

# A Service of Lessons and Carols



December 15, 2019  
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

The Service of Lessons and Carols is a gathering of scripture readings and sung carols that tell the story of the fall of humanity, God's promise of a Messiah, and the birth of the Christ Child. Its origins date back to Christmas Eve 1880 in Canterbury. The traditional Service of Lessons and Carols was held for the first time at Kings College Chapel on Christmas Eve in 1918, just after the close of World War I. It was seen as a celebration of light and hope in one of the darkest times in European history. Today, the Service of Lessons and Carols can be seen and heard on Christmas Eve at King's College, Cambridge.

**WELCOME**

**REV. JAY D. COOPER**

**PRELUDE**

*FANTASIA ON GREENSLEEVES*

**RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS**

**CHIMING OF THE TRINITY** *The three chimes signify the presence of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

**\*PROCESSIONAL CAROL**

*ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY*

**IRBY**

**Verse 1 – LEAH GRACE BORDERS, SOLOIST**

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.

**Verse 2 – CATHEDRAL CHOIR**

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.

**Verse 3 – CONGREGATION**

**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.**

**Verse 4 – CONGREGATION**

**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 feelth for our sadness,  
And he shareth in our gladness.**

**Verse 5 – CONGREGATION**

**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.**

**Verse 6 – CONGREGATION**

**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.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

(8:45) THE ZIEMANN FAMILY

Matt, Abbie, and Harper

(11:00) THE STERNENBERG & SHANAHAN FAMILIES

Bill, Deedee, Margaret, Wilson, Ella Hammonds, and Camp

RESPONSE

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

238

*Gloria, In Excelsis Deo*

*Gloria, In Excelsis Deo*

## First Lesson

The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

REV. GILLIAN L. WALTERS

CHRISTUS NATUS EST

ARR. ROSEPHANYE POWELL

CATHEDRAL CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA

*In Bethlehem on Christmas morn, Christus natus est. The lowly gem of love was born, Christus natus est. Bright in her crown of fiery star, Christus natus est. Judea's town shone from afar, Christus natus est. Hosanna! Christus natus est. For bird and beast He did not come, Christus natus est. But for the least of mortal scum, Christus natus est. Who lies in ditch? Who begs his bread? Christus natus est. Who has no stitch for back or head? Christus natus est. Who wakes to weep, lies down to mourn? Who in his sleep withdraws from scorn? Ye outraged dust, on field and plain, to feed the lust of madmen slain; Hosanna! Christus natus est. The manger still outshines the throne; Christ must and will come to his own.*

## Second Lesson

The Peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

WAYNE GILL

THERE SHALL A STAR FROM CHRISTUS FELIX MENDELSSOHN

CATHEDRAL CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA

*There shall a Star come out of Jacob, and a sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and dash in pieces princes and nations. How brightly beams the morning star! What sudden radiance from afar with light and comfort glowing! Thy Word, O Lord, radiance darting, truth imparting, gives salvation; Thine be praise and adoration! Will we know of the morning. Spirit among us, shine like the star, your light guides shepherds and kings from afar; shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely, rising in the warmth of your Son's love, star unknowing of night and day, Spirit we wait for your loving Son.*

### Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light: those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them the light has shined.

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.



### Isaiah 11:1-4; 6-9

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.

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.

# Third Lesson

The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
DR. C. JASON BORDERS

MARY'S WONDER

ARR. JOHN SEAGARD

CATHEDRAL CHOIR

*Slumber softly, slumber gently, sleep now,  
I will keep thee, rest now while I watch thee.  
Angel voices now are singing: In Excelsis Gloria!*

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# Fourth Lesson

Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.  
MARGARET CHANDLER

MID-WINTER

ARR. BOB CHILCOTT

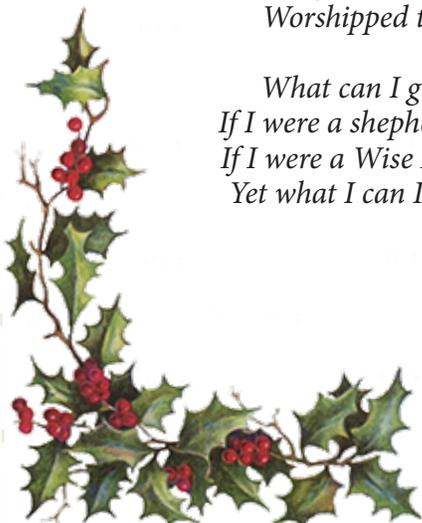
CATHEDRAL CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA

*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;  
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.*

*Angels and archangels may have gathered there,  
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;  
But only His mother, 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.*



## Luke 1:26-35, 38

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.

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.

## Luke 2:1, 3-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered.

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.

# Fifth Lesson

The shepherds go to the manger.  
REV. LUCAS S. TRIBBLE

**THE SHEPHERD'S PIPE CAROL**                      **ARR. JOHN RUTTER**  
CATHEDRAL CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA

*Going through the hills on a night all starry  
On the way to Bethlehem  
Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping  
On the way to Bethlehem*

*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:  
"Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King  
Is come to bring us peace on earth  
And He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem."*

*"Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily  
On the way to Bethlehem  
Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely  
On the way to Bethlehem?"*

*"None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely  
On the way to Bethlehem;  
But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies  
When I get to Bethlehem."*

*Angels in the sky came down from on high  
Hovered over the manger where the babe was lying  
Cradled in the arms of his mother Mary  
Sleeping now at Bethlehem.*

*"Where is the new King, shepherd boy piping merrily  
Is He there at Bethlehem?"  
"I will find Him soon by the star shining brightly  
In the sky o'vr Bethlehem."*

*"May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily  
Come with you to Bethlehem?  
Pay my homage too at the new King's cradle  
Is it far to Bethlehem?"*

*Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:  
"Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King  
Is born in the stable yonder, born for you at Bethlehem."*

## Luke 2:8-16

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.



# Sixth Lesson

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.  
SARA BECK

**BRIGHTEST AND BEST**

**ARR. SHAWN KIRCHNER**

CATHEDRAL CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA

*Hail the blessed morn, see the great Mediator  
Down from the regions of glory descend!  
Shepherds go worship the babe in the manger,  
Lo, for his guard the bright angels attend.*

*Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid.  
Star in East, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where the infant Redeemer is laid.*

*Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining,  
Low lies his bed with the beasts of the stall.  
Angels adore him in slumber reclining,  
Maker, and Monarch, and Savior of all.*

*Shall we not yield him, in costly devotion,  
Odours of Edom and offerings divine,  
Gems from the mountains and pearls from the ocean,  
Myrrh from the forrest and gold from the mine?*

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# Seventh Lesson

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.  
REV. JAY D. COOPER

**THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS**

**ARR. DAN FORREST**

CATHEDRAL CHOIR

*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins.  
To find the lost, to heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry, to release the prisoners,  
To rebuild nations, to bring peace among brothers,  
To make music from the heart.*

## Matthew 2:1-11

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." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

## John 1:1-14

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.

## Verse 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.

## Verse 2

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
 Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
 Late in time behold him come  
 Offspring of the virgin's womb:  
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
 Hail th'incarnate Deity!  
 Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
 Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
 Hark! The herald angels sing  
 Glory to the newborn King.

## Verse 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 lays 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.

## OFFERTORY

## I SAW THREE SHIPS

ARR. MACK WILBERG

CATHEDRAL CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA

MEMBERS OF THE ALLEGRO AND CATHEDRAL BELL CHOIRS

*I saw three ships come sailing in  
 On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
 I saw three ships come sailing in  
 On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*And what was in those ships all three?  
 On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
 And what was in those ships all three?  
 On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*Our Savior Christ and His lady,  
 On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
 Our Savior Christ and His lady,  
 On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*Pray, whither sailed those ships all three?  
 On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
 Pray, whither sailed those ships all three?  
 On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*O they sailed into Bethlehem,  
 On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
 O they sailed into Bethlehem,  
 On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*And all the bells on earth shall ring,  
 On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
 And all the bells on earth shall ring,  
 On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*All the souls on earth shall sing,  
 On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
 All the souls on earth shall sing,  
 On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*I saw three ships come sailing in  
 On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day  
 I saw three ships come sailing in  
 On Christmas Day in the morning*



Verse 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!

Verse 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!

Verse 3

Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,  
 Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;  
 Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?  
 O come, let us adore him,  
 O come, let us adore him,  
 O come, let us adore him,  
 Christ the Lord!

Verse 4

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
 Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!  
 Glory to God, 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!

Verse 5

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
 Jesus, to thee be glory given!  
 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!

\*BENEDICTION

REV. JAY D. COOPER

\*BENEDICTION CAROL

WHAT SWEETER MUSIC CAN WE BRING?

ARR. JOHN RUTTER

POSTLUDE

IN DULCI JUBILO BWV 729

J.S. BACH



## ORCHESTRA

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**VIOLIN I**  
Tian Xu Watson  
Ellen Grant  
Jennifer Thomas  
Sylvia Wehrs  
Emma Jones

**VIOLIN II**  
Lorna Wood  
Bethany Simon  
Iunona Tabula  
Tori Johnston  
Margaret Borders

**VIOLA**  
Dawn Heese  
Michael Fernandez  
Reisa Fukuda

**CELLO**  
Ryan Donohue  
Kasey Dixon  
Jan Gill

**DOUBLE BASS**  
Freddie Smith

**FLUTE**  
Alina Windell  
Kim Urquhart

**OBOE**  
Kathleen Bell  
Natalie Pace

**CLARINET**  
Tim Phillips  
Katrina Phillips

**BASSOON**  
David Simpson  
Conor Bell

**FRENCH HORN**  
Brenda Luchsinger  
John Troxel

**TRUMPET**  
Bryan Reeves  
Dennis Herrick

**TIMPANI**  
Mark Benson

**PERCUSSION**  
Andy Martin

**HARP**  
Elizabeth Carnes

## CATHEDRAL CHOIR

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### SOPRANOS

Amber Andrews  
Kate Berry  
Carolyn Bryan  
Pat Chambless  
Ann Coker  
Susan Cooper  
Sarah Fell  
Jeanne Friesen  
Kate Gates  
Allison Gore  
Sherryl Gould  
Meg Griffin  
Ellen Haulman  
LaFaye Holley  
Erica Jenkins  
Liz Land  
Donna Manson  
Paula Mathis  
Brynn McGlamery  
Linda McIntyre  
Peggy McKinney  
Sarah McWilliams  
Hannah Miller  
Dottie Moseley  
Jodee Schwartz  
Christy Sellers  
Tara Sinco  
Ellie Smith  
Sarah Beth Tribble  
Rebecca Williams

### ALTOS

Carolyn Andreu  
Mary Tyler Ashe  
Julia Azar  
Marsa Beck  
Sara Beck  
Pam Buss  
Nancy Cone  
Jan Gill  
Erma Head  
Gayle Horner  
Kirsten Love  
Sally Kenton  
Sharon Murray  
Lyl Parker  
Jayee Posey  
Catherine Ray  
Ruth Russell  
Ashlynn Scott  
Mabs Seay  
Amy Strickland  
Danna Strickland  
Hannah Thomas  
Susan Thomas  
Sara Ann Turner  
Kate Wilson

### TENORS

John Beck  
Avery Berry  
Tom Borden  
Jonathan Bowman  
James Conely  
Bill Cumbie  
Jack Horner  
Robert Lee  
Chase McKoon  
Ed Reed  
Dawson Sellers  
Lowell Thomas  
James Turner  
David Warren  
Roger Williams  
Fred Zeigler

### BASSES

John Bell  
Blair Bingham  
Dave Borden  
Chris Dunn  
Wayne Gill  
Walter Griffin  
Dan Haulman  
Tyrone Hayes  
Doug Irvin  
Jeremiah Jones  
George Kenton  
Woody Lamar  
John McWilliams  
Roy Smith  
Lloyd Strickland  
Norman Williams

## CATHEDRAL AND ALLEGRO HANDBELL CHOIR

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Kym Blake  
Martha Borden  
Tom Borden  
Mary Brown  
June Carpenter  
Christine Cook  
Kristine Jones

Nancy Lee  
George Kenton  
Sally Kenton  
Eleanor Lucas  
Kathy Price  
Stacie Robinson  
Ann Rittenour

Ruth Russell  
Jodee Schwartz  
Lloyd Strickland  
Penny Thompson  
Leslie Wakefield  
Linda Webb  
Leah Winston



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## MINISTERS

**Reverend Jay D. Cooper**  
Senior Minister

**Reverend Lucas S. Tribble**  
Associate Minister

**Reverend Gillian L. Walters**  
Associate Minister

**Reverend Ben A. McDavid**  
Associate Minister

**Dr. C. Jason Borders**  
Theologian In Residence

**Rev. G. Charles Kendall**  
Associate Minister

**Dr. James H. Seay**  
Director of Music

**Bishop David W. Graves**  
Bishop of Alabama-West  
Florida Conference

**Dr. Joshua H. Coble**  
Organist/Assistant Director of Music

**Rev. R. Allen Newton**  
District Superintendent of  
Montgomery-Prattville District

# Seasonal Services at First United Methodist Church



## LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18  
5:30 PM | SANCTUARY



## ADVENT 4

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22  
SANCTUARY

8:45 & 11 AM | DARE TO  
DREAM



## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24  
SANCTUARY

NOON | HOLY COMMUNION  
3:15 PM | FAMILY SERVICE  
5 & 7 PM | CANDLELIGHT