

# **The Episcopal Church of St. Thomas the Apostle**



A FESTIVAL OF NINE

*Lessons & Carols*

## **First Sunday after Christmas Day A Christmas Festival of Lessons and Carols**

December 26, 2021

**Our Mission Statement**

*Helping Hands – Healing Hearts*

*Welcome All*

The Anglican tradition of the Festival of Lessons and Carols dates back to 1880, when Edward White Benson (later to become Archbishop of Canterbury) designed the service for use on Christmas Eve in Cornwall, England. Lessons and Carols have become a tradition throughout much of the Anglican Communion. The readings follow the arch of salvation history with music for the season dispersed throughout.

## Voluntaries:

*In the bleak mid-winter*, by Malcom Archer

*Gelobet siest du, Jesu Christ* by J.S. Bach

*See amid the winter's snow*, by Malcolm Archer

## Procession Carol

*Once in royal David's city* (H 102)



1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a low - ly
2. He came down to earth from heav - en Who is God and
3. And through all his won - drous child-hood He would hon - or
4. For he is our child-hood's pat - tern, Day by day like
5. And our eyes at last shall see him, Through his own re -



1. cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her ba - by
2. Lord of all, And his shel - ter was a sta - ble,
3. and o - bey, Love and watch the low - ly maid - en
4. us he grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and help - less,
5. deem - ing love; For that child so dear and gen - tle



1. In a man - ger for his bed. Mar - y was that
2. And his cra - dle was a stall. With the poor and
3. In whose gen - tle arms he lay. Chris - tian chil - dren
4. Tears and smiles like us he knew: And he feels for
5. Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove: And he leads his



1. moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle Child.
2. mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
3. all should be Kind, o - be - dient, good as he.
4. all our sad - ness, And he shares in all our glad - ness.
5. chil - dren on To the place where he has gone.

## **The Bidding and Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant:*

Dear People of God: In this Christmas 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 purpose 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 place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city.

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.

And now, to gather up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

*All:*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

*Celebrant:*

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.

*All:*  
Amen.

## **The Invitatory**

*Of the Father's love begotten (sung by Choir)*

### **Lesson I**

Dr. Stephen V. Sprinkle

Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-25

*God creates man and woman to live in obedience in the Garden of Eden*

Organ Interlude

### **Lesson II**

Kathy Carson

Genesis 3:1-15

*Adam and Eve reel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.*

Carol: *I Wonder as I Wander*, Kenneth Goodwin, soloist

## Lesson III

Dr. René Aguirre

Isaiah 35:1-10

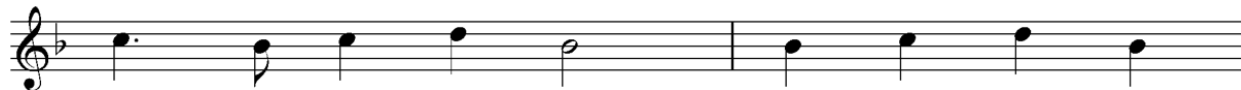
*The prophet proclaims that God will come and save us*

### Carol

*Savior of the nations, come! (H 54)*



1 Sa - vior of the na - tions, come! Vir - gin's  
2 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the  
3 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears, grac - ing  
4 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son, who o'er



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, both  
Vir - gin un - de - filed! Might - y God and  
his cre - a - ted spheres; hence to death and  
sin the vic - tory won. Bound - less shall your



heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.  
Ma - ry's son, ea - ger now his race to run!  
hell de - scends, then the heaven - ly throne a - scends.  
king - dom be; grant that we its glo - ries see.

## Lesson IV

Alyssa Montague

Isaiah 7:10-15

*God promises that a child shall be conceived who will be know as "God with us"*

### Carol

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming (H 81)*

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!  
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,  
 \* 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,

Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.  
 with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.  
 dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;

It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the  
 To show God's love a - right, she bore to  
 true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and

cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.  
 us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.  
 death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

## Lesson V

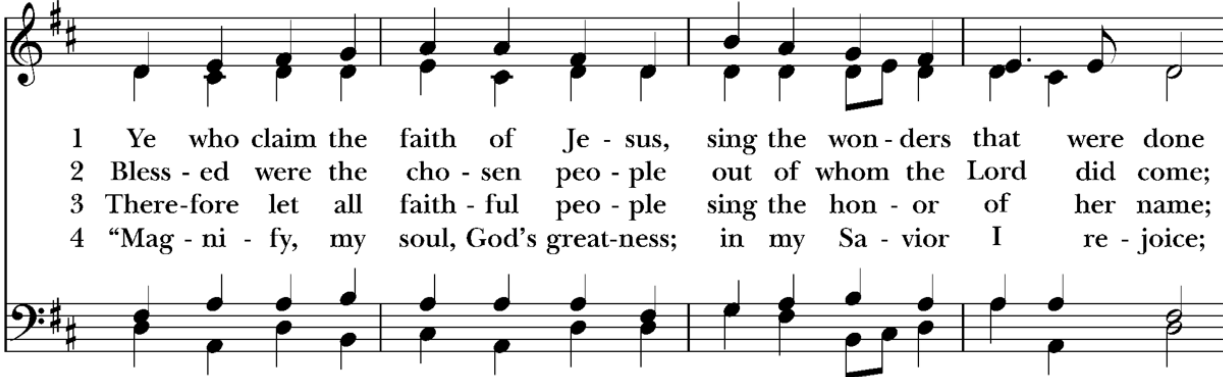
Dr. Randolph A. Lacy

Luke 1:26-38

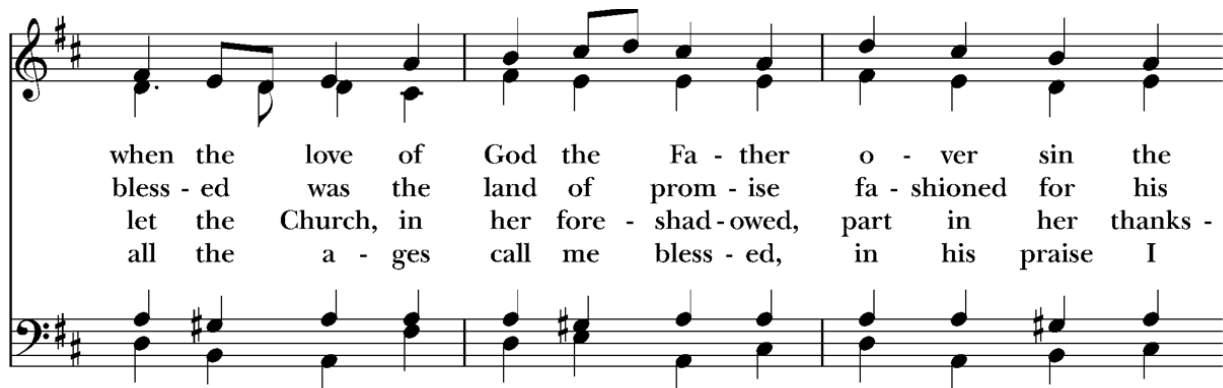
*The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High*

## Carol

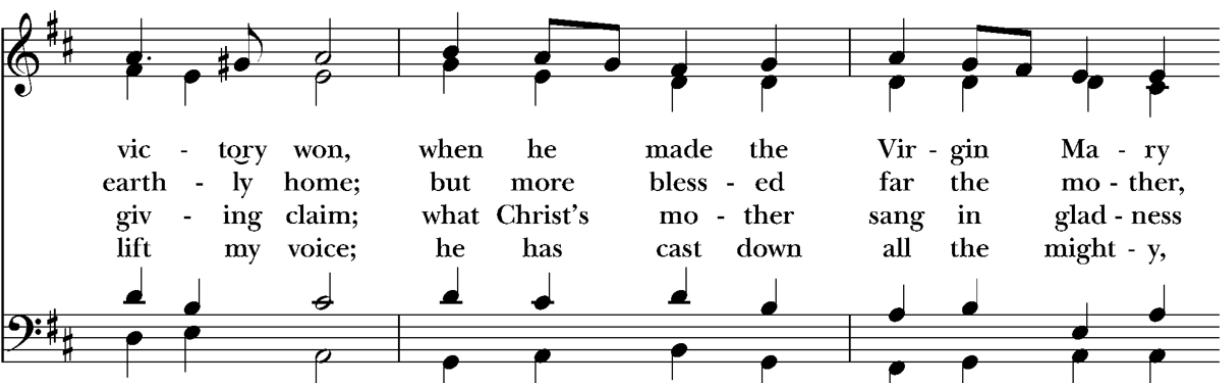
*Ye who claim the faith of Jesus (H 269)*



1 Ye who claim the faith of Je - sus, sing the won - ders that were done  
2 Bless - ed were the cho - sen peo - ple out of whom the Lord did come;  
3 There - fore let all faith - ful peo - ple sing the hon - or of her name;  
4 "Mag - ni - fy, my soul, God's great - ness; in my Sa - vior I re - joice;

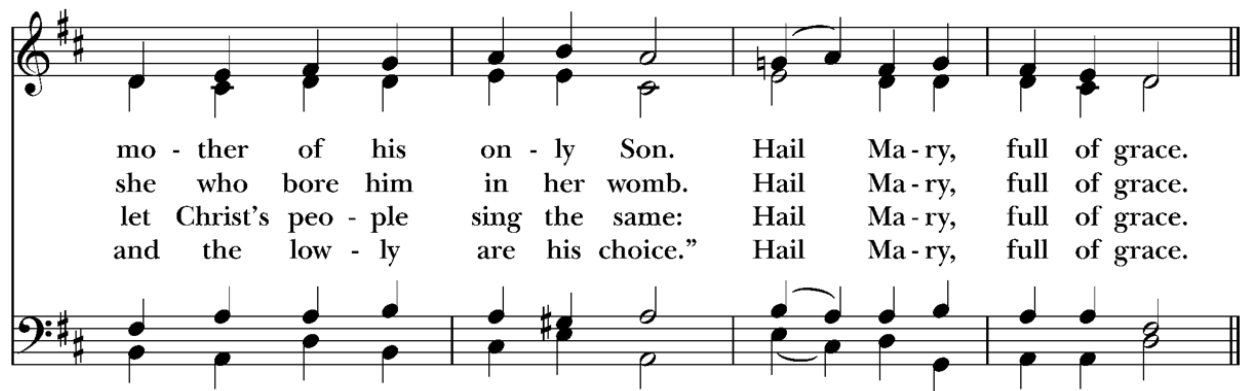


when the love of God the Fa - ther o - ver sin the  
bless - ed was the land of prom - ise fa - shioned for his  
let the Church, in her fore - shad - owed, part in her thanks -  
all the a - ges call me bless - ed, in his praise I



vic - tory won, when he made the Vir - gin Ma - ry  
earth - ly home; but more bless - ed far the mo - ther,  
giv - ing claim; what Christ's mo - ther sang in glad - ness  
lift my voice; he has cast down all the might - y,





mo - ther of his on - ly Son. Hail Ma - ry, full of grace.  
she who bore him in her womb. Hail Ma - ry, full of grace.  
let Christ's peo - ple sing the same: Hail Ma - ry, full of grace.  
and the low - ly are his choice." Hail Ma - ry, full of grace.



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**Lesson VI**  
Luke 1:39-46

Allen M. Junek

*The Virgin Mary is greeted by Elizabeth and proclaims her joy*

**Carol**

*Tell out, my soul (H 437)*

1 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord!  
2 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his Name!  
3 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his might!  
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!

Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;  
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.  
Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.

ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;  
his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;  
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,  
Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord

in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - jice.  
 his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.  
 the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.  
 to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

**Choral Anthem *Still, Still, Still***



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## Lesson VII

Fred Owen

Luke 2:1-20

*Jesus is born at Bethlehem and is worshiped by angels and shepherds*

### Carol

*In the Bleak midwinter.* Laura Ayers, soloist

### Carol

*What child is this (H115)*

*Unison or harmony*

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with  
ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for  
peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

*Refrain*

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to

bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

# Lesson VIII

Janet Elsea

Luke 2:21-36

*Jesus receives his name and is presented to Simeon in the Temple*

## Carol

*Hail to the Lord who comes (H 259)*

1 Hail to the Lord who comes, comes to his tem-ple gate;  
2 but, borne up - on the throne of Ma - ry's gen - tle breast,  
3 There Jo - seph at her side in rev - erent won - der stands;  
4 O Light of all the earth, thy chil - dren wait for thee!

not with his an - gel host, not in his king - ly state;  
watched by her du - teous love, in her fond arms at rest,  
and, filled with ho - ly joy, old Si - meon in his hands  
Come to thy tem - ples here, that we, from sin set free,

no shouts pro - claim him nigh, no crowds his com - ing wait;  
thus to his Fa - ther's house he comes, the heaven - ly guest.  
takes up the prom - ised child, the glo - ry of all lands.  
be - fore thy Fa - ther's face may all pre - sent - ed be!

**Lesson IX**

The Rev. Christopher Blake Thomas

John 1:1-18

*The Word was made flesh and we have seen his glory*

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* And also with you.

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*All:* Amen

**Blessing**

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. *Amen.*

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. *Amen.*

May God who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

## Procession Carol

*Good Christian friends, rejoice* (H 107)

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

## Closing Voluntary

*Good Christian friends, rejoice* by Denis Bédard







### *Copyright Acknowledgements*

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#### *Once in royal David's city*

*Of the Father's love begotten.* 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)

*Savior of the nations, come!* Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546) after Ambrose of Milan (340-397); tr. William M. Reynolds (1812-1876) and James Waring McCrady (b. 1938)

Music: *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*, melody from *Erfurt Enchiridia*, 1524; harm. Melchior Vulpius (1560?-1616)

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming.* 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*. Music: *Es ist ein Ros*, melody from *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

*Ye who claim the faith of Jesus.* Words: Sts. 1-3, Vincent Stucksy Stratton Coles (1845-1929), alt.; st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984) metrical *Magnificat*.

Music: *Den des Vaters Sinn geboren*, melody from *Hundert Arien*, 1694; harm. Conrad Kocher (1786-1872)

*Tell out, my soul.* Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926); based on *The Song of Mary*. Music: *Birmingham*, from *Repository of Sacred Music, Part II*, 1813; harm. *Songs of Praise*, 1925

Choral Anthem. Austrian Carol arr. by Norman Luboff ©1960 Walton Music Corp.

*In the bleak midwinter.* Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894). Music: *Cranham*, Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934)

*What child is this?* Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898) Music: *Greensleeves*, English melody; harm. *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871

*Hail to the Lord who comes.* Words: John Ellerton (1826-1893), alt. Music: *Old 120th*, melody from *The Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1570; harm. Thomas Ravenscroft (1592?-1635?), after Richard Allison (16th cent.); adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

*Good Christian friends.* Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *In dulci jubilo*, German carol, 14th cent.; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)

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(Please leave message with name, call back number, and brief explanation of urgency. Fr. Christopher will receive an urgent message to call back as soon as possible.

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**The Right Rev. Michael Smith, Assistant Bishop of Dallas**

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