



A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 22, 2024
Saint Patrick-Saint Anthony Church
Hartford, Connecticut

*A free-will offering will be received as you leave the Church.
Thank you for your generosity.*

**YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO A RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE OPEN HEARTS LGBTQ
MINISTRY, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THIS SERVICE, IT WILL TAKE PLACE
IN THE FRANCISCAN CENTER FOR URBAN MINISTRY.**

**Before ensuring your cell phones are silenced, please take a moment to
share your experience on social media and let others know you're here!**



While the history of A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols can be traced to 1880 in Truro, England, its present form was devised for the chapel of King's College, Cambridge, in 1918. It has been celebrated every Christmas Eve since that time. The format of nine lessons and carols, telling the story of the birth of Jesus from the prophetic writings through the journey of the Wise Men, has become a world-wide favorite. The service from King's College is broadcast live from Cambridge on National Public Radio every 24th of December 10:00 AM. EST.

PRESIDER

FR. TIMOTHY SHREENAN, O.F.M., PASTOR

FIRST LESSON

BRENDAN CROWLEY

SECOND LESSON

CLAIRE PERRAULT

THIRD LESSON

ANNA CHRISTOPHER

FOURTH LESSON

ENZO VIRELLO

FIFTH LESSON

MIA NADEAU

SIXTH LESSON

MAGGIE SCHWAB

SEVENTH LESSON

JACK SHEEHAN

EIGHTH LESSON

JULIANA LUZI

NINTH LESSON

FR. TIMOTHY SHREENAN, O.F.M.

THE ST. PATRICK-ST. ANTHONY CHURCH CHOIRS

DR. GABRIEL LÖFVALL, *DIRECTOR OF MUSIC*

MADISON H. THOMPSON, *ORGAN SCHOLAR*

MEGAN SESMA, *HARP*

GONZALO CORTÉS, *FLUTE*

DR. EZEQUIEL MENÉNDEZ, *PIANO & ORGAN*

ANDREW THOMSON, *PERCUSSION*

BASS CLEF CHOIR

Andy Baginski
Christopher Daugherty
Paul Foody

Zachary Gilbert*
Andy Hac
Alex Hunt*

Michael McAvaney*
Eric Miller*
Martin Smith

GALLERY CHOIR

Heather Baker
Beverly Boyle
Sr. Mary Vu, CP
Caroline Christopher*
Mika Coderre
Emma Connors*
Leanne Cornell
Fides Cutiongco
Christopher Daugherty

Paul Foody
Elizabeth Wilde Foody
Suzanne Fournier
Zachary Gilbert*
Haley Griffith*
Andy Hac
Albert Hernandez
Allison Holst-Grubbe*
Joanne Huelsman

Alex Hunt*
Mark Knebel*
Sharon Miceli
Eric Miller*
Patrick Nay*
Michelle Ouchakof
Ray Schaefer
Lauren Rockwell*
KeriAnne Tisdale

TREBLE CLEF CHOIR

Ali Bloomquist
Sarah Christopher
Suzanne Fournier
Stephanie Hood

Allison Holst-Grubbe*
Grace Mittleman*
Margaret Monos

Michelle Ouchakof
Stephanie Scarcella*
Benjamin Rauch*
Eileen Rausch

THE CHURCH STREET SINGERS

Katie Frewen, Director

Anna Christopher
Paige Crowley
Ciara Frewen
Michael Frewen
Peyton Martins
Arianna Michaels

Leo Munn
Rinde Munn
Caleb Myers
Madeline Myers
Charlie Sheehan
Enzo Virello

* denotes Section Leader

PRELUDE

Les Bergers

The Shepherds, from La Nativité du Seigneur (The Nativity of the Lord)
Music, Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

Coventry Carol

Music, Traditional English
Arr. for flute and harp by Daniel Burton (b. 1944)

HYMN IN PROCESSION

Once in Royal David's City

The audience is invited to rise and join in singing stanzas 4 through 6



Solo: 1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a low - ly
 Choir Only: 2. He came down to earth from heav-en Who is God and
 Choir Only: 3. And through all his wond-rous child-hood He would hon - or
 4. For he is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by day like
 5. And our eyes at last shall see him, Through his own re - sta - ble, With the ox - en
 6. Not in that poor low - ly



1. cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her ba - by
 2. Lord of all, And his shel - ter was a sta - ble,
 3. and o - bey, Love and watch the low - ly mai - den
 4. us he grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and help-less,
 5. deem - ing love; For that child so dear and gen - tle
 6. stand - ing by, We shall see him; but in heav - en,



1. In a man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that
 2. And his cra - dle was a stall; With the poor and
 3. In whose gen - tle arms he lay: Chris - tian chil - dren
 4. Tears and smiles like us he knew: And he feel - eth
 5. Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove: And he leads his
 6. Set at God's right hand on high; Where like stars his



1. moth-er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle Child.
 2. mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 3. all must be Mild, o - be - dient, good as he.
 4. for our sad-ness, And he shar - eth in our glad-ness.
 5. chil-dren on To the place where he is gone.
 6. chil-dren crowned All in white shall wait a - round.

Caroline Christopher, *treble*

BIDDING PRAYER (standing)

THE LORD'S PRAYER (standing)

INVITATORY CAROLS
COMBINED CHOIRS

In Dulci Jubilo
Words, 14th C. German, translated by Robert Lucas Pearsall (1795–1856)
Music, Cecilia McDowall (b. 1951)

In dulci jubilo (in sweet jubilation) let us our homage shew:
Our heart's joy reclineth *in præsepio* (in a manger);
And like a bright star shineth *matris in gremio* (in mother's lap),
Alpha es et O! (You are Alpha and Omega)

O Jesu parvule (O infant Jesus), I yearn for thee alway!
Hear me, I beseech Thee, *O puer optime* (O best of boys);
My prayer let it reach thee, *O princeps gloriæ!* (O prince of glory).
Trahe me post te (draw me unto thee).

O patris caritas! O Nati lenitas! (O love of the father and mercy of the son)
Deeply were we stained *per nostra crimina* (through our sins):
But thou for us hast gained *Coelorum gaudia* (the joys of heaven).
O that we were there!

Ubi sunt gaudia (where are the joys) if that they be not there?
There are angels singing *nova cantica* (new songs);
There the bells are ringing *in Regis curia* (in the king's courts).
O that we were there!

THE CHURCH STREET SINGERS
TREBLE CLEF CHOIR

O Come, Little Children
Words, Christoph von Schmid (1768–1854)
Tr. Melanie Schulte (1885–1922)
Music, IHR KINDERLEIN KOMMET; Johann A. P. Schulz (1747–1800)
Arr., David M. Cherwien (b. 1957)

Oh come, little children, oh come, one and all,
Oh come to the manger in Bethlehem's stall.
And see what our Father in heaven above
Has sent to us all on this earth with his love.

Oh see in the manger so meek and so mild,
Oh see in the soft life the heavenly Child,
In swaddling clothes folded, his beauty more sweet
Than angels, whose voices his lowly birth greet.

His bed, little children, a manger with hay;
His Mother and Joseph in ecstasy pray,
The shepherds in wonder their glad worship bring,
While chorus of angels sweet Glorias sing!

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3: 8–15, 17–19

God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

CAROL

SMALL ENSEMBLE

O Magnum Mysterium

Words, Responsory from the Matins of Christmas

Music, Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)

O magnum mysterium,
 et admirabile sacramentum,
 ut animalia viderent
 Dominum natum,
 jacentem in præsepio!
 O beata Virgo, cujus viscera
 meruerunt portare
 Dominum Christum.
 Alleluia!

O great mystery,
 and wonderful sacrament,
 that animals should see
 the newborn Lord,
 lying in a manger!
 Blessed is the virgin whose womb
 was worthy to bear
 the Lord, Jesus Christ.
 Alleluia!

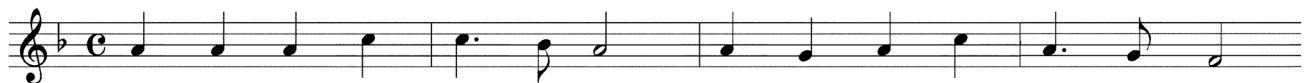
SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22: 15-18

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

HYMN (standing)

Angels We Have Heard on High



1. An - gels we have heard on high Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2. Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;
 4. See him in a man - ger laid, Whom the choirs of an - gels praise;



And the moun - tains in re - ply Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
 Say what may the tid - ings be, Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song.
 Come a - dore, on bend - ed knee, Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
 Mar - y, Jo - seph, lend your aid, While our hearts in love we raise.



Glo - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,



Glo - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: *Les anges dans nos campagnes*; French, c. 18th C.; tr. from *Crown of Jesus Music*, London, 1862
 Tune: GLORIA, 7 7 7 7 with refrain; French traditional

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9: 1-6

The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.

CAROL

COMBINED CHOIRS

O Holy Night

Words, Placide Cappeau de Roquetaure (1808-1877)

Translated by John S. Dwight (1813-1893)

Music, Adolphe Adam (1803-1856)

Arr. John Rutter (b. 1945)

O holy night! the stars are brightly shining;
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope- the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
O night divine, O night, O night divine!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here came the Wise Men from Orient land.
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger,
In all our trials born to be our Friend.
He knows our need – to our weakness is no stranger.
Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His Gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,
And in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we;
Let all within us praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord! Then ever, ever, praise we!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!

Emma Connors, *soprano*

FOURTH LESSON

Micah 5: 2-4

The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem.



CAROL

BASS CLEF CHOIR

Who Is He in Yonder Stall?

Words, Benjamin Hanby (1833-1867)
 Music, Robert H. Young (1923-2011)

Who is he in yonder stall, at whose feet the shepherds fall?
Refrain: 'Tis the Lord, O wondrous story! 'Tis the Lord, the King of glory!
At his feet we humbly fall, crown him, crown him, Lord of all!

Who is he that stands and weeps at the grave where Lazarus sleeps? *R/.*

Who is He in Calvary's throes asks for blessings on his foes: *R/.*

Who is he that from the grave comes to heal and help and save? *R/.*

Madison H. Thompson, *conductor*

HYMN (*standing*)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
 2. For Christ is born of Mar - y, And gath - ered all a - bove,
Choir Only: 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, The won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem! De - scend to us we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep The si - lent stars go by;
 While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of his heav'n.
 Cast out our sin and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.

Yet in the dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing Light; The
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth! And
 No ear may hear his com - ing, But in this world of sin, Where
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell; O

hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
 prais - es sing to God the King, And peace to all on earth.
 meek souls will re - ceive him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.
 come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893
 Tune: ST. LOUIS, 8 6 8 6 7 6 8 6; Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1: 26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

CAROL
GALLERY CHOIR

Magnificat
from *St. Paul's Service*
Words, Luke 1: 46-55, and Lesser Doxology
Music, Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For He hath regarded: the lowliness of His handmaiden:
For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.
For He that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is His Name.
And His mercy is on them that fear Him: throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with His arm: He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich He hath sent empty away.
He remembering His mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:
as He promised to our forefathers, Abraham and His seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2: 1, 3-7

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

CAROL
COMBINED CHOIRS

Sure on This Shining Night
Words, James Agee (1909-1955)
Music, Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

Sure on this shining night
Of star-made shadows round,
Kindness must watch for me
This side the ground.
The late year lies down the north.
All is healed, all is health.
High summer holds the earth.
Hearts all whole.
Sure on this shining night
I weep for wonder
Wandering far alone
Of shadows on the stars.



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, All is calm, all is bright
 2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Shep - herds quake at the sight;
 3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light

Round yon Vir - gin Moth - er and Child Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild,
 Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, Heav'n - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia;
 Ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 Christ, the Sav - ior, is born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Text: *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht*; Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885
 Tune: STILLE NACHT, 66 89 66; Franz X. Gruber, 1787-1863

SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2: 8-16

The shepherds go to the manger.

CAROL

TREBLE CLEF CHOIR

Quelle est cette odeur agréable?

Words, 17th c. French trad.

Music, melody found in *The Beggar's Opera*, John Gay (1685-1732)
 arranged by David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Quelle est cette odeur agréable,
 Bergers, qui ravit tous nos sens?
 S'exhalet'il rien de semblable
 Au milieu des fleurs du printemps?

Mais quelle éclatante lumière
 Dans la nuit vient frapper nos yeux!
 L'astre du jour, dans sa carrière,
 Fût-il jamais si radieux?

A Bethléem, dans une crèche,
 Il vient de vous naître un Sauveur;
 Allons, que rien ne vous empêche
 D'adorer votre Rédempteur.

Dieu toutpuissant, gloire éternelle
 Vous soit rendue jusqu'aux cieux;
 Que la paix soit universelle,
 Que la grâce abonde en tous lieux!

*Where is that goodly fragrance flowing,
 To steal the senses all away?
 Adorns the air, and nothing like it
 The shepherds sensed in fields in May?*

*A light so bright, a beam so piercing
 It turns our darkness into day!
 The light of Christ, it is so radiant,
 The beam it casts to be our way?*

*Shepherds to Bethlehem, go hasten,
 And in a manger see him lay;
 Adore your God and your redeemer
 Savior of all to win the day.*

*All powerful God, and King eternal
 The heavens praise with one accord;
 Grace, peace, and truth give to all nations,
 Spring forth from Jesus Christ our Lord.*

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

CAROL

GALLERYCHOIR

Cao Cung Lên

Lyrics, Father Nguyễn Khắc Xuyên

Music, Vietnamese trad.; Father Hoài Đức (1923–2006)

Arr., Gabriel Löfvall (b. 1971)

Refrain: Cao cung lên khúc nhạc thiên thần Chúa.
Hòa trong làn gió nhẹ vãn vương.
Ôi linh thiêng lắng nghe thoang thoang cung đàn,
một đêm khuya vang, vắng trong tuyết sương.

Đàn ơi, cứ rung những điệu réo rắt,
hát khen Con Một Chúa Trời,
rầy sinh xuống cõi đời.
Hỡi người dương thế lắng nghe cung đàn,
mau tìm cho tới, thờ kính Vua giáng trần.

1. Thôi hỡi trần gian im tiếng đi mà cung kính.
Chúa Con sinh ra
trong năm cỏ máng lừa.
Tuy Chúa là Vua muôn nước suy phục tôn kính.
Chúa bỏ cõi ngai vàng sinh xuống trần đêm xưa. **R/.**
2. Thôi hỡi ngàn mây bao tuyết sương cùng gió rét,
hãy mau tan đi con Chúa đã xuống đời,
trên cõi trời cao sao sáng chân thật đưa lối,
hãy mang tin lành
cho nhân loại mọi nơi. **R/.**

Refrain: *Raise high the heavenly song of the angels
Blending gently with the soft, lingering breeze.
Oh, how sacred, listening to the faint notes of the harp,
Echoing on a quiet night amidst snow and frost.*

*Oh, the harp keeps trembling with melodious tunes,
Singing praise to the only Son of God,
Who has come down to this world.
O earthly people, listen to the harp's melody,
Hurry to worship the King who has descended.*

1. *Be still, O earthly world, in reverent silence,
For God's Son is born, lying
on the humble hay in a manger.
Though He is the King, revered by all nations,
He came down from Heaven on that ancient night. R/.*
2. *O clouds, snow, frost, and chilling winds, now disappear,
For the Son of God has come into the world.
From the high heavens,
the guiding star shines true and bright,
Bringing good news to all humankind, everywhere. R/.*

Sr. Mary Vu, CP, soprano



Choir Only:

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 2. God of God, Light of Light,
 3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 Lo! He ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb.
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove!
 Je - su, to thee be glo - ry giv'n;

Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 Ver - y God, be - got - ten not cre - a - ted,
 Glo - ry to God, in the high - est;
 Word of the Fa - ther, now 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!

Text: *Adeste fideles*; John F. Wade, c.1711-1786; tr. by Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, alt.
 Tune: ADESTE FIDELES, Irregular with refrain; John F. Wade, c.1711-1786

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.



The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.
 ~John 1:14

1. Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten,
 2. O that birth for ev - er bless - ed,
 Ere the worlds be - gan to be,
 When the Vir - gin, full of grace,
 He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 By the Spir - it blest con - ceiv - ing,
 He the source, the end - ing he, Of the things that
 Bore the Sav - ior of our race; And the Babe, the
 are, that have been, And that fu - ture
 world's Re - deem - er, First re - vealed his
 years shall see, Ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 sa - cred face, Ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

Text: *Corde natus ex Parentis*; Aurelius Prudentius, 348-413; tr. by John M. Neale, 1818-1866 and Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877
 Tune: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, 8 7 8 7 8 7 7; 12th C.; Mode V; acc. by Richard Proulx, b.1937

BLESSING & DISMISSAL



HYMN (*standing*)

God Rest You All Good Christians

Words, English carol, 18th C.

Music, GOD REST YOU MERRY, 8 6 8 6 8 6 with refrain

English 18th C.; harm. By John Stainer (1840–1901)

final stanza, David Willcoks (1919–2015)

1. God rest you all good Christians, let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Savior was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray:
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

2. From 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, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

3. But when to Bethlehem they came, whereat this infant lay,
They found him in a manger, where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling, unto the Lord did pray:
*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

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

POSTLUDE & RETIRING PROCESSION

Finale, Op. 78 (2017)

Music, Rachel Laurin (1961–2023)



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THE CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS

WE WARMLY INVITE YOU TO CELEBRATE THE JOY AND BEAUTY OF CHRISTMAS WITH US
THROUGH OUR SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL LITURGIES:

On **Tuesday, December 24th, Christmas Eve**, our celebrations begin with **the 4:00 p.m. Mass**, featuring a cantor and liturgical dancers, a service filled with grace and movement to prepare our hearts for the birth of Christ.

At **5:45 p.m.**, join us for a festive Mass with music led by the Church Street Singers and the Treble Clef Choir. (Please note the new time for this evening Mass!)

Later in the evening, the **10:00 p.m. Prelude Music** will set the tone for the solemn **10:30 p.m. Mass**, where our Combined Choirs will lift their voices to glorify this holy night.

On **Wednesday, December 25th, Christmas Day**, we continue our joyful worship with Masses at **8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 11:45 a.m.**, each accompanied by a vocal ensemble, organ, and instrumentalists to enrich the sacred celebration.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO COME AND SHARE IN THE WONDER OF THE SEASON,
AS WE REFLECT ON THE LIGHT OF CHRIST BORN INTO OUR WORLD.