



A SERVICE OF  
LESSONS &  
CAROLS

SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 22  
4PM

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH  
10 BILLERICA RD  
CHELMSFORD, MA 01824



**PRELUDE**

The Shepherds at the Manger

Franz Liszt

**HYMN #102** (*Please stand as you are able*)

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.

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, the scorned, the lowly  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him,  
Through his own redeeming love;  
For that child who seemed so helpless  
Is our Lord in heaven above;  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable  
With the oxen standing round,  
We shall see him; but in heaven,  
Where the saints his throne surround:  
Christ, revealed to faithful eye,  
Set a God's right hand on high.

*Cecil Frances Alexander*

'Irby'  
*Henry John Gauntlett*

**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 for evermore 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, for ever 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

**HYMN #84** (*Please stand as you are able*)

Love came down at Christmas,  
Love, all lovely, love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas,  
Star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead,  
Love incarnate, Love divine;  
Worship we our Jesus;  
But wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token.  
Love be yours, and Love be mine,  
Love to God and neighbor,  
Love for plea and gift and sign.

*Christina Rossetti*

'Garten'  
harm. *David Evans*

## **FIRST LESSON**

**Laura Marshall**

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he walked in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?" He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; So I hid." And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat from it,' cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

*Genesis 3:8-15; 17-19*

## CAROL

In night's dim shadows lying,  
Our limbs fast locked in sleep,  
To Thee with faithful sighing,  
Our souls their vigil keep.

Desire of ev'ry nations,  
Hear, Lord, our piteous cry,  
Thou Word the world's salvation,  
Uplift us where we lie.

Lord, be Thine Advent hastn'd  
Lest sin Thy people mar,  
The gates which Adam fastn'd,  
The gates of heav'n unbar.

Son, to Thine endless merit,  
Redeemer, Savior, Friend.  
With Sire and Holy Spirit  
be praises without end.

*C. Coffin (W.J. Blew, ed.)*

Katholisches Gesangbuch  
*arr. George Guest*

## SECOND LESSON

**Bob Andrews**

The angel of the Lord called Abraham from heaven a second time and said, "I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

*Genesis 22:15-18*

**HYMN #65** (*Please stand as you are able*)

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!  
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.  
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.  
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.  
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.  
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.  
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.  
His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.  
All lands will bow before him. Their voices will adore him.  
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Charles Wesley

'Stuttgart'  
William Henry Havergal

### **THIRD LESSON**

**Jen Dowd**

*The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.*

*Isaiah 9:2; 6-7*

### **CAROL**

*Comfort, comfort ye, my people;  
Speak ye peace: thus saith your God;  
Comfort those who sit in darkness,  
Bowed beneath oppression's load;  
Of the peace that waits for them  
Speak ye to Jerusalem;  
Tell her that her sins I cover,  
And her warfare now is over.*

*Make ye straight what long was crooked;  
Make the rougher places plain;  
Let your heart be true and humble,  
As befits his holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord  
Now o'er earth is shed abroad,  
And all flesh shall see the token  
That his word is never broken.*

J.G. Olearius (tr. Catherine Winkworth)

Genevan Psalter Melody  
arr. Robert J. Powell

## **FOURTH LESSON**

**Lisa Condor**

*A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.*

*He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.*

*The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and the little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.*

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

**HYMN #81** (Please stand as you are able)

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming  
as seers of old have sung.  
It came a blossom bright,  
Amid the cold of winter,  
when half spent was the night.*

*Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
the Rose I have in mind,  
With Mary we behold it,  
the Virgin Mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
She bore to us a Savior,  
when half spent was the night.*

German, 15 c.  
tr. Theodore Baker

'Es ist ein Ros'  
Michael Praetorius

## **FIFTH LESSON**

**Debbie Sullivan**

*In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."*

*"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.*

*Luke 1:26-35*

## **CAROL**

*The Moon of Wintertime  
(with O Come, O Come Emmanuel)*

## **CAROL**

*A dove as white as winter, from heav'n came to earth,  
And as an angel, greeted a maid of humble birth.  
She bowed her head and listened to his words,  
That she, above all others, was favored by the Lord.  
Kyrie eleison.*

*The heav'nly gates will open, thou shalt have a Son.  
Emmanuel, the most high, the Chosen One.  
For know, a blessed mother shalt thou be;  
All coming generations will laud and honor thee.  
Kyrie eleison.*

*Our hope and expectation, O Jesus appear;  
Arise, thou Sun so longed for, above this darkened sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted, Lord to see  
The day of earth's redemption, and ever be with thee.  
Kyrie eleison.*

Mark Schwiezer

*'Taublein weiss'*  
Johannes Brahms

## **SIXTH LESSON**

**Lilli Herlihy**

*In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.  
Luke 2:1-7*

**HYMN #101** (Please stand as you are able)

*Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

*The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

Traditional

*'Cradle Song'*  
William James Kirkpatrick

## **CAROL**

*Still, still, still, the Child is sleeping now.  
Maria her song is gently singing,  
From her inmost heart it is springing.  
Still, still, still, the Child is sleeping now.*

*Sleep, sleep, sleep, beloved holy child.  
The angel's song rings sweetly around us,  
As the Child in song they caress.  
Sleep, sleep, sleep, beloved holy child.*

*Love, love, love, you cover all with your love.  
God has his heav'nly throne forsaken;  
To travel with us has undertaken.  
Love, love, love, you cover all with your love.*

*tr. Richard Shephard*

*Trad. Austrian Carol  
arr. Richard Shephard*

## **SEVENTH LESSON**

**Scott Sanjurjo**

*And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." When the angels had left them and gone to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.*

*Luke 2:8-16*

## **CAROL**

*How far is it to Bethlehem? Not very far.  
Shall we find the stable room lit by a star?*

*Can we see the little child, is he within?  
If we lift the wooden latch, may we go in?*

*Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain,  
that Jesus Christ is born.  
When I was a seeker,  
I sought both night and day;  
I sought the Lord to help me,  
and he showed me the way.*

*Great kings have precious gifts, and we have naught;*



*The little smiles and little tears are all that we've brought.*

*For all weary children Mary must weep.  
Now, here on His bed of straw sleep, children, sleep.*

*God in His mother's arms, babes in the byre.  
O, sleep, as they sleep who find their heart's desire.*

Frances Chesterton

'Stowey'  
arr. Douglas E. Wagner

## **EIGHTH LESSON**

**Steve Marshall**

*After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "For this is what the prophet has written: "'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.*

*Matthew 2:1-11*

## **HYMN #128 (Please stand as you are able)**

*We three kings of orient are,  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.  
O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright;  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light!*

*Glorious now behold him arise,  
King and God and Sacrifice;  
Heaven sings alleluia:  
alleluia the earth replies.  
O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright;  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light!*

John Henry Hopkins, Jr.

'Three Kings of Orient'

John Henry Hopkins, Jr.

## **CAROL**

*Eastern Monarchs, Sages three,  
Come with gifts in great plenty;  
Worship Christ on bended knee:  
Cum Virgine Maria.*

*Gold in honor of the King,  
Incense, to the Priest they bring,  
Myrrh for time of burying:  
Cum Virgine Maria.*

*On the feast day of His birth,  
Set on thrones above the earth  
Angels chant in holy mirth:  
Cum Virgine Maria.*

*Thus to bless the One in Three,  
Let the present company  
Raise the voice of melody:  
Cum Virgine Maria.*

*Latin, 12th c.  
tr. Unknown*

*Austin C. Lovelace*

## **NINTH LESSON**

**Sean Maloney**

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

*John 1:1-14*

## **CAROL**

*The bells of Christmas ring once more;  
The heav'nly guest is at the door.  
He comes to earthly dwellings still  
With new year gifts of peace, goodwill.  
This world, though wide and far outspread,  
Could scarcely find for him a bed.  
His cradle was a manger stall,  
No pearl nor silk nor kingly hall.*

*Now let us go with quiet mind,  
The swaddled babe with shepherds find,  
To gaze on him who gladdens them,  
The loveliest flower of Jesse's stem.  
Oh, join with me, in gladness sing,  
To keep our Christmas with our king.  
Until our song, from loving souls,  
Like rushing mighty water rolls!*

*O patriarch's Joy, O prophets' Song,  
O Dayspring bright, awaited long,  
O Son of Man, incarnate Word,  
Great David's Son, great David's Lord:  
Come glorious heav'nly guest,  
And keep your Christmas in our midst;  
Then David's harpstrings, hushed so long,  
Shall swell our jubilee of song.*

*Nikolai F.S. Grundtvig  
Charles Porterfield Krauth*

*'Duane Street'  
arr. Alfred Fedak*

*Priest: The Lord be with you.*

**People: And also with you.**

*Priest: Let us pray.*

*Priest: O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only son, Jesus Christ:  
Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he  
shall come to be our judge, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.  
**Amen.***

*Priest: May he who by his incarnation, gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, grant you the fullness of  
inward peace and goodwill, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be  
among you and remain with you always. **Amen.***

**HYMN #83** *(Please stand as you are able)*

*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.*

*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.*

*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.*

*John Francis Wade*

*'Adeste fideles'  
John Francis Wade*

**POSTLUDE**

*God Rest You Merry*

*Wilbur Held*

**Statement of Inclusion for All Saints' Parish**

*We promise to "seek and to serve Christ in all persons,  
...strive for justice and peace among all people,  
and respect the dignity of every human being."*

*All Saints' Episcopal Church welcomes all people  
who seek the love of God without regard to ability,  
age, color, economic circumstance, ethnic background, family configuration, gender, nationality,  
or sexual orientation.*

**All Saints' Episcopal Church**

*The Reverend Sean Maloney, Rector  
Dr. John Carlo Pierce, Minister of Music  
Debbie Sullivan, Handbell Choir Director  
Laura Marshall, Director of Religious Education  
Victoria Marbles, Parish Administrator  
Margie Dissinger, Accountant  
Mirna Cunha, Sexton*

**Service List**

**Christmas Eve: December 24, 2024**

*10:00 AM*

*4:00 PM (Pageant)*

*10:00 PM*

**Christmas Day: December 25, 2024**

*10:00 AM*

**Sunday Services**

*8:00 AM & 10:00 AM*