



A FESTIVAL OF
LESSONS and CAROLS
2012

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

Recounting the History of the Birth
of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ



PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Almighty God, you dealt wonderfully with your servant Mary, in choosing her to be the mother of your dearly beloved Son and thus graciously made known your regard for the poor and lowly and despised. Grant us grace in all humility and meekness to receive your Word with hearty faith and to rejoice in Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

OUR FACILITIES

Our restrooms are located to the left as you leave the sanctuary. They are located near the coat room. The members of Trinity believe that families should be encouraged to worship together. (Church, like much of life, needs to be “taught” to young children.) If your young one needs some “time out,” we have an audio-equipped children’s room just outside of the church doors to your right. If you need anything during the service, please feel free to ask an usher.

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

Albert D. Schmutz

Once in Royal David's City

Robert Buckley Farlee

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Jeff Anderson

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Stand as soon as the bells begin to ring.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Once in Royal David's City

Christian Worship 50

Sir David Willcocks

Solo: 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.

Choir: 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 Savior holy.

**C: But our eyes at last shall see him Through his own redeeming love,
For that child, so dear and gentle, Is our Lord in heav'n above,
And he leads his children on To the place where he is gone.**

**Not in that poor, lowly stable With the oxen standing by
Shall we see him, but in heaven, Set at God's right hand on high.
Then like stars his children crowned, All in white, his praise will sound.**

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God our heavenly Father has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

EXHORTATION

M: Dear people of God, in this Christmas season, it is our duty and delight to hear again the message of the angels and, in heart and mind, to go to Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us—the Christ Child lying in a manger.

Let us read and learn in Holy Scripture the story of the loving purposes of God from the first days after our fall into sin to the glorious redemption brought to us by this holy child. But first, let us pray for people all over the world who would delight with us to know the good news of Jesus Christ and who would join with us in singing his praises. Let us pray for the people of Waukesha and for all those in our own congregation and our synod.

And, because this would please our Lord, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who are sad, the lonely and the unloved, the elderly, and the little children. We especially remember all those who do not know the Lord Jesus, those who do not love him, and those who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Finally, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us in heaven, who live in greater light than we, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, who died in faith, and who live before the throne of God and praise him each day in his temple. We confess that we are united with them as we are united with one another. To sum up all these petitions, let us pray as Christ himself taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Be seated

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

M: We light four Advent candles remembering Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Mary.
He came to share our humanity.

C: We remember Jesus, whose name means Savior. He came to save his people from their sins.

M: We hear his call to give him a place in our hearts.

C: We light four Advent candles as a sign of our joy and hope.

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C: Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

Four Advent candles are lit

OFFERING

Please take a moment during the collection of the offering to sign the Friendship Register in each of the pews. We encourage you to take a moment after the service to get to know those seated around you!

If you are not a member of Trinity, we do not want you to feel obligated to give an offering. (God wants us to be cheerful with our gifts, not giving out of guilt or a sense of obligation.) We gather our offerings in church, *because the Bible teaches that giving is an act of worship.* The vast majority of our church and school ministry is carried out by what is given in worship. May the Lord bless you. And may he use our gifts to be a blessing to many others.

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

John A. Behnke

Rung by the Handbell Choir



NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15

The Seed of the woman will crush the serpent's head

Ethan Nass - Trinity Lutheran School and member of Junior Choir

INVITATORY CAROL

Savior of the Nations, Come

Christian Worship 2

David Cherwien

Stand to sing

**C: Savior of the nations, come; Virgin's Son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth. That the Lord chose such a birth.**

Choir: Not by human flesh and blood, By the Spirit of our God
Was the Word of God made flesh, Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

**C: Wondrous birth! O wondrous Child Of the virgin undefiled,
Though by all the world disowned, Yet to be in heav'n enthroned!**

Choir: From the Father's throne he came And ascended to the same,
Captive leading death and hell - High the song of triumph swell!

**C: Praise to God the Father sing, Praise to God the Son, our King,
Praise to God the Spirit be Ever and eternally.**

Be seated

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

God's promises to Abraham

James Heichelbech - Student at Luther Preparatory School

CAROL

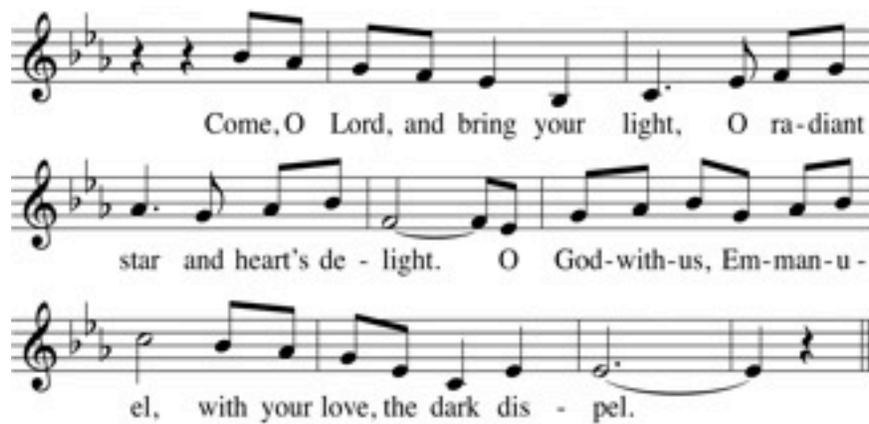
Creator of the the Stars of Night

Carol Browning

Sung by the Junior Choir

Choir: Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all, we pray you hear us when you call.

C: Refrain



Come, O Lord, and bring your light, O ra-diant
star and heart's de - light. O God-with-us, Em-man-u -
el, with your love, the dark dis - pel.

Choir: In sorrow that the ancient curse should doom to death a universe,
you came, O Savior, to set free your own in glorious liberty.

C: Refrain

Choir: Come in your holy might, we pray, redeem us for eternal day;
defend us while we dwell below from all assaults of our dread foe.

C: Refrain

Choir: To God Creator, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One,
praise, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally.

C: Refrain

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light

Jacob Roecker - Student at Wisconsin Lutheran High School



CAROL

O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion

G. F. Handel

Jonathan A. Laabs, soloist

Recitative:

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel,
God with us.

Aria:

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain.
O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength;
lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, behold your God!
O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, arise, shine, for thy light is come,
and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

FOURTH LESSON

Micah 5:2-4

A Branch from the stem of Jesse

Greg Sitzman - Student, Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

CAROL

Sing, Rejoice, and Greet the Savior

Thuringian Carol

James R. Biery

Sing, rejoice, and greet the Savior; Jesus our Emmanuel.
Dawn this day, bring forth great favor, of God's glory angels tell.
Born to set all people free; Born today, for you, for me.
Let no heart be bound in sadness; Christ will lift each one in gladness.

Let each voice, rejoice with wonder; God incarnate on the earth.
Torn, the bonds of sin, asunder; our redemption is this birth.
Born to lift the curse of sin; Born today rejoice within.
Let no heart be bound in sadness; Christ will lift each one in gladness.

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-35,38

The angel Gabriel visits Mary

Pastor Ken Fisher - President, Wisconsin Lutheran High School

CAROL

God, My Savior *Dan Schutte*

Refrain



My soul pro - claims the great - ness of the Lord.
My spir - it sings of God who fills my heart. The Lord has
smiled up - on my low - li - ness. By hea - ven's grace I
car - ry in my flesh God, my Sav - ior.

Choir: Refrain

Nations of the earth, indeed, shall call me blest.
The mighty God has done great things for me.
The Lord has raised the lowly from the dust;
the kings of earth shall tumble from their thrones.

C: Refrain

Choir: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
whose love shall reach beyond the bounds of time.
The Lord has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the proud away with empty hands.

C: Refrain

Choir: God will not forget the promise made of old to
Abraham until the end of time.
The Lord restores the hope of Israel.
Our eyes have seen the saving hand of God.

C: Refrain



SIXTH LESSON

Matthew 1:18-25 *The birth of Jesus*

Shawn Woller - Member of the Mixed Choir

CAROL

Night of Silence

John Ferguson

Choir: Cold are the people, winter of life,
We tremble in shadows this cold endless night.
Frozen in snow lie roses sleeping, Flowers that will echo the sunrise,
Fire of hope is our only warmth Weary, its flame will be dying soon.

Voice in the distance, call in the night,
On wind you enfold us, you speak of the light,
Gentle on the ear you whisper softly, Rumors of a dawn so embracing,
Breathless love awaits darkened souls, Soon will we know of the morning.

Silent night, Holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

**C: Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.**



SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds go to Bethlehem

Jeff Inniger - Principal, Trinity Lutheran School

CAROL

Gloria in D-major

Antonio Vivaldi

Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Glory be to God on high!

EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi worship the newborn King

Ted Oertel - Chairman of Trinity Lutheran Church

CAROL

O Jesus, King of Glory

J. S. Bach

O Jesus, King of Glory, both David's Lord and Son!
Your realm endures forever, in heav'n is fixed your throne.
Help that in earth's dominions, from pole to farthest pole,
Your reign may spread salvation to each benighted soul.

The eastern sages, kneeling, their richest tributes bring,
Where witnessing your glory, they worship you, their King.
To you the star is pointing, the sure prophetic Word;
So joyously we hail you: our Savior and our Lord!



NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

The mystery of the incarnation

Pastor Lawrence Gates - Trinity Lutheran Church

Stand

CAROL

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

Christian Worship 34

Kevin Hildebrand

See next page



All: 1. Now sing we, now re-joice With heart and soul and
Choir: 2. God's Son, come from a - bove, Your grace and sav - ing
Choir: 3. We see God's love di - vine For us in Je - sus
All: 4. Where is that place so fair? Oh, no - where else but



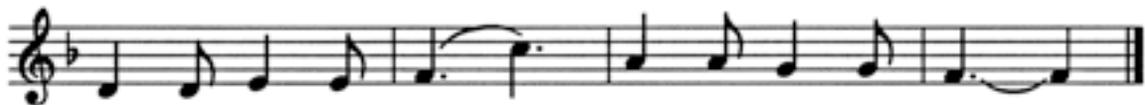
voice. Life's most pre - cious trea - sure Here
 love To my spir - it bring - ing, O
 shine. Guilt of sin had taught us but
 there Where the an - gel voic - es With



poor in man - ger lies; He brings pur - er
 pure and ho - ly Child, Fill my heart with
 death and mis - er - y; Then our Ran - som
 God's re-deemed u - nite, Awed that he re -



plea - sure Than sun - light from the skies.
 sing - ing For grace so great and mild,
 bought us God's bright e - ter - ni - ty.
 joic - es To share his joy and light,



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Draw me, Lord, to you, Draw, me, Lord, to you!
 Oh, that we were there, Oh, that we were there! *(Interlude)*
 Oh, that we were there, Oh, that we were there!

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PRAYER

M: O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your only Son, Jesus Christ, grant that as we joyfully receive him as 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, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING

M: May he who by his incarnation gathered things earthly and heavenly into one, fill us with such joy that comes with the knowledge of the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life. And the blessing of God Almighty—the Father, the Son, † and the Holy Spirit—be upon you and remain with you always.

C: **Amen.**

Remain standing for the recessional hymn.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

Christian Worship Supplement 704

Kevin Hildebrand





All: 1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 Women: 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him
 Choir: 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion
 All: 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,



Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;
 Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 Those who set at naught and sold Him,
 Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of His train:
 Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
 To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.
 Claim the king - dom as Thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 Men: Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

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SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

PRESIDING MINISTER Pastor Lawrence R. Gates

ORGANIST Mark D. Davidson

CHOIR DIRECTOR Pastor Aaron L. Christie

CHOIRS Trinity Mixed Choir
Trinity Junior Choir
Trinity Handbell Choir

INSTRUMENTALISTS

TRUMPET	Rod Clouser, Brian Genrich
TROMBONE	Tim Pederson
EUPHONIUM	Rick Backhaus
FRENCH HORN	Sami Clouser, Rhea Geshke, Jeff Hatzung
TUBA	Tracy Clouser
FLUTE	Trish Frederick
VIOLIN	Amy Donovan, Greg Sitzman
VIOLA	Lori Guse
CELLO	Tim Donovan

SOLOIST Mr. Jonathan Laabs



CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE



December 24	Christmas Eve Choral Vespers	4:30 p.m.
December 24	Christmas Candlelight Service	10:00 p.m.
December 25	Christmas Morning with Holy Communion	9:00 a.m.
December 29	<i>No Saturday Service - See New Year's Eve</i>	
December 30	Christmas 1	7:45 a.m. + 9:00 a.m. + 10:45 a.m.
December 31	New Year's Eve	5:30 p.m. (This is our "Saturday" service)

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, School, and Childcare

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Rev. Aaron Christie
Rev. Larry Gates
Rev. Scott Oelhafen
Mr. Jeff Inniger

Administration, Worship, School and Youth
Senior Ministry and Visitation
Outreach and Spiritual Nurture
Principal