

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols



December 23, 2017 at Seven-thirty in the evening

Organ Voluntary: “Il ést ne le Divin enfant” Marcel Dupré
Theme – Trio – Adagio – Scherzo – Fugue and Final

All stand for the procession

Processional Hymn: “Once in Royal David’s City” Descant by David Willcocks
(Bernadette Mondok, soprano soloist)

The Choir sings:

1. 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.
2. 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 meek and lowly lived on earth our savior holy.

ALL may join in singing:

3. And through all his wondrous childhood
he would honor and obey,
love and watch the gentle mother
in whose tender arms he lay:
Christian children all should be
kind, obedient, good as he.
4. For he is our childhood’s pattern:
day by day like us he grew
he was little, weak, and helpless;
tears and smiles like us he knew:
and he feels for all our sadness,
and he shares in all our gladness.
5. And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that child, so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heaven above:
and he leads his children on
to the place where he has gone.
6. Not in that poor lowly stable
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven,
set at God’s right hand on high:
there his children gather ’round
bright like stars, with glory crowned.

Cecil Frances Alexander

Bidding Prayer

Officiant:

Dear People of God: In this season of Advent, 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 Cathedral glad with carols and songs 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. And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

People: 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.

Officiant:

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.

All may be seated.

Carol: "Tomorrow shall be my dancing day"
Sung by the Cathedral Choir

John Gardner

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day: I would my true love did so chance
to see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance:
Sing O my love; this have I done for my true love.
Then was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took fleshly substance;
Thus was I knit to man's nature to call my true love...
In a manger laid and wrapped I was, so very poor this was my chance,
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass, to call my true love...
Then afterwards baptized I was; the Holy Ghost on me did glance,
my Father's voice heard from above, to call my true love...

Old English Carol

First Lesson "The Garden of Eden"
Carol: "Adam lay ybounden"
Sung by the Cathedral Choir

Genesis 3: 8-15
Boris Ord

Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter thought he not too long.
And all was for an apple, an apple that he took,
As clerkes finden written in their book.
Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been,
Ne had never our lady a-been heavené queen.
Blessed be the time that apple taken was,
therefore we moun singen, Deo Gracias!

Fifteenth Century Carol

Second Lesson "God's promise to Abraham"
Hymn #66 "Come, though long expected Jesus"
Found in the "Hymnal 1982"; All may stand and join in singing

Genesis 22: 16-18
Stuttgart



Ant.
2. D
O Emmánu-el, * Rex et légi-fer nóster, exspe-
ctá-ti-o génti- um, et Salvátor e- árum : véni ad sal-
vándum nos Dómine Dé- us nóster. E u o u a e.

Third Lesson “Christ’s birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah” Isaiah 9: 1-7
Carol: “An Advent Processional” (Veni Redemptor Ominum) Donald Pearson
Sung by the Cathedral Choir, ALL may join in singing the refrain!

Come thou redeemer of the earth,
and manifest thy virgin birth;
Let ev’ry age adoring fall
such birth befits the God of all.

*Refrain: O come, O come Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel.
Rejoice! Rejoice Emmanuel,
shall come to thee O Israel.*

Begotten of no human will,
But of the Spirit thou art still,
The Word of God in flesh arrayed,
the promised fruit to us displayed.

Refrain

The virgin womb that burden gained
with virgin honour all unstained;
The banners there of virtue glow;
God in his temple dwells below.

Refrain

Forth from his chamber goeth he,
that royal home of purity,
A giant in twofold substance one,
rejoicing now his course to run.

Refrain

From God the Father he proceeds,
to God the Father back he speeds:
His course he runs to death and hell,
returning on God’s throne to dwell.

Refrain

O Equal to thy Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now;
The weakness of our mortal state
with deathless might invigorate.

Refrain

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright
and darkness breathe a newer light,
Where endless faith shall shine serene,
and twilight never intervene.

Refrain

All laud, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

Refrain

Words by St. Ambrose, translated John Mason Neale

Fourth Lesson “The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown”
Carol: “A Spotless Rose”
Sung by the Cathedral Choir, with Derek Keller, tenor soloist

Isaiah 11: 1-9
Herbert Howells

A spotless Rose is blowing
Sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers’ foreshowing,
Of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light
Amid the cold, cold winter
And in the dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing,
Whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root springing
In Mary, purest Maid;
For through our God’s great love and might
The blessed babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter’s night.

Fifteenth Century Carol, translated Catherine Winkworth

Fifth Lesson “The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary” St Luke 1:26-38
Carol: “I Sing of a Maiden” Patrick Hadley
Sung by Bernadette Mondok and Christine Miller

I sing of a maiden that is makeless
King of all kings to her son he ches.
He came all so still where his mother was,
As dew in April that falleth on the grass.
He came all so still to his mother’s bower,
As dew in April that falleth on the flower.
He came all so still where his mother lay,
As dew in April that falleth on the spray.
Mother and maiden was never one but she:
Well may such a lady God’s mother be.

Medieval Carol

Sixth Lesson “St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus”
Carol: “This Little Babe” (A Ceremony of Carols)
Sung by the Cathedral Choristers with Alumni of the Sacramento Children's Chorus

St Luke 2: 1-7
Benjamin Britten

This little Babe so few days old,
Is come to rifle Satan’s fold;
All hell doth at his presence quake,
Though he himself for cold do shake;
For in this weak unarmèd wise
The gates of hell he will surprise.

With tears he fights and wins the field,
His naked breast stands for a shield;
His battering shot are babish cries,
His arrows looks of weeping eyes,

His martial ensigns Cold and Need,
And feeble Flesh his warrior's steed.

His camp is pitchèd in a stall,
His bulwark but a broken wall;
The crib his trench, haystacks his stakes;
Of shepherds he his muster makes;
And thus, as sure his foe to wound,
The angels' trumps alarum sound.

My soul, with Christ join thou in fight;
Stick to the tents that he hath pight.
Within his crib is surest ward:
This little Babe will be thy guard.
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy,
Then flit not from this heavenly Boy.

Robert Southwell

Seventh Lesson "The Shepherds go to the manger"
Carol: "Sleeps Judea Fair"
Sung by the Cathedral Choir

St Luke 2: 8-20
Hugh MacKinnon

Sleeps Judea fair, bides the Christ child there; Shepherd's, haste ye! Flocks
forsaking, swift your way to him be taking, babe of Israel's prayer.
Christ from God is come, choosing earthly home: Royal pomp and
splendor never, but with love which naught can sever.
He will heal the dumb, Christ from God is come.
Lowly bend the knee, thou from sin set free; let the Christ child, meekly
smiling, infant wise, all woe beguiling, grant his grace to thee!

Hugh MacKinnon

Eighth Lesson "The wise men are led by the star to Jesus"
Hymn #128 "We Three Kings"
ALL may join in singing!

St Matthew 2: 1-11
John Henry Hopkins

Ninth Lesson "The great mystery of the Incarnation"
Motet: "O Magnum Mysterium"
Sung in Latin by the Cathedral Choir

St John 1: 1-18
Tomás Luis de Victoria

O great mystery and wonderful sacrament,
that beasts should see the new-born Lord
lying in a manger. O blessed Virgin, whose
womb was deemed worthy to carry our
Lord Jesus Christ.

Matins Responsory for Christmas

Welcome, closing collect and blessing

Dean Brian Baker

Let us pray:

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, having been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the same Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

May he who by his Incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**



Closing Hymn “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing” descant by David Willcocks
All stand and join in singing!

1. Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful all ye nations rise,
join the triumph of the skies,
With the Angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem:
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of the Virgin’s womb!
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus our Emmanuel:
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings;
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth;
Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

Charles Wesley

Organ Voluntary: “Grand Choeur sur Deux Noël’s”

César Franck

Officiant: The Very Reverend Dr Brian Baker, Dean of Trinity Cathedral
The Trinity Cathedral Choir
Canon David Link, Director of Music/organist & choirmaster

The Trinity Cathedral Choristers, Kamilyn Davis, Director,
Guest Conductor Lynn Stevens, Founding Director of the Sacramento Children's
Chorus, with alumni of the Sacramento Children's Chorus and Choristers.

Readers: Rosemary Braxton, Karen Wescom, Todd Irby, Dorrie McKellips, Charis
Hill, Jean Decker, Donald Taylor, Elizabeth Kenealey.

About the service: The service of Nine Lessons and Carols was first drawn up by
Archbishop Edward White Benson when he was Bishop of Truro for use in that
Cathedral. It was later simplified and modified for use in King's College,
Cambridge, England in 1918, and is heard by millions the world over through live
broadcasts on the BBC.

Much of the credit for the worldwide fame of the service of Nine Lessons and
Carols, is due to the efforts of Sir David Willcocks, who was the Organist and
Master of the Choristers at Kings College for twenty-seven years. Sir David died
last year, and is honored with the inclusion of two of his carol arrangements in this
service.

We are pleased that you have chosen to be with us today. Trinity Cathedral is a
dynamic, lively, and inclusive community, and we hope that you'll join us again!

An offering will be collected in the Narthex following the service, which benefits
the River City Food Bank. Thank you for your generosity!

Those with an interest in singing, are invited to join one of our Cathedral Choirs.
We assure you of a warm welcome and great music making. More information,
and details of our music program and Christmas services is available on our
website: www.trinitycathedral.org



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