



# SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS *for* CHRISTMAS

The Second Sunday after Christmas  
January 3, 2021



Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross

The Rev. Kelly Moughty, Priest-in-Charge

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS  
JANUARY 3, 2021 – 10:00 A.M.

## SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Prelude

Prelude on *Irby*

Farlee

*Please stand as the procession enters*

Hymn 105    *God rest you merry, gentlemen*

God Rest You Merry



1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle-men, let noth - ing you dis - may;  
2 From God our heaven - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came  
3 "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you af - fright;  
4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,



re - mem - ber Christ our Sa - vior was born on Christ-mas Day,  
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:  
this day is born a Sa - vior of a pure vir - gin bright,  
and with true love and char - i - ty each o - ther now em - brace;



to save us all from Sa - tan's power when we were gone a - stray.  
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.  
to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's power and might."  
this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas doth bring re - deem - ing grace.



*Refrain*  
O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com-fort and  
joy; O tid - ings of com - fort and joy!

### BIDDING PRAYER

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.

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: THE PEOPLE WALKED IN DARKNESS

Isaiah 9:2-7

**T**he people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, 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 onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

**People**      **Thanks be to God.**

**CAROL**      (*Lighting of first candle*)

**Hymn 66**      *Come, thou long-expected Jesus*

Stuttgart

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:  
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,  
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

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, favoured 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 favour 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 for ever, 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. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with 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.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.' And Mary remained with her for about three months and then returned to her home.

Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

The Word of the Lord.

**People**

**Thanks be to God.**

CAROL *(Lighting of second candle)*Hymn 265 *The Angel Gabriel*

Gabriel's Message

1. The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,  
 2. "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,  
 3. Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,  
 4. Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;  
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,  
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,  
 in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,  
 thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
 "my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."  
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!  
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!  
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!  
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!"

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.

**People**      **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL      (*Lighting of third candle*)

Hymn 115      *What child is this*

Greensleeves

*Unison or harmony*

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

Mary'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.

#### THE FOURTH LESSON: THE SHEPHERDS GO TO THE MANGER

Luke 2:8–20

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 Saviour, 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 favours!’ 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. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Word of the Lord.

**People**

Thanks be to God.

CAROL                    *(Lighting of fourth candle)*

Hymn 94                *While shepherds watched their flocks by night*

Winchester Old

1 While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, all seat - ed on the ground,  
2 "Fear not," said he, for might - y dread had seized their trou-bled mind;  
3 "To you, in Da - vid's town, this day is born of Da - vid's line  
4 "The heaven - ly Babe you there shall find to hu - man view dis - played,  
5 Thus spake the ser - aph, and forth-with ap-peared a shin - ing throng

1 the an - gel of the Lord came down, and glo - ry shone a - round.  
2 "Glad tid - ings of great joy I bring to you and all man - kind.  
3 the Sa - vior, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:  
4 all mean - ly wrapped in swath-ing bands, and in a man - ger laid."  
5 of an - gels prais - ing God, who thus ad - dressed their joy - ful song:

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."

THE FIFTH LESSON: THE WISE MEN ARE LED BY THE STAR TO JESUS

Matthew 2:1–12

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. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Word of the Lord.

**People**

**Thanks be to God.**

CAROL      (*Lighting of fifth candle*)  
 Hymn 128    *We three kings of Orient are*

Three Kings of Orient

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing  
 2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I  
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I:  
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a  
 5 Glo - rious now be hold him a - rise, King and

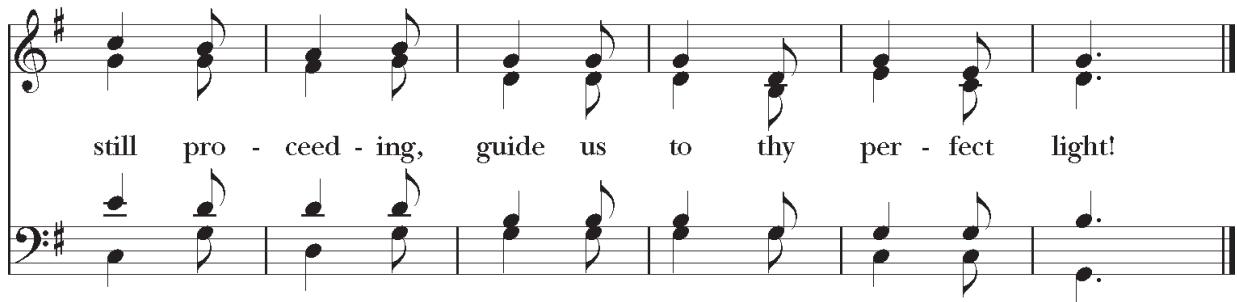
1 gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
 2 bring to crown him a - gain, King for ev - er,  
 3 owns a De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,  
 4 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,  
 5 God and Sac - ri - fice; heaven sings al - le -

1 moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 2 ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.  
 3 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship him, God Most High.  
 4 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
 5 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

*Refrain*

O star of won - der, star of night,

star with roy - al beau - ty bright; west - ward lead - ing,



## THE SIXTH LESSON: JESUS IS PRESENTED IN THE TEMPLE

Luke 2:21-36

**A**fter eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord’), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.’ Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.’ And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, ‘This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.’ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage.

The Word of the Lord.

**People**

**Thanks be to God.**

**CAROL**                   *(Lighting of sixth candle)*

**Hymn 100**           *Joy to the World!*

Antioch

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come:  
2 Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
\*3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace,

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

PEACE

GREETING

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.**

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Hymn 99 *While shepherds kept their watching**Refrain*

## Go Tell It on the Mountain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and

ev - ery - where; go tell it on the moun - tain, that

Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep - herds kept their  
2 The shep - herds feared and  
3 Down in a low - ly

watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -

trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang  
man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and

hold, through-out the hea-vens there shone a ho - ly light.

out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.  
God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

*Repeat Refrain*

**DISMISSAL**

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**People** **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Postlude on *Mendelssohn*

Page

**HOLY CROSS MISSION**

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross is an inclusive, supportive, spiritual community that celebrates the diversity and dignity of all God's people. We strive to offer inspiring worship, serious engagement with questions of faith, commitment to serving our neighbors and the world, and opportunities for fun and fellowship. We encourage all to participate in God's purpose and plan for this church. Join us in this great adventure and share in the blessings of God so freely given!

**Worship and Education at Holy Cross****SUNDAY**

9:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer  
10:00 a.m. – Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. – Adult Formation

**WEDNESDAY**

10:30 a.m. Bible/Book Study

**Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross**

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