jesus Christ; grant that as we joyfully receive him for our Redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he shall come to be our judge; who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

**Amen.**

THE BLESSING

May he, who by his Incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and good will; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

CAROL

Choir and Congregation

*"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*

**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 th'angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

**Hark! The herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King!**

**2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time, behold him come  
Offspring of a virgin's womb:  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail th'incarnate Diety!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.**

**Hark! The herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King.**

**3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Ris'n with healing in his wings;  
Mild he lay his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.**

**Hark! The herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King.**

WORDS - Charles Wesley  
MUSIC - MENDELSON, Felix Mendelssohn  
SETTING - David Willcocks (adapted)  
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RECESSIONAL & POSTLUDE

*"Fantasia on IN DULCI JUBILO".....J.S. Bach*

**SERVICE PARTICIPANTS**

- First Lesson.....Megan Carpenter  
Children/Youth Ministries
- Second Lesson.....Andy Richardson  
Chair, Administrative Board
- Third Lesson.....Nan McDaniel  
Christ Church Lay Leader
- Fourth Lesson.....Barbara Carpenter  
President, United Women in Faith
- Fifth Lesson.....Richard Ford  
Chair, Worship Arts Committee
- Sixth Lesson.....Drew Waggener  
Chair, Staff Parish Relations Committee
- Seventh Lesson.....Ashley Wood  
Director of Children & Youth Ministries
- Eighth Lesson.....Rev. David Donathan  
Minister of Worship Arts/Organist
- Ninth Lesson.....Rev. Dr. Timothy Bias  
Lead Pastor



- Acolyte.....Meredith Moore
- Sound System.....Carlos Neccuzi
- Livestream Technicians.....Dan Shreve, Steve Schmidt
- Head Ushers.....Don Jones, Russ Smith
- Organ/Piano/Harpsichord.....David Donathan
- Cello.....Lily Chongswatdi
- Oboe.....Jenny Morris
- Brass.....Trumpet: Josh Richardson, Jeremy Severn  
Trombone: Bobby Jenks, Rick Tolbert



Christ Church United Methodist, Worship Arts, Fall, 2024

Chancel Choir

Fred Albert  
Teresa Bailey  
Jeanette Bowlby  
Mark Calfee  
Lois Coffey  
Emily Donathan  
Karen Donathan  
Kayla Donathan  
Carolyn Faber  
Cecilia Ford  
Richard Ford  
Larry Hancock  
Beverly Haskell  
Conrad Haskell  
Martha Hinchman  
Bobby Jenks  
Emily Jenks  
Tammy Kelly  
Evelyn Klocke  
Kim Kristic  
Carol Linger  
Jack Lipphardt  
Sandy McQuain  
Kara Moore  
Bob Morris  
Peggy Powell  
Gena Ryan  
Susan Scott  
Beth Sears  
Juliana Serafin  
Christy Shaw  
Kathy Storage

The Chancel Ringers

David Bungard  
Jeanette Bowlby  
Lois Coffey  
Emily Donathan  
Karen Donathan  
Carolyn Faber  
Rich Ford  
Martha Hinchman  
Bobby Jenks  
Emily Jenks  
Evelyn Klocke  
Susan Scott  
Beth Sears

8:45 Worship Musicians

David Donathan, piano/voice  
Beth Lord, bass  
Jim Lord, drums  
Joe Mastracci, guitar/voice  
Jenny Morris, oboe, recorder

Jubilate I Children's Choir

Clara Cassis  
Thatcher Frankenberry  
David Jenks  
Meredith Jenks  
Charlotte Ryan  
Elizabetta Mastracci  
Harper Mock  
Ada Thomas

Jubilate II Children's Choir

Abram Cassis  
Julia Frankenberry  
James Mastracci  
Haydon Mock  
Meredith Moore  
Hampton Rose  
Ephraim Thomas  
Warner Thomas

Youth Dance

Megan Carpenter  
Cecilia Ford  
Lydia Moore  
Adelyn Sirbu  
Adria Sirbu

Youth Girls Ensemble

Kayla Carpenter  
Megan Carpenter  
Lydia Moore  
Adelyn Sirbu  
Adria Sirbu

Minister of  
Worship Arts/Organist  
Rev. David F. Donathan

Jubilate Assistant  
Kayla Donathan

Worship Arts Work Areas  
Rich Ford, Chairperson

Worship Arts  
Committee Members  
Joe Mastracci  
LeAnne Neccuzi

Liturgists  
Rich Ford

Liturgical Dance  
Cecilia Ford

Altar Visuals  
Jane Ann Hammett  
Chris Dutch

Ushers  
Don Jones  
Russ Smith

Sound System/Visuals  
Carlos Neccuzi  
Tom Burger  
Don Ryan

Livestream Technicians  
Dan Shreve  
Emily Donathan  
Kayla Donathan

Music Librarian  
Evelyn Klocke