



A Service of Lessons & Carols

Apostles Anglican Church
December 15, 2024

The Bidding Prayer

Dear People of God: in this Christmas Season, 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 the 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 place glad with our carols 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 the 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 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.

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.**

Prelude - *Advent Fanfare*—Alec Wyton—G. Frazier, Organ

Meditation on Lo, A Rose E'er Blooming (16th Century Advent Carol) -

arr. Mark Hayes—Don Frazier, Piano

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel - arr.. Stan Pethel - Chris Little, Clarinet

Lessons and Carols

Once in Royal David's City

Maddie Hood Verse 1

Congregation sings verses 2—4

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle
2. He came down to earth from heav - en Who is God and Lord of
3. Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern; day by day, like us He
4. And our eyes at last shall see Him, through His own re - deem - ing

shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
all, and His shel - ter was a sta - ble, and His
grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and help - less, tears and
love; for that child so dear and gen - tle is our

man - ger for His bed; Ma - ry was that moth - er
cra - dle was a stall. With the poor, the scorned, the
smiles like us He knew; and He feel - eth for our
Lord in heav'n a - bove; and He leads His chil - dren

mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
low - ly lived on earth, our Sav - ior ho - ly.
sad - ness, and He shar - eth in our glad - ness.
on to the place where He is gone.

Lesson I

Genesis 3:1-15

Kristi Durbin, Reader

3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” ² The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³ but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; ⁵ for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

⁸ They 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. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰ He said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.” ¹¹ He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹² The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.” ¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent tricked me, and I ate.” ¹⁴ The 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.

¹⁵ I 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.”

People: Thanks be to God.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Congregations sings; seated

1. Come, Thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set Thy
2. Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and

peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us,
yet a King, born to reign in us for - ev - er,

let us find our rest in Thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so -
now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By Thine own e - ter - nal

la - tion, hope of all the earth Thou art; dear de - sire of
spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone; by Thine all suf -

ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
fi - cient mer - it, raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes, with two verses indicated by the numbers 1 and 2. The score ends with a double bar line.

Lesson II

Isaiah 40:1-11

Evelyn Madill-Hughes, Reader

40 Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³ A voice cries out:
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵ Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶ A voice says, "Cry out!"
And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹ Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”
¹⁰ See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

People: Thanks be to God.

In the Bleak Midwinter

Worship Band

Come, Now , Savior of the Gentles—arr.. James Boeringer and C. Ore -Chris Little, Clarinet

Lesson III

Micah 5:1-4

Mike Stratford, Reader

5 Now you are walled around with a wall;
siege is laid against us;
with a rod they strike the ruler of Israel
upon the cheek.
² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.
³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴ And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;

People: Thanks be to God.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Maddie Hood verse 1

Congregation sings verses 2-4; seated



1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie;
2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry, and gath - ered all a - bove,
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 thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;
O morn - ing stars to - geth - er, pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear His com - ing, but in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;

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

Lesson IV

Isaiah 7:10-15


Merrick Johnson, Reader

¹⁰ Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹ Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹² But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. ¹³ Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.


People: Thanks be to God.

What Child Is This

Congregation sings seated



1. What Child is this Who, laid to rest on Ma-ry's lap is sleep - ing?
2. Why lies He in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3. So bring Him in - cense, gold and myrrh, come, peas-ant, king, to own Him;



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet, while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tians, fear, for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne Him.

Refrain



This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;



haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the son of Ma - ry.

Isaiah 11:1-9

Elaine Luhr, Reader

11 A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
² 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.
³ 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;
⁴ but 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.
⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
⁶ The 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.
⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
⁹ They 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.

People: Thanks be to God.

Prelude on "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" - arr. Mahnke *Chris Little, Clarinet*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Matt Armstrong verses 1-5

Congregation sings refrain, standing



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2. O come, Thou Rod of Jes - se, free Thine own from Sa - tan's
3. O come, Thou Day - spring, come and cheer our spir - its by Thine
4. O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our
5. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind all peo - ples in one



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un -
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell Thy peo - ple save and
ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and
heav'n - ly home; the cap - tives from their pri - son free; and
heart and mind; bid en - vv. strife and quar - rels cease; fill



til the Son of God ap - pear.
give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
death's dark sha - dows put to flight. Re - joice! re - joice! Em -
con - quer death's deep mis - er - y.
all the world with heav - en's peace.



man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Lesson VI

Luke 1:5-25

*Vesper Durbin, Sophia Maynard,
and Avery Whiteman, Readers*

⁵ In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶ And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. ⁷ But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.

⁸ Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, ⁹ according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. ¹⁰ And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. ¹¹ And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. ¹³ But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. ¹⁴ And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, ¹⁵ for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. ¹⁶ And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, ¹⁷ and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

¹⁸ And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." ¹⁹ And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. ²⁰ And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." ²¹ And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple. ²² And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute. ²³ And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

²⁴ After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, ²⁵ “Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people.

People: Thanks be to God.

Away In a Manger

Children’s Chorus

Lesson VII

Luke 1:26-38

Rev. Deacon Erin Zonio, Reader

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He 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. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵ The 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. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸ Then 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.

People: Thanks be to God.

Advent Carol: The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came—arr. Robert Lau, Don Frazier,
Piano

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Congregation standing

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2. God of God, and Light of Light be - got - ten,
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion! O
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 heaven a - bove;
le - sus, to Thee be all glo - ry given;

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, all glo - ry in the high - est;
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a -
dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord.

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And with your spirit.*

The Doxology

Congregation standing

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.***

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Sursum Corda

Congregation standing

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is just and right so to do.

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great glory to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus

spoken

***Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Prayer of Consecration

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent

your only Son into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the forgiveness of sins: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy sacrament, and be made one body with him, so that he may dwell in us and we in him. And bring us with all your saints into the fullness of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

*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.
And forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.*

The Fraction

Congregation singing

*This is Jesus
Emmanuel God is with us
In this sacrament
Come receive Him adore Him
This is Jesus Christ our Lord*

The Invitation to Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence- arr.. G. Winston Cassler

Chris Little , Clarinet

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people gathered around every altar of your Church, and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

Congregation kneeling

Heavenly Father,

we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food

of the most precious body and blood

of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;

and for assuring us in these holy mysteries

that we are living members of the body of your Son,

and heirs of your eternal Kingdom.

And now Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,

to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,

be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

The Blessing

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional

Joy to the World

Congregation standing

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Joy to the World". It consists of two staves of music. The first staff has four vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and the lyrics: "1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -", "2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our", "*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -", "4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the". The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics: "ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and", "songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -", "fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far", "na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and".

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - every heart pre - pare him room, and
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: *Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Postlude- *The Advent of Our God*—arr.. Lani Smith

*Don and Gwen Frazier,
Piano/Organ Duet*

Clergy

The Rev. Pam Buck
The Rev. Trevor Durbin
The Rev. Deacon Samuel Hood
The Rev. Deacon Erin Zonio

Akolyte

Kristi Durbin

Music

Gwen Frazier, 8:30 Worship, Organist
Maddie Hood, Worship Leader

Gwen Frazier	Organ
Don Frazier	Piano
Chris Little	Clarinet

Worship Band

Maddie Hood
Elizabeth Varnado
The Rev. Deacon Samuel Hood

Children's Chorus

Laurie Armstrong, Children's Pastor

Caroline Armstrong	Benjamin Maynard
Eleanor Armstrong	Sophia Maynard
Amelia Anderson	Jack McKinstry
Arvid Anderson	Mitt McKinstry
Nevaeh Dornbos	Elijah Miller
Kaya Dornbos	Vera Miller
Maya Dorrell	Margo Tucker
Levin Durbin	Millie Tucker
Vesper Durbin	Miles Varnado
	Avery Whiteman

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