



ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

YOUNG PEOPLE'S LESSONS AND CAROLS
DECEMBER 18, 2021

A SHORT HISTORY OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

“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. The complete service can be a bit lengthy, and it is not unusual to omit a lesson (or two!) The lesson texts presented here use the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, but at King’s College, the Authorized Standard (also known as King James) Version is always used.”

—*The Lectionary Page*

St. Michael & All Angels loves children and youth! We give thanks for all the gifts our young people bring to this faith community, especially their energy, their curiosity, their questions and their loving spirits.

A special thank you tonight to Hannah Brewer, Brian Fairbanks and Audrey Sackett for their musical leadership and to all the young people and their families who made this service possible. May the words and music of this Young People’s Lessons and Carols open our hearts and minds and may we be nourished in our faith as we await the coming of the Christ Child.

—*Leslie Sackett*
Associate for Ministry with Children & Families

St. Michael & All Angels, located in Multnomah County, rests on the traditional homelands of the Multnomah, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Molalla, Tumwater, Watlala bands of the Chinook, the Tualatin Kalapuya, and many other indigenous nations of the Columbia River. We acknowledge the ancestors of this place and understand that we are here because of the sacrifices forced upon them. By recognizing these communities, we honor their legacy, their lives, and their descendants.

St Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church acknowledges the gifts of sacred music written by African Americans, indigenous peoples and all people of color. This music enriches our liturgies, and we are grateful for these musicians. Music of oppressed cultures has been appropriated by the dominant culture without an appreciation of the pain and suffering experienced by its creators. We repent and commit to the work of racial justice and ending racism.

PRELUDE

Noël en Récit de Flûte: "Ah! ma voisine êtes-vous fâchée?"

Jean-Jacques Beauvarlet-Charpentier (1734-1794)

HYMN 102

Once in royal David's city

Irby

Solo: Clementine Smith

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.

Ensemble

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, the scorned, the lowly,
lived on earth our Savior holy.

Congregation

4. For he is our lifelong pattern;
daily, when on earth he grew,
he was tempted, scorned, rejected,
tears and smiles like us he knew.
Thus he feels for all our sadness,
and he shares in all our gladness.

Congregation

6. Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing round,
we shall see him; but in heaven,
where his saints his throne surround:
Christ, revealed to faithful eye,
set at God's right hand on high.

OPENING PRAYER

Liturgy for the Whole Church/ Susan K. Bock

Dear God, we love you.
We thank you for loving us.
Help us get ready for Jesus.
Help us say "Yes," like Mary.
We are wide awake!
We are watching and waiting!
We pray with the Spirit.

People Amen

Presider The evening of the year is upon us.

People **We enter the darkness and wait for light's return.**

Reader 1 We light one candle to remind us of God's light which has come to us all through the Christ.

People **We open our hearts to that light, and ask for help to shine with the brilliance of love.**

Reader 2 We light a second candle to remind us of the light of justice in the prophets' words.

People **We open our hearts to the light of justice, and ask for help to create a just world.**

Reader 3 We light a third candle to remind us of John, who calls us to wade in the waters of new life.

People **We open our hearts to our own lights, enkindled in baptism, and ask for help to carry that light into a dark world.**

Reader 4 We light a fourth candle to remind us that visions and angels may still light our way.

People **We open our hearts to light from heaven, and ask for help bravely to believe in our dreams.**

Presider All of our waiting is waiting for God

People **God of our hearts, we wait for you alone.**

HYMN HYMN 56 (VS. 1,2) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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!

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 9:2, 6-7

The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.

HYMN 100 (VS. 1,2)

Joy to the Word

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns;
let us our songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

SECOND LESSON: LUKE 1:26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel greets the Blessed Virgin Mary

HYMN 265**The angel Gabriel from heaven came**

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
 with wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:
 "All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,
 most highly favored lady," Gloria!

"For now a blessed Mother thou shalt be,
 all generations laud and honor thee;
 thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
 most highly favored lady." Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
 "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
 "My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name."
 Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emanuel, the Christ was born
 In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn
 And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
 "Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

THIRD LESSON: LUKE 2: 1; 3-7

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

HYMN 79 (VS. 1-3)**O Little Town of Bethlehem**

O little town of Bethlehem,
 how still we see thee lie!
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
 the silent stars go by;
 yet in the dark streets shineth
 the everlasting light;
 the hopes and fears of all the years
 are met in thee tonight.

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 men on earth.

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.

FOURTH LESSON: LUKE 2: 8-16

The shepherds go to the manger

HYMN 96 (VS. 1-3)**Angels we have heard on high**

Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,
 and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.
 Gloria - in excelsis Deo, Gloria - in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?
 What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?
 Gloria - in excelsis Deo, Gloria - in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
 come adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the new-born King.
 Gloria - in excelsis Deo, Gloria - in excelsis Deo.

FIFTH LESSON: MATTHEW 2: 1-12

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus

HYMN 128 (V. 1)

We Three Kings of Orient Are

We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright;
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light!

SIXTH READING: A SAVIOR IS BORN

Written by Megan McKenna

HYMN 111

Silent Night

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.

CLOSING PRAYERS

COMMON PRAYER For Children & Families

Presider God of dreamers and hope,
as we prepare for the coming of Jesus,
we ask for your blessings.
Give us grace to make room
in our hearts to welcome Jesus
as we make our journey
with Mary and Joseph
toward Christmas morning. **Amen.**

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Refrain

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

Refrain

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

DISMISSAL

Readers Go in peace – to love and serve the Lord!

All **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Noël: "Laissez paître vos bêtes"

Jean-Jacques Beauvarlet-Charpentier

PARTICIPANTS

Presider

Bob Macauley

Organist

Hannah Brewer

Vocal Coach

Audrey Sackett

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CHRISTMAS SERVICES

DECEMBER 21	7:00 pm	Longest Night Service
CHRISTMAS EVE	6:00 pm	Christmas Liturgy
	8:00 pm	Vigilia de Navidad (Noche Buena)
	10:30 pm	Christmas Music
	11:00 pm	Festival Christmas Liturgy
CHRISTMAS DAY	10:00 am	Eucharist with Carols
THE DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS	10:00 am	Eucharist
JANUARY 2	10:00 am	Alternate Readings & Eucharist

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