

Order of Worship

The Third Sunday of Advent

Eleven o'clock

December 16, 2018

THE CHURCH GATHERS

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

Worship begins when you arrive in this space. Reflect and pray in these music-filled moments and open yourself to God's grace and presence, especially as the nativity of Christ approaches. Prepare your heart to discover God's light and to bear that light and peace in your life and for the world.

†PRELUDE

“Chorale”
(from *Christmas Oratorio*)
Camille Saint-Saëns

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alex Evans

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Please sign the Friendship Pad found in the pews and provide us with your contact information if you are a visitor.

*Hymn 140

Once in Royal David's City
stanza 1: soloist only
stanzas 2-4: all
Irby

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Hannah & Matt Franz

GRATEFUL RESPONSE *(seated)*

tune: *Veni Emmanuel*

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here until the son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

BIDDING PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Leader: May God bless us with God's grace: Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all.

All: **Amen.**

FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3

Pew Bible, p. 2

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

CAROL

Adam lay ybounden
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.

Boris Ord

Nay had the apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Nay had never our lady,
Of been heaven a queen.

Blessed be the time
That apple taken was,
Therefore we moun singen:
Deo gratias!

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 9

Pew Bible, p. 555

The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.

CAROL

The Sussex Carol

arr. Elaine Hagenberg

On Christmas night all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring;
On Christmas night all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring;
News of great joy news of great mirth,
News of our merciful King's birth

When sin departs before his grace
Then life and health come in its place.
When sin departs before his grace
Then life and health come in its place.
Angels and all with joy may sing,
All for to see the newborn King.

Then why should men on earth be so sad,
Since our Redeemer made us glad;
Then why should men on earth be so sad,
Since our Redeemer made us glad;
When from our sin he set us free,
All for to gain our liberty.

All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night;
All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night,
“Glory to God in highest heav'n,
Now and forever more,” Amen!

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 11

Pew Bible, p. 558

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

CAROL

There Is No Rose

Alan Smith

There is no rose of such virtue
As is the rose that bare Jesu;
Alleluia.

For in this rose contained was
Heaven and earth in little space:
Res miranda. (a wonderful thing)
By that rose we may well see
There be one God in persons three:

Pares forma. (of equal form)
The angels sungen the shepherds to:
Gloria in excelsis deo: (glory to God in the highest)
Gaudeamus. (let us rejoice)
Leave we all this worldly mirth,
And follow we this joyful birth;
Transeamus. (let us go)
– anonymous 15th cent.

FOURTH LESSON

Luke 1

Pew Bible, p. 831

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

CAROL

Born in a Stable

Philip Stopford

Born in a stable in Bethlehem,
Gently in manger laid,
Jesus the King of the human race
Grant us your holy peace.

Far from the East there came the Wise Men three
Bearing their gifts for a King.
Kneeling to Him who would save the world,
Jesus the Lord of all.

Mary and Joseph watch o'er Him there,
Oxen and ass by their side.
Worship together the holy babe,
Savior of all mankind.

Though for our Savior no room was found,
Son of the highest of all,
Still in our hearts there is room for you,
Come with your holy peace.

*Hymn 113

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2

Pew Bible, p. 832

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

CAROL

See Amid the Winter's Snow

Dan Forrest

Alleluia!
See amid the winter's snow,
Born for us on earth below,
See the tender Lamb appears,
Promised from eternal years.

Alleluia!
Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the lofty skies;
He, who throned in light sublime
Sits amid the cherubim. *Chorus*

Chorus

Hail, thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

Alleluia!
Sacred infant, all divine,
What a tender love was Thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss,
Down to such a world as this. *Chorus*
Alleluia!

SIXTH LESSON

Matthew 2

Pew Bible, p. 783

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES AND GIFTS

Collection of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Candlelight Carol

John Rutter

How do you capture the wind on the water?
How do you count all the stars in the sky?
How can you measure the love of a mother?
Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?

Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star-glow
Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn
Gloria! Gloria in excelsis deo
Angels are singing; the Christ child is born

Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore him
Seraphim round him their vigil will keep
Nations proclaim him their Lord and their Saviour
But Mary will hold him and sing him to sleep

Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star-glow
Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn
Gloria! Gloria in excelsis deo
Angels are singing; the Christ child is born

Find him at Bethlehem laid in a manger
Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay
Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation
A child with his mother that first Christmas Day

Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star-glow
Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn
Gloria! Gloria in excelsis deo
Angels are singing; the Christ child is born

RESPONSE

tune: *Cranham*

4. What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were-a shep-herd,
I would bring a lamb. If I were a Wise Man, I would do my
part. Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

SEVENTH LESSON

John 1

Pew Bible, p. 862

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

