

A SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS
ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Liturgical Color: Purple, symbolizing penitence and the sovereignty of Jesus Christ

DECEMBER 18, 2011



WELCOME AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

PRELUDE ***Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending*** Richard Proulx

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 49 ***Once In Royal David's City*** Irby
v.1 – Solo; v.2 – Choir; vs.3 & 4 – All
Scott Greenlaw, soloist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

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

ALL: **Praise the Lord! Give thanks for the Light! Let us worship God.**

THE BIDDING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (using *debts* and *debtors*)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES: *Isaac, Samuel, John the Baptist, and Jesus*

ONE: Listen! God is calling us to be in ministry with others in Christ's name.

[The candles are lit.]

ONE: Let us pray by saying ...

ALL: **We offer our lives to the Child of Love. O God, prayerfully, we will seek to discern how to use our gifts and talents in Christ's name. With this prayer, we offer our church to the Teacher of Love. Great God, we know You will help us listen. We know You will help us accept Christ's call to be in servant ministry with and among all of God's people in our lives. Therefore, we offer all our relationships, even those beyond this Body of believers, to the Savior of Love. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: ***Creator of the Stars of Night*** [Hymn 4]

Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, Your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light, O Christ,
Re - deem - er of us all, We pray You, hear us when we call. A - men.

Youth/Teen Choir (11:00) ***Glory to God in the Highest*** Russell Nagy

*Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.
Praise almighty God, who gave us Christ, His Son, to lead and save us.
Praise the Son, the King of Glory, lift your voices, tell the story.*

*Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.
Praise the Spirit, holy fire, Be our light, our great desire.
Praise the God-head, love excelling. Make our hearts your humble dwelling.
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.*

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8–15

Readers: Alicia Wilson (8:30)
Matthew Roddy (11:00)

CHOIR

Adam Lay YboundenPhilip Ledger
Text: Medieval, c. 15th century

*Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond;
four thousand winter thought he not too long. Deo gracias!*

*And all was for an apple, an apple that he took,
As clerkes (priests) finden written in their book. Deo gracias!*

*Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been,
Ne had never our lady abeen heav'ne queen. Deo gracias!*

*Blessed be the time that apple taken was,
Therefore we moun (must) singen, Deo gracias!*

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15–18

Readers: Dean Smith (8:30)
Kathy Greenlaw (11:00)

*CAROL 309

Of the Father's Love Begotten*Divinum Mysterium***THIRD LESSON**

Isaiah 9:2–7

Readers: Paul Jacob (8:30)
Jacob Ferree (11:00)

Children's Choir (11:00)

Advent Message

Martin How

*Come, Lord Jesus, come Lord Jesus
Amen, come Lord Jesus.
O come quickly, come Lord Jesus,
O come quickly, come Lord come.
Come Lord Jesus, come Lord Jesus,
Amen, come Lord Jesus.*

CHOIR

Sussex Carol

Stephen Walters

*On Christmas night all Christians sing
For all the news the angels bring,
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
News of our holy Savior's birth.*

*When sin departs before his grace,
Then life and health come in its place,
Angels and man full well may sing,
All is due to our newborn King!*

*From out of darkness we have light
Which makes the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God and peace on earth,
Now's the time of our Savior's birth."
Alleluia! Amen.*

FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1–9

Readers: Susie Scott (8:30)
Andrew Koons (11:00)

*CAROL 48

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*Es ist ein' ros'*

*(Children may bring forward their Joy Offering Boxes during this hymn, then
those age 3 – Kindergarten may go to Enrichment)*

CHOIR

The Dream Isaiah Saw

Karen Horwath, organist

Glenn L. Rudolph
Text: Thomas Troeger

*Lions and oxen will sleep in the hay,
Leopards will join with the lambs as they play,
Wolves will be pastured with cows in the glade,
Blood will not darken the earth that God made.*

*Little child whose bed is straw,
take new lodgings in my heart.
Bring the dream Isaiah saw:
life redeemed from fang and claw.*

*Peace will pervade more than forest and field,
God will transfigure the Violence concealed
Deep in the heart and in systems of gain,
Ripe for the judgment the Lord will ordain.*

*Little child whose bed is straw,
take new lodgings in my heart.
Bring the dream Isaiah saw:
justice purifying law.*

*Nature reordered to match God's intent,
Nations obeying the call to repent,
All of creation completely restored,
Filled with the knowledge and love of the Lord.*

*Little child whose bed is straw,
take new lodgings in my heart.
Bring the dream Isaiah saw:
knowledge, wisdom, worship, awe.*

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26–38

Readers: Joanne Willis (8:30)
Sharon Lambert (11:00)

SOLO

Et Exultavit

Antonio Vivaldi (1695-1741)
Kathleen Kelly, soprano

*My spirit rejoices in God my Savior;
He has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed;
The Almighty has done great things for me and holy is His name.*

CHOIR

Ave Maria

Phillip Stoppford

*Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
Now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

In the Bleak Midwinter
Festival Ringers

arr. Lloyd Larson

OFFERTORY PRAYER

SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:1–7

Readers: Kay Sondheimer (8:30)
Joan Carr (11:00)

CHOIR

He Is Born

French Carol
arr. David Schoebel

*He is born, the Divine Christ Child;
Play the musette, play the tuneful oboes!
He is born, the Divine Christ Child;
Let all sing and rejoice this day!*

*Ages long since are past and gone
When the wise men foretold His coming;
Ages long since are past and gone;
Noel, Noel then let us sing!*

*Jesus, Lord of all the world,
Coming as a Child among us;
Jesus, Lord of all the world,
Grant to us Thy heav'nly peace.*

SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:8–16

Readers: Rodney Willis (8:30)
Nick Hanson (11:00)

*CAROL 58

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Winchester Old

Women of the Choir

Wexford Carol

Traditional Irish Carol
arr. Ken Berg

*Good people all, this Christmastide, consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done in sending His beloved Son.
With Mary holy we should pray to God with love this Christmas day;
In Bethlehem upon that morn there was a blessed Messiah born.*

*Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;
To whom God's angels did appear which put the shepherds in great fear.
"Prepare and go," the angel said, "to Bethlehem, be not afraid;
For there you'll find, this happy morn, a princely babe, sweet Jesus born."*

*With thankful hearts and joyful mind the shepherds went the babe to find,
And as God's angel had foretold, they did our Savior Christ behold.
Within a manger He was laid and by His side the virgin maid,
Attending on the Lord of Life who came on earth to end all strife.
Good people all, this Christmas morn, there was a blessed Messiah born.*

EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1–12

Reader: Jennifer James

*CAROL 64

From a Distant Home

Isla del encanto

Men of the Choir

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

Old English Carol
arr. Melvin Goodwyn

*God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day!
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

*From God our heav'nly Father a blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same.
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

*Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace,
This Holy tide of Christmas all other doth deface.
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

NINTH LESSON

John 1:1–14

Reader: Pastor Carl Rush

CHOIR

Jesus, the Light of the World
Arthur Lockamy, *accompanist*

arr. Evelyn Simpson

*Hark the Herald angels sing. Jesus, the light of the world.
Glory to the newborn King, Jesus, the light of the world.*

*Refrain: We'll walk in the Light, beautiful light.
Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine right.
Oh, shine all around us by day and by night.
Jesus, the Light of the world.*

*Joyful all ye nations, rise, Jesus, the light of the world.
Join the triumph of the skies, Jesus, the light of the world. [Refrain]*

*Hail, the heav'n born Prince of Peace. Jesus, the Light of the world.
Hail, the Sun of righteousness! Jesus, the Light of the world. [Refrain]*

CLOSING PRAYER

ONE:

ALL: 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 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.

*CAROL 41

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

*THE BLESSING

ONE: May He who gathered things earthly and heavenly into one by His incarnation, 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.

ALL: Amen.

*POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

James Woodman

*PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

Assisting in worship and lighting our Advent candles today:

8:30 AM – Shirley Bennington & Alice Malone; 11:00 AM – The Teal Family

Directors of Choirs: Children's, Nancy Scott; Youth, Kelly Andrews; Teen, Jennifer Willard

Lectionary for Next Week:

Dawn: Isa. 62:6–12; Ps. 97; Titus 3:4–7; Luke 2 (1–7) 8–20;

Day: Isa. 52:7–10; Ps. 98; Heb. 1:1–4 (5–12) John 1:1–14



This service of Lessons and Carols is patterned after a similar service which has been celebrated in the chapel at King's College in Cambridge, England, every Christmas eve since 1918.

We would like to thank the following instrumentalists: Michael Brest, trumpet; Patrick McDermott, trumpet; Tara Islas, horn; Brandon Chaney, trombone; Will Timmons, trombone Paul Cassens, percussion.

Welcome Visitors: Information about Bush Hill Church is available at the Welcome Table (narthex). **Nursery** – for infants through age 2 (downstairs, Room 10); **Enrichment Class** – following the Children’s Message, for ages 3 through Kindergarten (CE Building); the **Service is audible in the Friendship Room** (outside the Sanctuary, to the right). Ushers will assist you.

Special Needs: Large Print Bulletins, Bibles, and Hymnals are available; also available are Wireless Assistive Hearing Devices. Please ask the Ushers.

Hymnals: Most hymns will be found in The Presbyterian Hymnal (hardback); others, marked STF, are from the Sing the Faith hymnal (soft cover).

Scripture References: The first page number listed refers to the NRSV Pew Bible; references in parentheses (ex: CB–2) are for the Children’s Bibles.

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