



Sunday, December 9, 2018

A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Reflection

The Advent season should come as a reminder to us that we can never be, and should not be, adjusted to the world. We are here to proclaim the reality and the imminence of a wholly other world, a world in which different powers rule and different standards operate. We are here to make it possible for ordinary men and women to believe this, and therefore to live in hope and readiness.

- Lessie Newbigin

Preparation

Opening Carol (Please stand)



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

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."

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus



Second Lesson

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."



Third Lesson

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.

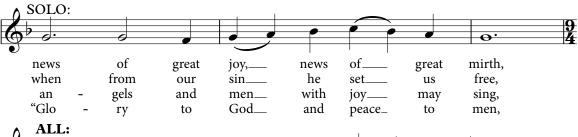
On Christmas Night, All Christians Sing

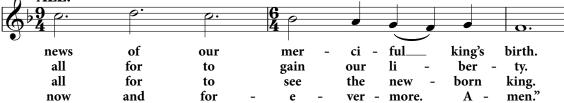


- 1. On Christ mas night all Chris tians sing, to hear the news the an gels bring;
- 2. Then why should we on earth be sad, since our re-dee mer made us glad:
- 3. When sin de-parts be fore your grace, then life and health come in its place;
- 4. All out of dark-ness we_ have light which made the an gels sing this night;



Christ mas night all Chris tians sing, to hear the news the an - gels bring: on re -dee - mer made us glad: why should we earth be sad, since our on de-parts be-fore your grace, then life when and health come in sin its place; have light which made the an - gels sing this night: all of dark ness we_ out





Tune © 1919 Stainer & Bell, Ltd., administered by Galaxy Music, Inc.

Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-9

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

A shoot shall come out from the stock 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;

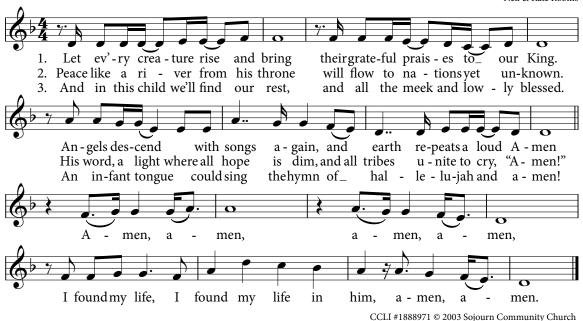
4but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

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.

Amen, Amen

Neil & Kate Robins



Fifth Lesson

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.

Musical Response (Please remain seated)

Prime Mover - Joshua Stamper

Sixth Lesson

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. ⁶And 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.

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Polish carol, paraphrased by Edith M. G. Reed



- 1. In fant ho ly, in fant low ly, for his bed a cat tle stall;
- 2. Flocks were sleep-ing: shep herds keep-ing vi-gil till the mor ning new



ox -en lo - wing, lit - tle kno-wing, Christ the babe is Lord of all. saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, ti - dings of a gos-pel true.



Swift are wing – ing an – gels sing – ing, no – els ring – ing, ti – dings bring – ing: Thus re – joic – ing, free from sor – row, prai ses voic – ing, greet the mor – row:



Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

Seventh Lesson

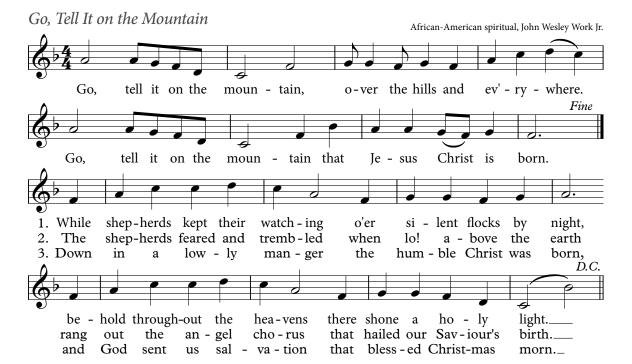
Luke 2:8-16

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.



Eighth Lesson

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.



Ninth Lesson

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

Solo (Please remain seated)

In the Bleak Midwinter - Christina Rossetti, Gustav Holst

In the bleak midwinter, 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 midwinter, long, long ago.

Our God, heav'n cannot hold him, nor the earth sustain; heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there, cherubim and seraphim throng'd the air; but his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

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 him my heart.

Sending Carol (Please stand)



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

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

All Thanks be to God.

Musicians

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice

Mark Allen: woodwinds Larry Toft: trombone

Amy Christmas Halteman: clarinet

Christopher McDonald: keyboards, voice

Josh Stamper: bass Matt Scarano: drums

Guest vocalists: Janelle Brinley, Michael Brinley, Melissa Choi, Natalie Harvey, Rob Heiskell, and choirs of the UCity and Fairmount congregations

Guest violinists: Stephen Mayhew, Ted Voboril, Anna Yang

Arrangements by Bethany Brooks, Jaron Olevsky, and Joshua Stamper

Art credits: The installation for Lessons & Carols 2018 is a collaboration among Lisa Abaya, Isaac Lin, Melissa Choi, and Janelle Delia. The art for this year visualizes the sublime attributes of God.

Bulletin cover art by Lisa Abaya.

CONNECT

COMMUNITY GROUPS range in size from 10-15 people and meet weekly in the home of a group member for spiritual formation and friendship. We encourage you to visit multiple groups to see which one might be a good fit. Contact a leader if you plan to visit. Contact Jonathan Davis, jonathan@citychurchphilly.com if you have questions.

West Philly

- 50th & Springfield, Tuesdays 7_{PM} Jessie Taylor, jessie.f.taylor@gmail.com
- 49th & Chancellor, Tuesdays 7_{PM}
 Candy Cason, candy.cason@gmail.com
- 46th & Cedar, Tuesdays 7:30_{PM}
 Jade Avelis, jade.avelis@gmail.com
- 48th & Baltimore at Linda's, Wed 6:30_{PM}
 Janet Nygren, janetnygren@gmail.com
- 49th & Baltimore, Thursdays 6_{PM}
 Vieen Leung, vieenleung@gmail.com
- 48th & Baltimore at Dick's, Thursdays 6:30_{РМ} Joel Bassett, jbassett4@gmail.com
- 51st & Chestnut, Fridays 6_{PM} Jason Turner, jason.h.turner@gmail.com

Fairmount

- 21st & Parrish, Wednesdays 7pm Chaney Widmer, chaney.widmer@gmail.com
- 24th & Brown, Thursdays 7_{PM}
 Katie Wildes, km.young.wildes@gmail.com
- 22nd & Poplar, Fridays 6:30_{PM}
 Liz Voboril, voborils@gmail.com

South Philly

• 12th & Wharton, Wednesdays 7:30_{PM} Kirstin Peth, kirstin.peth@gmail.com

Roxborough

• Tuesdays 6:30_{PM} Cale Weatherly, cale.weatherly@gmail.com

FAMILY MINISTRIES comes alongside families as they disciple their children, seeking to help them cultivate friendships, connect with the wider church community, and grow into maturity as people of faith.

- Children's Ministry Our children's classes use gospelcentered curriculum with scripture, stories, and activities to allow them opportunities to form spiritual friendships with their peers and teachers. See page 2 for site-specific details. Contact Ginger Hayes, ginger@ citychurchphilly.com.
- City Church Youth, Sundays 12:30-2:30pm. Students and Volunteer Leaders gather at a Woodland Presbyterian Church (42 & Pine) for fellowship, bible study, and prayer. Lunch is provided each week. Contact Jonathan Davis, jonathan@citychurchphilly. com.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS Ekklesia is our mid-week, liturgically oriented, worship space for college students. We meet together to pray, sing, confess, and hear from God's Word. Contact Natalie Harvey, natalie@citychurchphilly.com.

55+ is a group of older people attending City Church who gather monthly after Sunday services for a shared meal and shared prayer. Contact Ginny Toliver, ginny. toliver@verizon.net.

WOMEN'S DAYTIME BOOK STUDY Tuesdays 9:30AM, Childcare available. Contact Eeva, eevaduddleston@gmail.com.

GROW

City Church is a community committed to growing in our life of joy and peace through communion with God in Christ. God uses many means to form his children into his likeness. As a church family, City Church focuses on eight practices that Christians historically have embraced for their growth. At right are a few links to help you get started.

- Read about our approach to Spiritual Formation | citychurchphilly.com/spiritualformation
- Sign up to receive Daily Prayer in your inbox citychurchphilly.com/daily-prayer
- Check out current and upcoming Adult Ed classes | citychurchphilly.com/adult-ed

SERVE

Church

Prepare the space for worship by joining one of our hospitality teams: setup, communion, coffee, greeters, and scripture readers.

- and scripture readers.
 Contact Dan Cason (UCity),
 dan@citychurchphilly.com
 Ryan McCormick(Fairmount),
 rmmccormick@outlook.com
- Serve our children and youth. Contact Ginger Hayes (children), ginger@citychurchphilly.com Jonathan Davis (youth), jonathan@citychurchphilly.com

City

Serve dinners with University City Hospitality Coalition on Friday evenings at Woodland Presbyterian Church, 42nd & Pine. Contact Julia Snyder, julia.a.snyder@gmail.com

- Tutor 1st graders at Lea Elementary. Contact Stacy Bartholomew, stacy. bartholomew@gmail.com
- Read with K-3rd grade students or serve a meal at Family Homework Night in Brewerytown - Thursdays at United Missionary Baptist Church. Contact Chris Currie, chris@citychurchphilly.com

World

- Assist refugees
 with needs such as
 housing, employment,
 transportation, community
 resources, education, and
 social services through
 our partnership with HIAS
 Pennsylvania. Contact
 Esuga Abaya,
 esugaabaya@gmail.com
- Host international students for dinner.
 Contact Lyn Newbrander, Inewbrander@isionline.org

GIVE

The intentional financial participation of those who consider City Church their church home is vital. If you are not already tithing regularly, please prayerfully consider doing so. Our desire in giving is not only to meet our own needs but to be able to serve others in our city and neighborhoods. Here are a few ways that you can contribute financially to City Church:

- Place cash or check in the offering basket on Sundays
- Give online | citychurchphilly.com/give
- Text any amount to 84321, follow the link, and select City Church Philadelphia
- Checks may be mailed or arranged through Electronic Bill Pay to be sent to: City Church, PO Box 30902, Philadelphia, PA 19104

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Eve Worship Service, 5 pm, West Catholic

Fairmount and U City will have a joint Christmas Eve worship service this year, at 5 pm at West Catholic High School.

UCITY

Youth Christmas Party is Friday, December 14 All youth (6th grade and up) are invited to a Christmas Party at the home of John & Elise Taylor-Baranik at 7 pm on Friday, December 14. Contact John at johntaylorbaranik@gmail.com for more information.

Sweeten Your Sunday with Bake Sale Treats on Sunday, December 16 The Youth will be hosting a bake sale before and after church on Sunday, December 16 to raise money for their summer mission trip. Plan to purchase something delicious!

FAIRMOUNT

Interested in Helping with Hospitality at Worship? Help prepare the City School space for worship by joining one of our hospitality teams: setup, communion, coffee, greeters, and scripture readers. Contact Ryan McCormick at rmmccormick@outlook.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January

6 Jan Term begins **27** Youth Chili Cookoff

February

9 Parenting Conference

March

6 Ash Wednesday Service, 7pm (UCity)

22-24 Men's Retreat

December 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Lessons & Carols – 5 pm	10	11	12	13	14 Youth Christmas Party - 7 pm	15
Youth Bake Sale	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	Christmas Eve Service – 5 pm	25	26	27	28	29

Staff

Tuck Bartholomew

Senior Pastor tuck@citychurchphilly.com 215.779.4242

Bethany Brooks

Worship Director bethany@citychurchphilly.com 215.280.6713

Dan Cason

Sunday Volunteers dan@citychurchphilly.com 803.543.8905

Chris Currie

Site Pastor, Fairmount chris@citychurchphilly.com 215.317.4571

Jonathan Davis

Assistant Pastor jonathan@citychurchphilly.com 678.458.7614

Natalie Harvey

University Ministry natalie@citychurchphilly.com 724.504.7589

Ginger Hayes

Children's Ministry ginger@citychurchphilly.com 917.583.2316

Instagram @citychurchphilly Twitter @citychurchphl Facebook @city.church.philadelphia

Help us welcome you.

Name(s):	
Children & their ages:	
If undergrad or grad studen	t, school & year:
Phone number(s):	
Email(s):	
Would you like to receive ou	r weekly e-newsletter? □ Yes □ No
Please contact me about:	
☐ Community Groups	
☐ Neighborhood Service	Opportunities
☐ Volunteering on Sunda	ys
☐ Children's & Youth Mini	stries
☐ Meeting with a Pastor	
☐ Other:	
Anything else you would like	e us to know about you?
,,	

Please tear off this back page and place in the offering basket.



