

CHRIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH, ASPEN

*A Service of
Lessons &
Carols*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18TH
7:00 PM

www.christchurchaspen.org/Christmas

*This Service of Lessons and Carols
is given by Cynthia and Bob Chapman
to honor what our faith has meant to our purpose.*

A Blessed and Very Merry Christmas to You!

May the Lord fill you with joy in this holy season.

We welcome you to this special Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas.

We are glad you have come to take part in this traditional celebration.

We hope you will tune into our Christmas Eve service online at 5:30 PM, 8:00 PM

We will not be having a service on Christmas Day



About this Service of Lessons and Carols

The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a popular 20th century Christmas tradition celebrated around the world. First created in 1880 by Edward Benson, who later became the Archbishop of Canterbury, it was adapted and made famous by the choir of the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge, UK, which first performed it on Christmas Eve, 1918. It continues to be adapted and performed by symphonies, colleges, parishes, and cathedral churches throughout the world.

Our Christ Church Aspen adaptation includes seven lessons from Holy Scripture. We begin with the Genesis story of the Fall of Adam and Eve, we trace the Hebrew prophecies of the Messiah, and then tell the story of the Nativity of Christ, through scripture and music.

A Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas

December 18, 2020 7:00 PM



Prelude

Greensleeves, Arr. Matt Riley

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #400273-P. All rights reserved.

Arr. © 2019 Matthew William Riley (BMI)

Bidding Prayer

Dear People of God: In this holy 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 purposes 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 songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world that he loves so much, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and for his Church in our country, in this place, and everywhere, that it may in pure joy lift up the light of the love of God.

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.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to God in the words which Christ himself has taught us:

All:

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.

Presider:

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. **Amen.**

First Lesson: *Genesis 3:8-15*

Reader: Lees Pearson

God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

And they heard the voice 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 amongst the trees of the garden. And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, "Where art thou?" And he said, "I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." And he said, "Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?" And the man said, "The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat." And the Lord God said unto the woman, "What is this that thou hast done?" And the woman said, "The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat." And the Lord God said unto the serpent, "Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: and I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence, Arr. Duane Funderburk

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE,

License #400273-P. All rights reserved.

© 2015 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP)

Second Lesson: *Isaiah 9:2, 6-7*

Reader: Warren Klug

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Coventry Carol, Arr. Mark Hayes

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE,

License #400273-P. All rights reserved.

Arr. ©2001 Word Music, LLC (ASCAP)

Third Lesson: *Luke 1: 26-35, 38*

Reader: Lees Pearson

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, "Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women." And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her. "Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." Then said Mary unto the angel, "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?" And the angel answered and said unto her, "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." And Mary said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." And the angel departed from her.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



Appalachian Carol, Arr. Molly Ijames

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE,
License #400273-P. All rights reserved.
©2020 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

Fourth Lesson: *Luke 2:1, 3-6*

Reader: Warren Klug

Luke tells of the birth of Jesus

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Away in a Manger, Arr. Evelyn R. Larter

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE,
License #400273-P. All rights reserved.
©2015 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP)

Fifth Lesson: *Luke 2:8-16*

Reader: Lees Pearson



The shepherds go to the manger.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, “Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the 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, good will toward men.” And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, “Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.” And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The First Noel, Arr. Mary McDonald

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE,
License #400273-P. All rights reserved.

© 2012 Hope Publishing Company

Sixth Lesson: *Matthew 2:1-11*

Reader: Warren Klug

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.” When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, “In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.” Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, “Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again that I may come and worship him also.” When they had heard the king, they departed; and lo, the star, which they saw 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 exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts, gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



We Three Kings, Arr. Matt Riley

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE,
License #400273-P. All rights reserved.
Arr. © 2017 Matthew William Riley (BMI)

Seventh Lesson: *John 1:1-14*

Reader: Lees Pearson

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. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that light, but was sent to bear witness of that light. That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Joy Medley with Joy to the World and How Great Our Joy!, Arr. Heather Sorenson

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE,
License #400273-P. All rights reserved.

© 2016 Lorenz Publishing Co., a division of The Lorenz Corporation

Closing Prayers

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, abiding with you forever in glory, your eternal Son is born among us in time. May we ever welcome him to the warmth of our earthly homes and so open for all of earth's children a path that leads us home to you. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son. **Amen.**

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Carol of the Bells/ God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen, Arr. Matt Riley

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE,
License #400273-P. All rights reserved.

Arr. © 2016 Matthew William Riley (BMI)



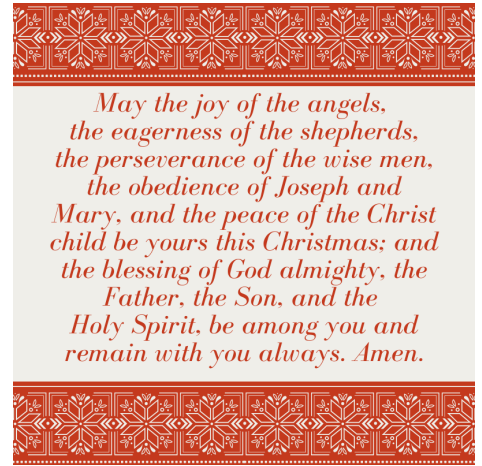
Blessing

Presider: May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Presider: Rejoicing in Emmanuel,
God-with-us, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**



Postlude

Ding Dong! Merrily on High! Arr. Molly Ijames

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE,
License #400273-P. All rights reserved.
© 2020 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

CHRIST CHURCH MUSICIANS

STRINGS:

Brittini Brown, violin

Roberto Arundale, cello

MUSIC DIRECTOR & PIANO:

Molly Noel

SERVING AT THIS CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

PRESIDER:

Warren Klug

READERS:

Lees Pearson, Warren Klug



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ASPEN
536 West North Street · Aspen CO 81611-1253
970.925.3278 / www.christchurchaspen.org