

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS



December 17, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road

Silver Spring, MD 20910

ABOUT THE SERVICE

The traditional Lessons and Carols service was drawn up by E.W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, for use in the wooden shed which then served as his cathedral in Truro, England at 10:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve 1880. A.C. Benson recalled: "My father arranged from ancient sources a little service for Christmas Eve, nine carols and nine tiny lessons, which were read by various officers of the Church, beginning with a chorister and ending, through the different grades with the Bishop." The suggestion had come from G.H.S. Walpole, later Bishop of Edinburgh. Almost immediately other churches adapted the service for their own use. A wider fame began to grow when the service was sung at King's College Chapel, Cambridge, and first broadcast in 1928. With the exception of 1929, it has been broadcast annually, even during the Second World War when the ancient glass (and also all heat) had been removed from the Chapel and the name of King's could not be broadcast for security reasons. Since it's popularization by King's College, the service has become widely used by various denominations. Every year more North American congregations are discovering the beauty of a traditional English service called, very simply, "Nine Lessons and Carols." The structure of the service is as simple as the title: nine passages of Scripture are followed by nine carols. But the content of those readings and the traditional way of conducting the service have become very meaningful to many congregations.

Wherever the service is heard and however it is adapted, whether the music is provided by choir or congregation, the pattern and strength of the service derives from the lessons and not the music. The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God seen through the windows and words of the Bible. Local interests appear in the bidding prayer and personal circumstances give point to different parts of the service. Many of those who took part in the first service must have recalled those killed in the Great War when it came to the famous passage, "all those who rejoice with us but on another shore and in a greater light." The center of the service is still found by those who "go in heart and mind" and who consent to follow where the story leads. Then they may see revealed the God who is among us, and worship.

Reminder

It is the tradition of Saint Luke Lutheran Church to maintain silence in the worship area so that people may pray. Please help us preserve an atmosphere of quiet reverence before worship begins, remembering to turn cell phones off; let the music of the opening voluntary quiet your thoughts as you prepare for worship.

PRELUDE

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Nicolaus Bruhns (1665-1697)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand. All join singing at the third verse.



Chorister

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.

4. 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 feeleth for our sadness,
 and he shareth in our gladness.

Choir

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 and mean and lowly
 lived on earth our Saviour holy.

5. 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.

All

3. 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.

6. 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.

Once in royal David's City
 Descant: David Willcocks (1919-2015)

All remain standing.

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, this day it is our duty and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels, and to go in heart and mind to Bethlehem, and see this thing which has come to pass, and the Babe, lying in the manger. Therefore let us hear again from Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days until the glorious redemption brought us by this holy Child; and let us make this house of prayer glad with our carols of praise.

But first, because this of all things would rejoice Jesus' heart, let us pray to him for the needs of the whole world, and all his people; for peace upon the earth he came to save, for love and unity within the one Church he did build; for goodwill among all peoples. And particularly at this time, let us remember the poor, the cold, the hungry, the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all who know not our Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly let us remember all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude who no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we forevermore are one. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words that Christ himself has taught us.

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, forever and ever. Amen.

May the almighty God bless us with divine grace, may Christ give us the joy of everlasting life, and unto the fellowship of the citizens above, may the Spirit of Love bring us all. **Amen.**

THE INVITATORY CAROL *The Congregation remains standing.*

1. In the bleak mid-winter
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 mid-winter
Long ago.

2. Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him
Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When He comes to reign:
In the bleak mid-winter
A stable-place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.

3. Enough for Him, whom cherubim
Worship night and day,
A breastful of milk,
And a mangerful of hay;
Enough for Him, whom angels
Fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel
Which adore.

4. 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.

In the Bleak Midwinter

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

Music: Harold Darke (1888-1976)

All are seated.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

The First Lesson is from the third chapter of the Book of Genesis in which Adam and Eve disobey God and learn of the consequences.

They heard the sound of the Lord GOD walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord GOD among the trees of the garden. But the Lord GOD called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord GOD said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord GOD said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel." And to the man he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

1. The Lord at first did Adam make
Out of the dust and clay,
And in his nostrils breathèd life,
E'en as the Scriptures say.
And then in Eden's paradise He placèd him to
dwell,
That he within it should remain,
To dress and keep it well:

[Refrain]
Now let good Christians all begin
An holy life to live,
And to rejoice and merry be,
For this is Christmas Eve.

2. Now mark the goodness of the Lord,
Which he for mankind bore;
His mercy soon he did extend,
Lost man for to restore;
And then, for to redeem our souls
From death and hellish thrall,

He said his own dear Son should be
The Saviour of us all: [Refrain]

3. Now for the blessings we enjoy,
Which are from heaven above,
Let us renounce all wickedness,
And live in perfect love:
Then we shall do Christ's own command,
E'en his own written word;
And when we die, in heaven shall
Enjoy our living Lord [Refrain]

4. And now the tide is nigh at hand,
In which our Saviour came;
Let us rejoice and merry be
In keeping of the same;
Let's feed the poor and hungry souls,
And such as do it crave;
And when we die, in heaven we
Our sure reward shall have: [Refrain]

The Lord at first did Adam make
Words: English Traditional
Music: English Tradition, arr. Philip Moore (b. 1943)

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his offspring, all the nations of the earth will be blessed.

The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

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 Saviour Christ and his lady,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;
Our Saviour 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.

And all the Angels in Heaven shall sing,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;
And all the Angels in Heaven shall sing,
On Christmas day in the morning.

And all the Souls on Earth shall sing,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;
And all the Souls on Earth shall sing,
On Christmas day in the morning.

Then let us all rejoice amain,
On Christmas day, on Christmas day;
Then let us all rejoice amain,
On Christmas day in the morning.

I saw three ships

Words: English traditional carol

Music: English traditional carol, arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Isaiah foretells the coming of the Savior and his kingdom.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

On Christmas night all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring.
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
News of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be so sad,
Since our Redeemer made us glad,
When from our sin he set us free,
All for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before His grace,
Then life and health come in its place.
Angels and men with joy may sing
All for to see the new-born King.

All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God and peace to men,
Now and for evermore, Amen!"

On Christmas Night (Sussex Carol)

Words: English Traditional

Music: English Traditional, arr. Philip Ledger (1937-2012)

All stand and sing.
HYMN

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,

from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,

“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king.”
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,

The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876
Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

It Came upon the Midnight Clear
Text: Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876)
Music: *Carol*, Richard S. Willis (1819-1900)

All are seated.

FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-4, 6-9

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

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; or the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

There is no rose of such virtue
As is the rose that bare Jesu:
Alleluia.

By that rose we may well see
There be one God in Persons Three:
Pares forma²

For in this rose contained was
Heaven and earth in little space:
Res miranda¹

Then leave we all this worldly mirth
And follow we this joyous birth:
Transeamus.³

¹ thing to be marvelled at

² of equal form

³ let us follow

There is no rose of such virtue
Words: Medieval
Music: John Joubert (1927-2019)

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1: 26-35, 38

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

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

1. I sing of a maiden
That is makeless;¹
King of all kings
To her son she ches.²

2. He came allso³ still
Where his mother was,
As dew in April
That falleth on the grass.

3. He came all so³ still
To his mother's bower,
As dew in April
That falleth on the flower.

4. He came all so still
Where his mother lay,
As dew in April
That falleth on the spray.

5. Mother and maiden
Was never none but she;
Well may such a lady
God's mother be.

¹ Matchless.

² Chose.

³ Bullen gives "also" which is notes means "as" in this context."

I Sing of a Maiden
Words: Traditional Carol
Music: Patrick Hadley (1899-1973)

SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

Saint Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Still, still, still
Let all the world be still,
For Mary lays her son to rest,
Sings to him softly at her breast,
Still, still, still,
Let all the world be still.

Joy, joy, joy,
My heart is filled with joy!
The God of love has left his throne,
Made this humble world his own,
Joy, joy, joy,
My heart is filled with joy!

Sleep, sleep, sleep,
My dearest baby, sleep,
The angels all rejoice and sing,
Heaven your delight shall ring,
Sleep, sleep, sleep,
My dearest baby, sleep.

Still, still, still

Words: German Carol, tr. Meg Peacocke
Music: German Carol, arr. Philip Ledger

SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2: 8-16

Saint Luke tells how the shepherds go to the manger.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Good people all, this Christmas time,
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done
In sending His beloved Son
With Mary holy we should pray,
To God with love this Christmas Day
In Bethlehem upon that morn,
There was a blessed Messiah born.

The night before that happy tide,
The noble virgin and her guide
Were long time seeking up and down
To find a lodging in the town.
But mark how all things came to pass
From every door repelled, alas,
As was foretold, their refuge all
Was but a humble ox's stall.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep
To whom God's angels did appear
Which put the shepherds in great fear
Prepare and go, the angels said
To Bethlehem, be not afraid
For there you'll find, this happy morn
A princely Babe, sweet Jesus, born.

With thankful heart and joyful mind
The shepherds went the babe to find
And as God's angel had foretold
They did our Saviour Christ behold
Within a manger He was laid
And by his side the virgin maid
Attending on the Lord of Life
Who came on earth to end all strife.

There were three wise men from afar
Directed by a glorious star
And on they wandered night and day
Until they came where Jesus lay
And when they came unto that place
Where our beloved Messiah lay
They humbly cast them at His feet
With gifts of gold and incense sweet.

Wexford Carol

Words: Traditional Irish Carol

Music: Traditional Irish Carol, arr. Philip Stopford (b. 1977)

All stand and sing.

HYMN



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .
4 This star drew near to the . . . north-west, o'er . .
5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, and

Refrain



night that was so deep.
tin-ued both day and night.
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
place where Je - sus lay.
myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

6. Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,
And with his blood mankind hath bought: *Refrain*

The first nowell
Music: English Traditional

All are seated.

EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-11

Saint Matthew tells how the wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Refrain:

Lully, lulla,
thou little tiny child,
by by, lully lullay.

1 O sisters too,
how may we do
for to preserve this day
this poor youngling,
for whom we do sing
by by, lully lullay?

2 Herod the king,
in his raging,
charged he hath this day
his men of might,
in his own sight,
all young children to slay.

3 That woe is me,
poor child for thee!
and ever morn and day,
for thy parting
neither say nor sing
by by, lully lullay! [Refrain]

Coventry Carol

Words: from the *Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors* (15th century)
Music: from the *Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors* (1591 version)

Saint 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. 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*The congregation may be seated for the pastoral welcome. The offering will be received during the carol.
Tonight's offering will benefit the Community Family Life Services.*

We invite you to give your offering online at saintlukegive.us or place it in the offering plate.

You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

CAROL

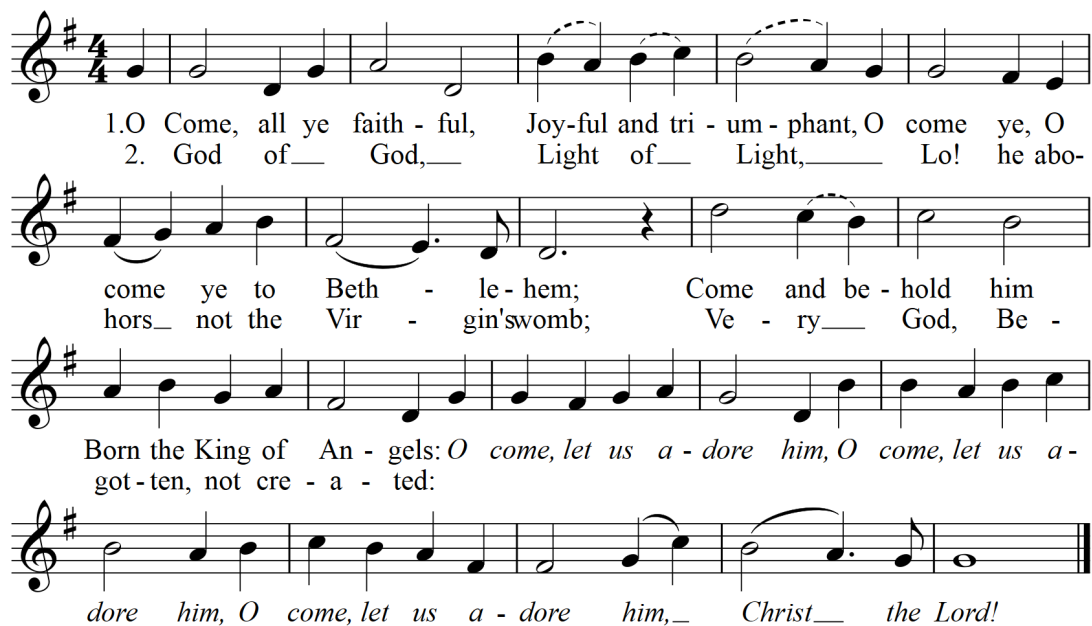
Verbum caro factum est,
Et habitavit in nobis,
Cuius gloriam, gloriam vidimus
Quasi unigeniti, a Patre.

*The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we
beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the
Father.*

Verbum caro factum est
Words: John 1: 14
Music: Louis Halsey (b. 1929)

All stand and sing.

HYMN



1. O Come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O
2. God of God, Light of Light, Lo! he abo-
come ye to Beth - le - hem; Come and be - hold him
hors not the Vir - gin's womb; Ve - ry God, Be -
Born the King of An - gels: O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
got - ten, not cre - a - ted:
dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

3 Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
'Glory to God
In the highest.'
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesu, 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.

O Come, All Ye Faithful
Setting: David Willcocks

CLOSING PRAYERS AND BLESSING

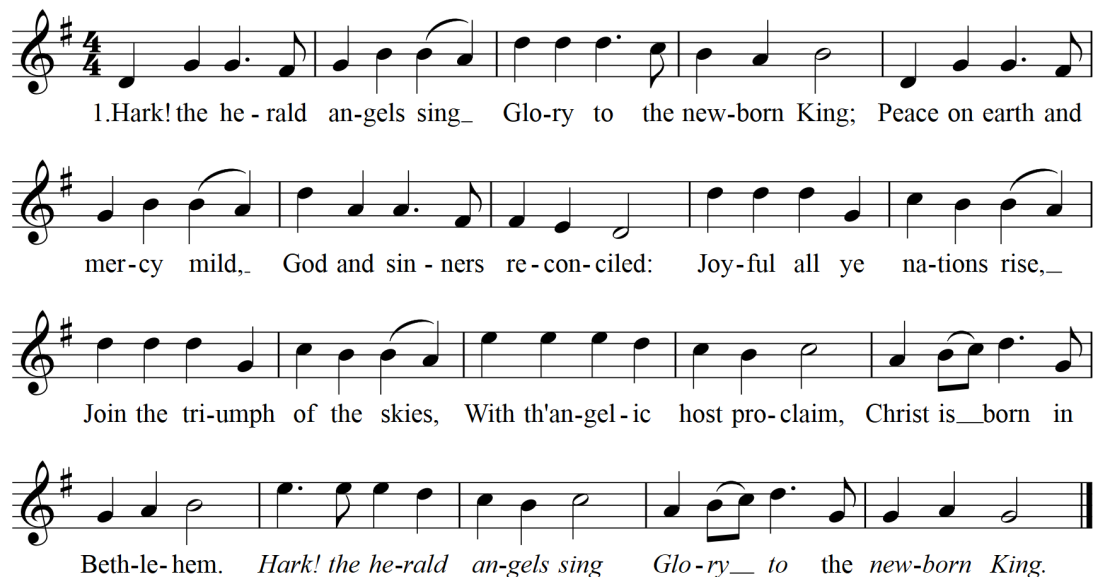
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

May he who by his Incarnation, gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN



1. Hark! the he - rald an - gels sing_ Glo - ry to the new - born King; Peace on earth and
mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners re - con - ciled: Joy - ful all ye na - tions rise, -
Join the tri - umph of the skies, With th' an - gel - ic host pro - claim, Christ is_ born in
Beth - le - hem. *Hark! the he - rald an - gels sing Glo - ry_ to the new - born King.*

2 Christ, by highest heaven 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 with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel.

*Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King"*

3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.

*Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King"*

*Hark! The herald angels sing
Descant: David Willcocks*

POSTLUDE

"Dieu parmi nous" (*God among us*) from *La Nativité du Seigneur*

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

Community Family Life Services

Community Family Life Services is a faith-based non-profit organization serving low-income and homeless men, women, children, and families in the metro D.C. area for over thirty years. The agency facilitates personal growth, independence, and integration into a healthy community for their clients, regardless of their faith.

Through a Continuum of Care service delivery model, CFLS offers transitional housing for those who are homeless, emergency food and shelter to meet the most basic necessities of life, case management with individuals living with HIV or AIDS, development and job placement, support services, including life skill development, and substance abuse counseling, mentoring, and parenting workshops. Through these programs, they empower clients to change their lives over the long-term. For more information, visit www.cflsdc.org.

Choristers

Hannah Montgomery
Tessa Shugert
Ronan Shugert

Genesis Bonilla Alfaro
Sayra Lopez
Karla Lopez

Schola Cantorum

Soprano

Margaret Neily
Becky Unkenholz
Bethany Brookshire

Alto

Tacy Downing
Jenny Farrar
Meg Numata
Sarah Hanson
Alix Evans

Tenor

Ellen Miller
Ralph Watkins
Henry Woehlke
Christopher Alfonso

Bass

William Leader
William Schultz
Willard Unkenholz
Sean Link
Noah Mond

Officiant

The Rev. Connie A. Miller

Saint Luke Choirs

Dr. Alain Truche

Organist

Grace Oh

Lectors

The First Lesson

Tessa Shugert, *members of the Choristers*

The Second Lesson

Genesis Bonilla Alfaro, *member of the Choristers*

The Third Lesson

Tacy Downing, *member of the Schola Cantorum*

The Fourth Lesson

Meg Numata, *member of the Schola Cantorum*

The Fifth Lesson

Siah Annand, *Sunday School Teacher*

The Sixth Lesson

The Rev. Rich Zawistoski, *Confirmation Pastor*

The Seventh Lesson

Jacky Martin, *President of the Saint Luke Council*

The Eighth Lesson

Dr. Alain Truche, *Director of Music*

The Ninth Lesson

The Rev. Connie A. Miller, *Senior Pastor*

Crucifer

Bill Leader

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT SAINT LUKE

Christmas Eve –Sunday, December 24

4:00 p.m. Children’s Creche (Christmas Story) Service

5:30 p.m. Children’s Creche (Christmas Story) Service

7:00 p.m. Misa Navidad (Worship in Spanish)

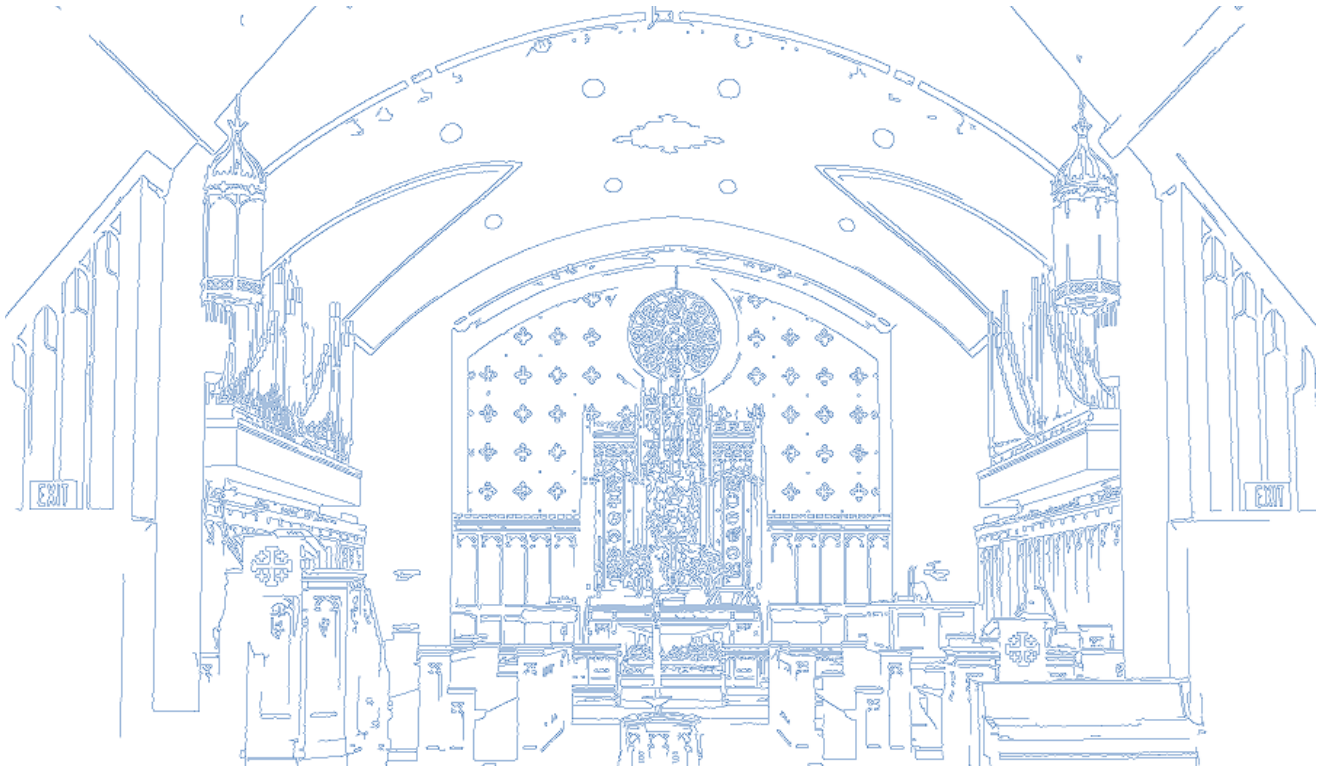
9:00 p.m. Festival Holy Communion

Christmas Day - Monday, December 25

10:00 a.m. Festival Worship Holy Communion

Sunday, December 31

10:00 a.m. First Sunday after Christmas



Saint Luke Lutheran Church & School

9100 Colesville Road

Silver Spring, MD 20910

www.saintluke.us

Follow us  SaintLukeMusic

