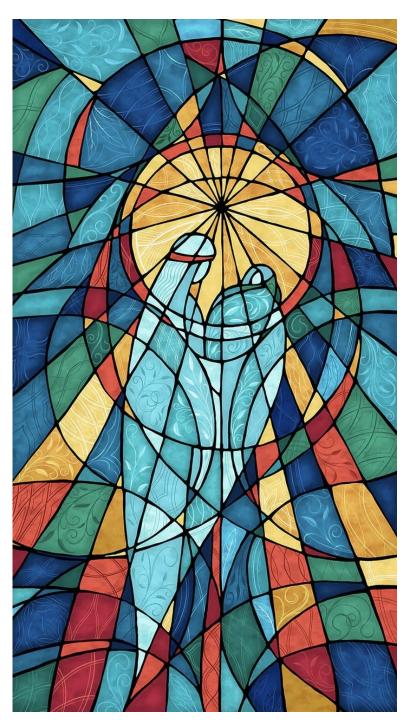
A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS DECEMBER 21, 2025 † 5 PM





WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL'S!

This Festival of Lessons and Carols has been celebrated at St. Michael & All Angels since 1961. Its present form dates from the early part of the 20th century, although it incorporates much older liturgical forms. The readings from the Hebrew Scripture—of our beginning, the voices of the prophets—from the Gospels, and from more contemporary writers direct our attention to the coming of Christ's kingdom to a world in need of redemption. This is our preparation for Christmas. The lighting of lamps and candles is the symbolic action of the Advent message, the bringing of light into the darkness. A living flame is a potent symbol of the victory of light over darkness. As we hear again the ancient prophecies of Christ's coming, we move from darkness into light. It is customary for the congregation to sit for the lessons and carols and to stand for the hymns, prayers, and the Ninth Lesson.

Please honor one another with quiet reflection as together we enter into the music and mystery of the Christmas season.

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.

We firmly believe that guns have no place in church. It is our responsibility as followers of Jesus Christ to promote peace and safety in our communities. The presence of firearms on church property is inconsistent with our baptismal promise to respect the dignity of every human being and the vision of God's dream for all creation. St. Michael & All Angels does not permit any person, including clergy, staff, clients, students, volunteers, and visitors, to carry a weapon on the premises of any property or facility owned or operated by the church or the Diocese. This prohibition does not apply to certain exceptions as allowed by law.

(Approved by the Vestry, June 2025)

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THE COMMUNITY GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE Chorale and Variations on "Comfort, comfort ye my people"

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Please remain seated for stanzas 1-2, and stand to join in singing stanzas 3-6.

HYMN 102

Once in royal David's city

Irby

Kaeli Porter, soprano





Words: Sts. 1-2 ad 4-6, Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-95), alt;

st. 3, James Warig McCrady (b. 1938)

Music: Irby, melod Henry John Gauntlett (1805-76); harm. Arthur Henry Mann (1850-1929)

THE BIDDING PRAYER

The Officiant says

Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let 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, to see the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read from Holy Scripture and other inspired texts, to see the loving purposes of God brought us by the holy Child; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of Christ's birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace and goodwill in all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and for the Church in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name those who are poor and helpless; those hungry and oppressed; those sick and all who mourn; those who are immigrant or refugee; those who are alone or lacking in love; the aged and the little children; and all who live without hope.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in the 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 hath taught us:

Officiant and People

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.

THE LESSONS

Please be seated

THE FIRST LESSON

Adam and Eve

Marjorie Pickthall (1883-1922)

CAROL

Lost in the Night

Finnish Folk Melody arr. F. Melius Christiansen

Kaeli Porter, soloist

Lost in the night doth the heathen yet languish, Longing for morning the darkness to vanquish, Plaintively heaving a sigh full of anguish: Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?

Must he be vainly awaiting the morrow? Shall we who have it no light let him borrow? Giving no heed to his burden of sorrow: Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?

Sorrowing brother, in darkness yet dwelling, Dawned hath the day of a radiance excelling, Death's dreaded darkness forever dispelling: Christ is coming soon! Christ is coming soon!

Light o'er the land of the heathen is beaming, Rivers of life through its deserts are streaming, Millions yet sigh for the Savior redeeming: Come and save us soon! Come and save us soon!

> Finnish Song tr. Olav Lee, 1929

CAROL

In the bleak midwinter

Robert Lockwood (b. 1954)

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.

Our God, 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 incarnate Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there, cherubim and seraphim thronged the air; but his mother only, in her maiden bliss worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him, poor as I am?

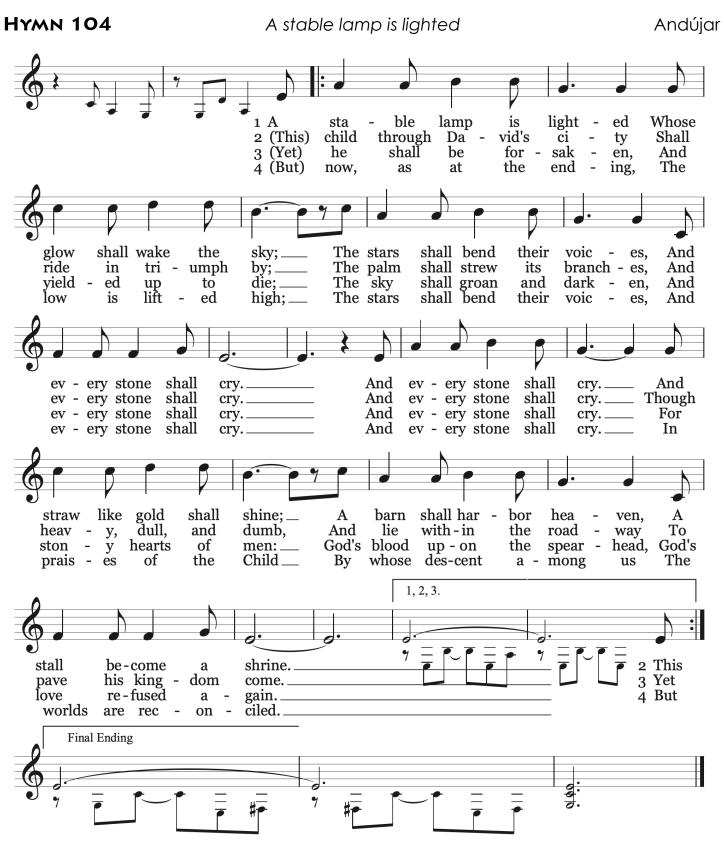
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;

if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.

Christina Rossetti (1830-94)





Words: © Richard Wilbur (b. 1921) Music: *Andújar*, David Hurd (b. 1950)

THE THIRD LESSON

Luke 1:26-35, 38

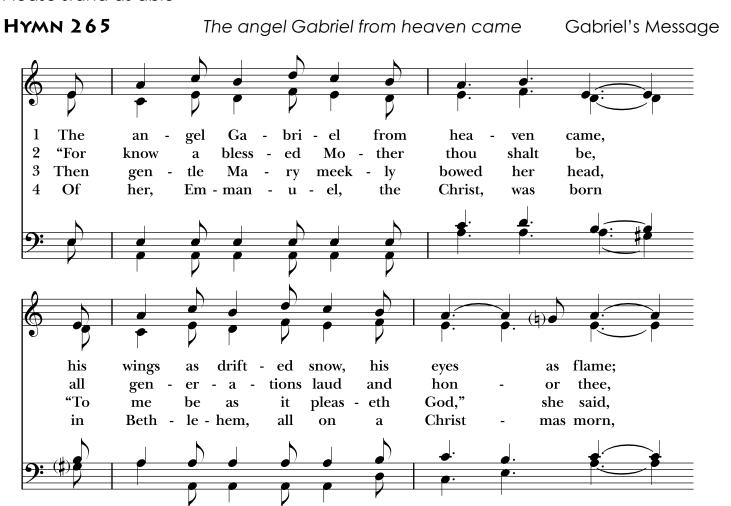
CAROL Bohoroditse Divo

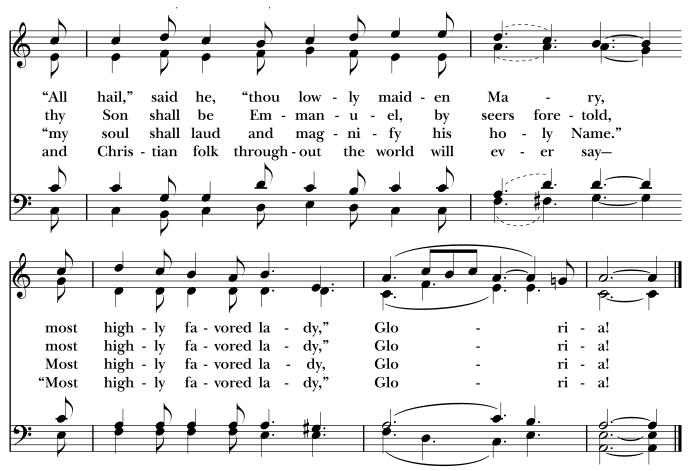
Roman Hurko (b. 1962)

Bohoroditse Divo, raduysia, obrado vannaya Mariye, Hospod s Toboyu; blahosovenna Ti v zhenah, i blahosloven Plod chreva Tvoyeho, yako rodila yesi Hrista Spasa, Izbavitelia dusham nashim.

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary full of grace, the Lord is with Thee. Blessed art Thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of Thy womb, for Thou hast borne the Savior of our souls.

Please stand as able





Words: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924). Music: *Gabriel's Message*, Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865-1943). Copyright © 1961 B. Feldman and Co Ltd., trading as H. Freeman & Co. Reproduced by permission of EMI Music Publishing Ltd. 138-140 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H OLD, England.



THE FOURTH LESSON

Annunciation

Denise Levertov (1923-97)

CAROL Ríu, ríu, chíu Anon., 16th century

Dan Gibbs and David Foley, soloists

Estribillo: Ríu, ríu, chíu, la guarda ribera: Dios guardó el lobo de nuestra cordera.

Muchas profecías lo han profetizado ya un en nuestras días lo hemos alcançado. A Dios humanado vemos en el suelo y al hombre nel cielo proqu'el le quisiera. *Estribillo*

Mirá bien que os cuadre que ansina lo oyera que Dios no pudiera hazerla más madre, El qu'era su padre hoy della nasció y el que la crió su hijo se dixera. *Estribillo*

Yo vi mil garçones que andavan cantando, por aquí bolando, haziendo mil sones, diziendo a gascones Gloria sea en el cielo, y paz en el suelo ques Jesús nasciera. Estribillo

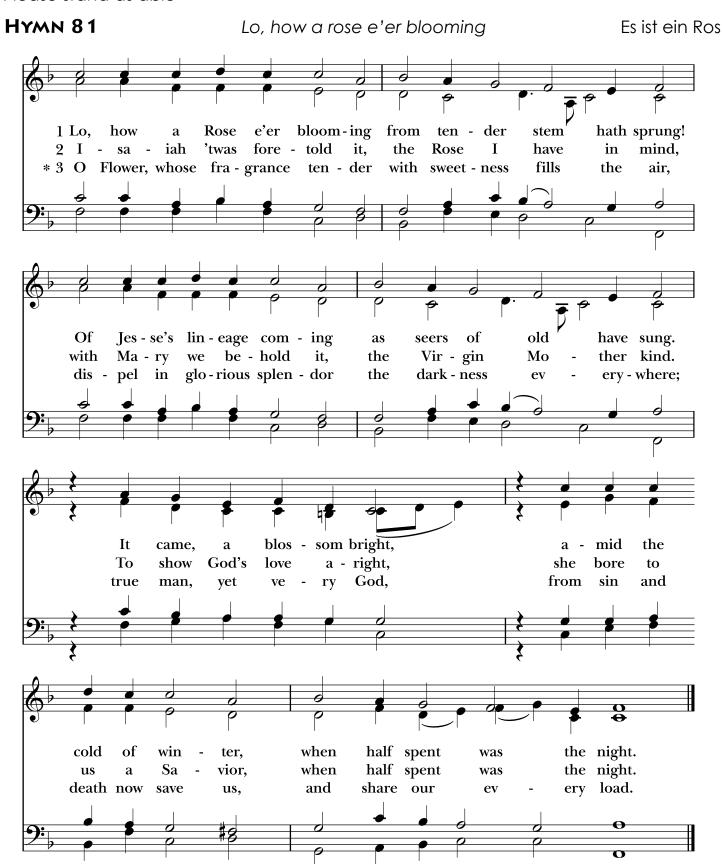
Refrain: Ríu, ríu, chíu, Guard our homes in safety. God has kept the black wolf from or lamb, our Lady.

Many ancient prophets told that He would come: Now within our own time we know it has come true. God in shape of human we see on earth's domain, Man in Heaven reigns, so He wished it done to aid us. Refrain

In his with to please us, God could do no other, Loving us so deeply, than make of her a mother. He who was His Father was born of her tonight; He who gave her life, was His own Son mild and gracious. Refrain

Herons by the thousand I see flying, singing; High above me sounding a thousand songs of praise. In sweet voices saying, May glory be on high, Peace on earth, they cry, born is Jesus long awaited. Refrain

English text by Hubert Creekmore



Words: St. 1-2 German, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934). St. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859): tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925); ver. *Hymnal 1940*. St. 3, Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Es ist ein Ros*, melody from *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621).

THE FIFTH LESSON

Matthew 1:18-25

CAROL

The cherry tree carol

English traditional carol arr. David Willcocks

Joseph was an old man, And an old man was he, When he married Mary In the land of Galilee.

And as they were walking
Through an orchard so good
Where were cherries and berries
As red as any blood.

O then bespoke Mary, With words both meek and mild, "Pluck me one cherry, Joseph; For that I am with child."

"Go to the tree then Mary, And it shall bow to thee; And you shall gather cherries By one, by two, by three." Then bowed down the highest tree Unto our Lady's hand; "See," Mary cried, "see, Joseph I have cherries at command."

"O eat your cherries, Mary, O eat your cherries now; O eat your cherries, Mary, That grow upon the bough."

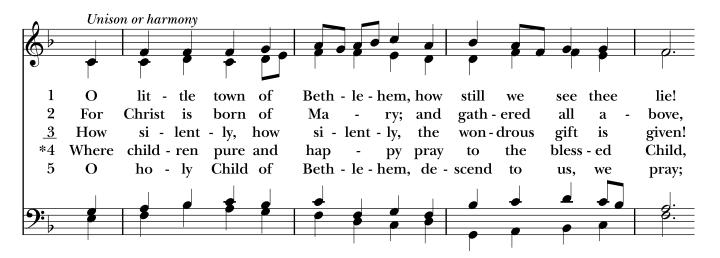
Then Mary plucked a cherry, As red as any blood, Then Mary went she homewards All with her heavy load.

Please stand as able

HYMN 78

O little town of Bethlehem (vv. 1-3, 5)

Forest Green





Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893). Music: *Forest Green*, English melody; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Please be seated

THE SIXTH LESSON

No Room at the Inn

Thomas Merton (1915-68)

CAROL

O magnum mysterium

Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

O magnum mysterium et admirabile sacramentum, ut animalia viderent Dominum natum jacentem in praesepio. O beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Jesum Christum. Alleluia.

O great mystery and wonderful sacrament, that animals should see the new-born Lord lying in a manger! O blessed is the Virgin, whose womb was worthy to bear Christ the Lord. Alleluia.

Responsory for Matins on Christmas Day

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

CAROL

"Gloria in excelsis" from Gloria

Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Glory to God in the highest.



HYMN 94

While shepherds watched their flocks by night

Winchester Old



6 "All glory be to God on high and on the earth be peace; good will henceforth from heaven to men begin and never cease."

Words: Nahum Tate (1625-1715)

Music: Winchester Old, melody from The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1592; harm. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1922; desc. Craig Stellar Lang (1891-1971)

Please be seated

THE EIGHTH LESSON Remembering that it happened once

Wendell Berry (b. 1934)

CAROL Dormi, Jesu! Jaebon Hwang (b. 1982)

Dormi, Jesu! Mater ridet Quae tam dulcem somnum videt, Dormi, Jesu! blandule!

Sleep, sweet babe! my cares beguiling: Mother sits beside thee smiling; sleep, my darling, tenderly!

If thou sleep not, mother mourneth, singing as her wheel she turneth: come, soft slumber, balmily!

Si non dormis, mater plorat, inter fila cantans orat, veni, somnule, blande.

tr. Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834)

Please stand as able

THE NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

CAROL

The Word was God

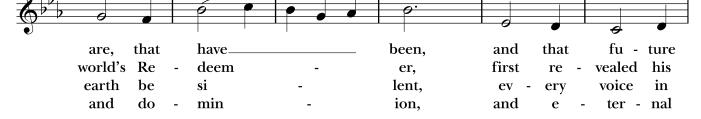
Rosephanye Powell (b. 1962)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made that have been made. Nothing was made, He has not made.

John 1:1-3

Please remain standing as able **HYMN 82** Of the Father's love begotten Divinum mysterium Of the Fa - ther's 1 love be - got the worlds ten, ere 2 O that birth for ev - er bless ed, when the Vir - gin, 3 heights of Let the heaven a dore him; gel hosts, his an thee with Ho - ly 4 Christ, to God the Fa ther, O and, be, he is Al - pha and gan O me to ga, full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv ing, prais sing; powers, do min-ions, bow be - fore him, es Ghost, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv to thee, ing,







This hymn may be performed in equal note values:

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410?); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt. Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th cent.; adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956).

A WORD OF WELCOME

OFFERTORY CAROL What'cha gonna call the pretty little baby Traditional Spiritual arr. Ronald L. Stevens, Sr.

Carleena Manzi, soloist

Refrain: What'cha gonna call the pretty little baby born, born in Bethlehem.

Pretty little baby lying in the manger. Shepherds and wise men worship the baby. Refrain

Humble and holy Son of God. Come to save the world from sin. Refrain

What'cha gonna call him? Call him King Jesus. What'cha gonna call him? Call him Immanuel.

What'cha gonna call him? Call him the King of kings.

Born, born in Bethlehem.

Please stand as able

THE PRAYERS Miriam Therese Winter

Leader O Wisdom, who proceeds from the mouth of the Most High, reaching from beginning to end, mightily and sweetly ordering all things:

All Come and teach us the way of prudence.

Leader O Root of Jesse, emblem of the people, before whom kings keep silent, to whom nations pray:

All Come, deliver us. Do not delay!

Leader O Rising Sun, Splendor of eternal Light and Sun of Justice:

All Come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Leader O Ruler of nations, the Desired of all, the cornerstone that unites:

All Come and save the people you created out of clay.

Leader O Emmanuel, our Ruler and Lawgiver, the Expectation and Savior of the nations:

All Come and save us, O God.

Leader Let us pray.

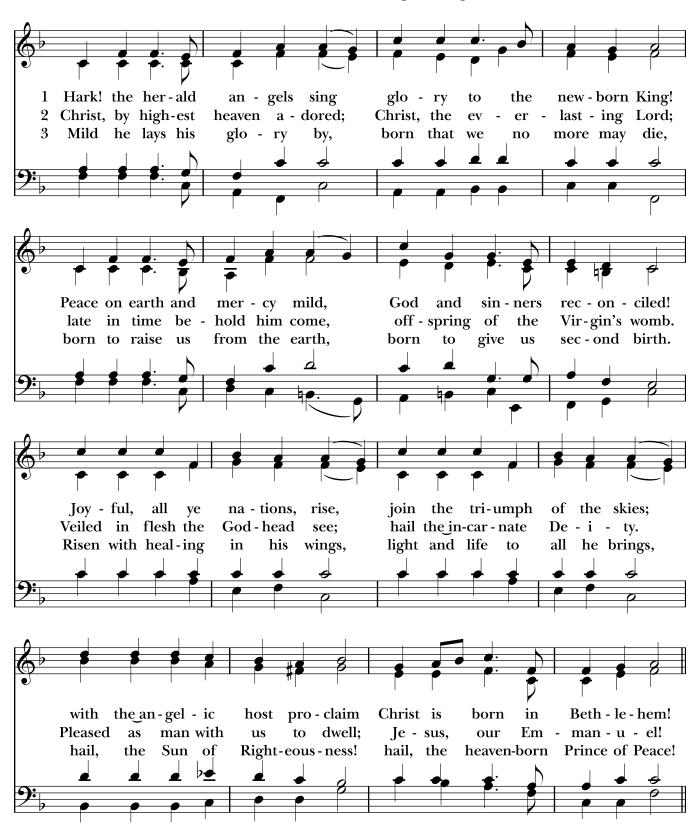
O Child of God, our Savior, today we await your coming, and tomorrow we shall see your glory. Reveal the good news to all of us who long for your arrival. Come, Love incarnate, do not delay. Come, Lord Jesus! **Amen**.



HYMN 87

Hark! the herald angels sing

Mendelssohn





Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Mendelssohn*, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915).

POSTLUDE

Toccatina on "Angels we have heard on high"

Richard Elliott (b. 1957)

SERVING THIS EVENING

OFFICIANT

The Rev. J. Antonio Álvarez

THE ST. MICHAEL'S SINGERS

Sopranos: Helen Crandell, Lynda Garner, Janet Gibbens, Alex Harkins, Beth Ilem, Laura Loy, Chris Pieratti, Kaeli Porter,* Elizabeth Rouffy

Altos: Pamela Clark, Daryl Cole, Joanne Deazley, Tammy DeRidder, Marya Devoto, Patti Evans, Carleena Manzi,* Ann Simmons, Ann Smith, Clementine Smith, Laurie Stahman, Leslie Tuomi, Amy Valentine, Roberta Recken, Vic Votto Tenors: Robert Clark, Chris Cowell, Rob Downer, Cliff Fairley, David Foley,* Richard Hartman, Russel Mulock, Bob Spiers Basses: Josh English, Dan Gibbs,* Sam Harkins, Robert Lockwood, Hjalmer Lofstrom, Jim Puls, Michael Sagun, Kevin Warren, Chad Southwell

*denotes section leaders

LECTORS

Roberta Recken, Helen Crandell, Leslie Tuomi, Elizabeth Rouffy, Josh English, Rob Downer, Brian Fairbanks, Lynda Garner, Rev. J. Antonio Álvarez

USHERS

Julie Romberg, Kraig Colins

RECEPTION HOSTS

Immigrant Welcoming Congregation ministries, the Men & Women on Wednesdays, and friends

MUSIC STAFF

Hannah Brewer, Music Director/Organist
Brian Fairbanks, Choir Director
Kaeli Porter, Assistant Choir Director
Amy Valentine, Choir Librarian

Our thanks to all who assisted with the publicity, arrangements, planning and reception for this evening's service of Lessons & Carols

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve	4:00 pm	Family Service with Nativity Play and Eucharist
	6:00 pm	Festive Holy Eucharist
	8:00 pm	Misa de Noche Buena
	10:30 pm	Carols
	11:00 pm	Midnight Mass
Christmas Day	10:00 am	Eucharist with Carols

STAFF

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