





City Church

PHILADELPHIA

Sunday, December 10, 2017
A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Cover Artwork: Isaac Tin Wei Lin, Inner/Outer Space

PREPARATION

OPENING CAROL *(Please remain seated until verse 4)*

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Psalm 24, Weissel, Winkworth, Psalmodia Evangelica

choir 1. Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates, be - hold the King of__
all 2. The Lord is just, a help - er tried, mer - cy is ev - er__
choir 3. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart, make it a tem - ple__
all 4. Re - deem - er, come! I op - en wide my heart to thee, here,

glo - ry waits, the King of kings is draw - ing__
at his side, his king - ly crown is hol - i -
set a - part from earth - ly use for heav'n's em -
Lord, a - bid! Let me thy in - ner pre - sence__

near, the sav - ior of__ the__ world is here.
ness, his scep - ter, pi - ty__ in dis - tress.
ploy, a - dorned with pray'r_ and__ love and joy.
feel, thy grace and love__ in__ me re - veal!

OPENING PRAYER

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

All 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
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.

FIRST LESSON *(Swabian German)*

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

God tells Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his offspring will strike the serpent's head.

⁸They 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.

⁹But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."

¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."

¹⁴The 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. ¹⁵I 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..."

¹⁷And 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; ¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹By 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."

CAROL *(Please stand)*

Savior of the Nations, Come

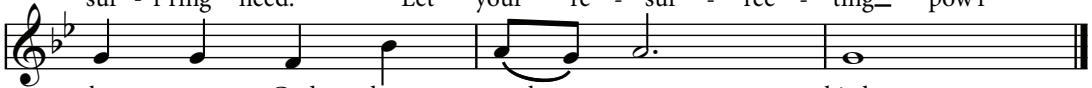
St. Ambrose, Calvisius, Luther, Seerveld



1. Sa - vior of the na - tions, come; show your - self, the
2. Not by hu - man pow'r or seed did the wo - man's
3. Ma - ry then was found with child, still a vir - gin,
4. Christ laid down his ma - je - sty, passed through dark Geth -
5. Christ in glo - ry in - ter - cede for your crea - tures'



vir - gin's son. Mar - vel, hea - ven, won - der, earth
womb con - ceive; on - ly by the Spi - rit's breath
chaste and mild. God had fa - vored her with grace
se - ma - ne. Though he left his Fa - ther's home,
suf - f'ring need. Let your re - sur - rec - ting pow'r



that our God chose such a birth.
was the Word of God made flesh.
to re - ceive the Prince of Peace.
Christ now sits on God's own throne.
soon com - plete the vic - t'ry hour.

CCLI #1335649 ©1984 Calvin Seerveld

SECOND LESSON *(Spanish)*

Genesis 22:15-18

God promises to bless the earth through Abraham's offspring.

¹⁵The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I 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, ¹⁸and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

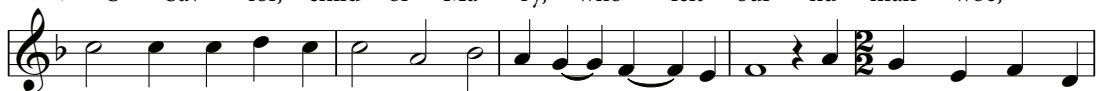
CAROL *(Please stand)*

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

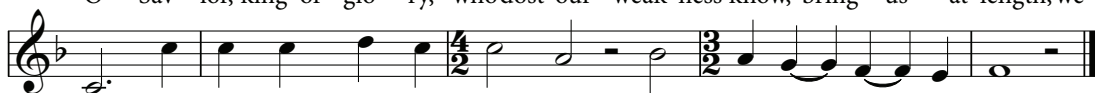
German, 15th c.; Theodore Baker



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. This flow'r, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,
4. O Sav - ior, child of Ma - ry, who felt our hu - man woe;



of Jes - se's lin - eage co - ming, as men of_ old_ have sung. It came, a flow'r - et
with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the vir - gin mo - ther kind. To show God's love a -
dis - pels with glorious splen - dor the darkness ev' - ry where. True man, yet ve - ry
O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who dost our weak - ness know, bring us at length, we



bright, a - mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
right, she bore to men a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
God; from sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
pray, to the bright courts of heav - en, and to the end - less day.

THIRD LESSON *(Bassa-Nge)*

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The Prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

⁶For 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.

⁷His 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.

CAROL *(Please stand)*

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

12th C. Latin, John Mason Neale, Thomas Helmore



1. O come, O come, Em - ma - nu - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,
2. O come, thou Day spring, come_ and cheer our spi - rits by thine ad - vent here;
3. O come, thou Wis - dom from_ on high, and or - der all things far__ and nigh;
4. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all__ man kind;
5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our heav'n - ly home;



that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God__ ap - pear.
dis - perse the gloom y clouds of night, and death's dark sha - dows put__ to flight.
to us the path of know - ledge show, and cause us in her ways__ to go.
bid thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King__ of Peace.
make safe the way that leads__ on high, and close the path to mi - se - ry.



Re joice! Re joice! Em - ma - nu - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

FOURTH LESSON *(Korean)*

Isaiah 11:1-9

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

¹A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The 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.

³His 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;

⁴but 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.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶The 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.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

CHOIR *(Please remain seated)*

Salvation Is Created - Pavel Chesnokov

Salvation is created in the midst of us.
Alleluia.

FIFTH LESSON *(Finnish)*

Luke 1:26-35, 38

The Angel Gabriel greets Mary.

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He 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. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵The 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..."

³⁸Then 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.

CAROL *(Please stand)*

My Savior's Love Endures

Jennie Lee Riddle, JJ and Dave Heller

1. My soul does mag - ni - fy the great-ness of the Lord. On
2. He has done might - ty things - ho - ly is his name. All
3. Oh I - srael find your help sole - ly in the Lord His

me his fa - vor lights; in my sa - vior, I re-joyce.
crea-tures un - der heav-en fear him whose mer - cy reigns.
mer - cy's with-out end His pro-mise He'll up hold.

He has pro - ven his might, his arm out-stretched with strength; he has

scat - tered the proud and brought down all vain con - ceit. He has lif - ted the low - ly, brings

good-ness to the poor. My Sa - vior's love en - dures...

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and Son, glo-ry be to the Spi-rit, three in one.

Glo-ry be in the be - gin-ning and the end, glo-ry for - e - ver, a - men...

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SIXTH LESSON *(Hungarian)*

Luke 2:1-7

Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

CAROL *(Please stand)*

All My Heart This Night Rejoices

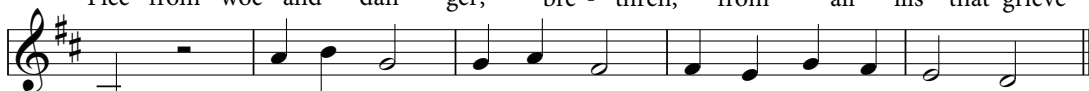
Paul Gerhardt, Catherine Winkworth, Johann Ebeling



all 1. All my heart this night re - joi - ces as I hear far and near
all 2. Forth to - day the Conq' - ror go - eth, who the foe, sin and woe,
solo 3. Shall we still dread God's dis - plea - sure, who, to save, free - ly gave
all 4. He be - comes the Lamb that tak - eth sin a - way and for aye
solo 5. Hark! a voice from yon - der man - ger, soft and sweet, doth en - treat:



sweet - est an - gel voi - ces. "Christ is born," their choirs are sing -
death and hell, o'er - throw - eth. God is man, man to de - li -
his most che rished trea - sure? To re - deem us, he hath gi -
full a - tone ment mak - eth. For our life his own he ten -
"Flee from woe and dan - ger; bre - thren, from all ills that grieve



ing till the air ev' - ry - where now with joy is ring - ing.
ver; his dear son now is one with our blood for - e - ver.
ven his own son from the throne of his might in hea - ven.
ders; and our race, by his grace, meet for glo - ry re - nders.
you you are freed; all you need I will sure - ly give you.

all 6. Come, then, banish all your sadness,
one and all, great and small;
come with songs of gladness.
Love him who with love is glowing;
hail the star, near and far
light and joy bestowing.

all 7. Dearest Lord, thee will I cherish.
Though my breath fail in death,
yet I shall not perish,
but with thee abide for ever
there on high, in that joy
which can vanish never.

SEVENTH LESSON *(Russian)*

Luke 2:8-16

The Shepherds go to the Manger.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!

¹⁵When 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.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

CAROL *(Please stand)*

O Come, All Ye Faithful

John Francis Wade, Frederick Oakeley



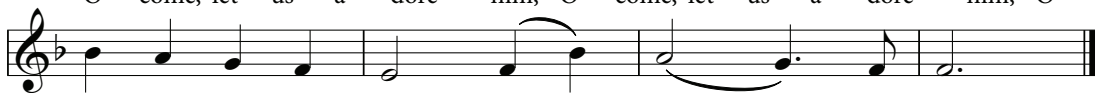
1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O come ye to
2. God of_ God,_ Light of_ light,_ lo, he ab - hors not the
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, sing, all ye ci - ti zens of
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py mor - ning; Je - sus, to thee be all



Beth - le - hem. Come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels;
vir - gin's womb. Ve - ry_ God, be - got - ten, not cre - a - ted
heav'n_ a - bove; glo - ry to God_ in_ the_ high - est
glo - ry giv'n; Word of the Fa - ther, late in flesh ap - pear - ing



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O



come, let us a - dore him, Christ_ the Lord.

EIGHTH LESSON *(Urdu)*

Matthew 2:1-12

The Wise Men seek Jesus.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, “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.”

³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶And 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.”

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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.”

⁹When 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. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

SOLO *(Please remain seated)*

Ain't That A-Rocking - traditional spiritual, Odetta

Mary had a little baby, born in Bethlehem,
every time her little baby cried,
she'd rock him in a weary land.

*Ain't that rocking all night, ain't that a-rocking all night,
ain't that a-rocking all night, all night long.*

Wise men came from the east, guided by the star,
with gold and myrrh and frankincense,
how she rocked him in a weary land.

Herod heard of the news, the baby he did seek,
Lord told Mary just to rock him in a weary land.

NINTH LESSON *(English)*

John 1:1-14

John unfolds the mystery of the incarnation.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And 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.

REFLECTION

The Rev. Tuck Bartholomew

MUSICAL RESPONSE *(Please remain seated)*

the night of darkness ending - Joshua Stamper

Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light,
and usher in the morning;
O shepherds, shrink not with affright,
but hear the angel's warning.
This Child, now weak in infancy,
our confidence and joy shall be;
the pow'r of Satan breaking,
our peace eternal making.

Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light,
to herald our salvation;
he stoops to earth--the God of might,
our hope and expectation.
He comes in human flesh to dwell,
our God with us, Immanuel;
the night of darkness ending,
our fallen race befriending.

-Johann von Rist, John Troutbeck

SENDING CAROL *(Please stand)*

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

Charles Wesley, Felix Mendelssohn

1. Hark! The he - rald an - gels sing, — “Glo - ry to the new-born king;
2. Christ, by high - est heav’n a - dored; Christ the e - ver - las - ting Lord;
3. Hail the heav’n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right - eous - ness!

peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners re - con - ciled!”
late in time, be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir - gin’s womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, — join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God head see; — hail th’in - car - nate de - i - ty, —
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, — born that man no more may die. —

with th’an - gel - ic host pro - claim, “Christ is — born in Beth - le - hem!”
pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus — our Em - ma - nu - el.
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to — give them se - cond birth.

Hark! the he - rald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry — to the new-born king!”

BENEDICTION

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ child
be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen**

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women's Christmas Tea

Saturday, December 16, 3pm at Renewal Presbyterian Church. Join us in celebration of the Christmas season: we will consider how Jesus came as a stranger among us at Christmas, and how he changes our lives and our attitudes toward those who are the "strangers among us." Friends and neighbors are welcome!

Register at www.citychurchphilly.com/calendar/womens-christmas-tea-2017

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 24, 4:30pm at Olivet-Covenant Presbyterian Church. All are welcome to join us for this family-friendly service. We will celebrate the birth of Christ with song, scripture readings, and candle-lighting.

MUSICIANS

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice
Mark Allen: woodwinds
Paul Arbogast: trombone
Jordan McCree: drums
Christopher McDonald: keyboards
Jaron Olevsky: bass
Larry Toft: trombone

GUEST VOCALISTS

Ruth Abaya, Rachel Allison,
Rachel Blomberg, Janelle Brinley,
Melissa Choi, Charlotte Hayes,
Isabelle Trieu, and choirs of the
UCity and Fairmount congregations

Arrangements by Bethany Brooks, Christopher McDonald, Jaron Olevsky, and
Joshua Stamper

Installation and lighting by Lisa Chin Abaya and Janelle Brinley.

Contact Information and Prayer Requests

If you are new to City Church, please use this page to let us know you were here. You may also use this page to inform us of any changes in your contact information, or to submit prayer requests for the staff to pray over.

I am a:

- New to City Church
- Interested in Neighborhood Service
- Interested in our E-Newsletter
- Interested in a Community Group

Interested in helping with:

- Children's ministry
- Youth ministry
- Hospitality and logistics

Name(s):

Children & their ages:

Address:


Phone Number(s):

Email(s):

Prayer requests:

Please tear this section from the program and place in the offering basket



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