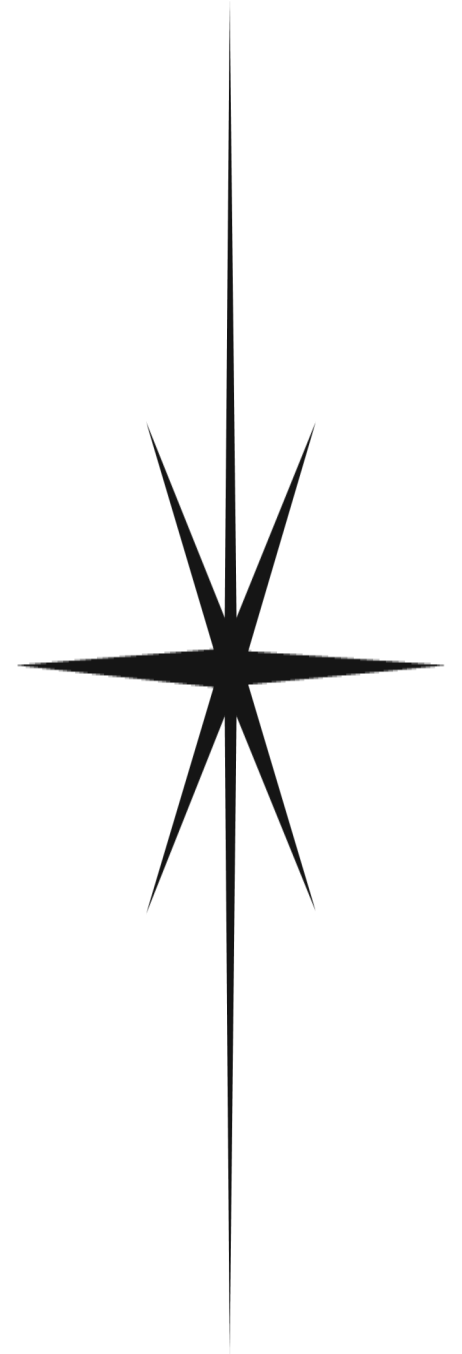


## **A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS**

We celebrate the anticipation of Christmas in today's traditional service of Lessons and Carols. Devised in 1918 by the Very Reverend Eric Milner-White (then Dean of King's College, Cambridge, England), this order of worship is used on Christmas Eve in the chapel of King's College, and through broadcasts and recordings has achieved popularity throughout the world.

It's theme is the development of the loving purpose of God from the creation to the incarnation. It's purpose is to foster good will and unity among the entire congregation and community, providing an atmosphere for all to celebrate the Christmas story of peace on earth among people of good will.

Child care is available for younger children during today's service.



## THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

December 16, 2018

10:40 A.M.

*\*The congregation is invited to stand as music begins.  
Additional worshipers may enter as the congregation sings.*

### Welcome and Announcements

Welcome to God's house of worship. Let us lift up our voices in song and prayer that we may be refreshed and our hearts in praise and adoration that we may "walk in the newness of life" (Romans 6:4) as we joyously worship our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer. ***(Please sign the attendance register and pass it along, greeting those near you. Guests, please share your address and telephone number with us.)***

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

### Opening Voluntary

"Rise Up! Go Tell it"  
Sanctuary Choir

*Rise Up Shepherd  
Go Tell It*  
Arr. Cathy Moglebust

### Chimes

The Entrance of the Bible

### Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Siebuhr Family

### Processional Hymn 140

"Once in Royal David's City"  
*Linda Young, verse 1*  
*Congregation, please join on verse 2*

*Irby*

## THE LESSONS AND CAROLS

### First Lesson

Genesis 3:1-19

The Rev. David Slyter

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.

### Hymn 106

"Prepare the Way, O Zion"

*Bereden Vag For Herran*

### Second Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-6

Dr. Mark Eidson

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

### Carol

"African Noel"  
Sanctuary Choir

*Traditional African Carol*  
Arr. Victor C. Johnson

Sing Noel, sing Noel, Noel, Noel!  
Sing we all Noel!

 **Grace First**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
*Together – Worshipping, Witnessing, Working*  
606 Mockingbird Lane, Weatherford, Texas 76086  
817-594-2744 Metro 817-341-2258  
[www.gracefirstpc.org](http://www.gracefirstpc.org)

The Reverend Dr. Edie A. Gause, Interim Pastor  
The Reverend David A. Slyter, Associate Pastor  
Marialice Parish, M.M., Organist and Director of Music



BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

- \*Hymn 113

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

*Gloria*
- \*Benediction
- \*Closing Congregational Response

Hymn 147

*The First Nowell*
- Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.**
- \*Closing Voluntary

“Joy to the World”

Arr. Michael Bedford

SANCTUARY CHOIR

<i>Bob Allen</i>	<i>Marion Harris</i>
<i>Donna Allen</i>	<i>Deb Kaiser</i>
<i>Daniel Arnold</i>	<i>Janie Pendleton</i>
<i>Sally Arnold</i>	<i>Kirk Pendleton</i>
<i>Jill Bray</i>	<i>Betty Riall</i>
<i>Rusty Crownover</i>	<i>Randy Riall</i>
<i>Dave Deison</i>	<i>Janice Smith</i>
<i>Dianna Dixon</i>	<i>Dave Young</i>
<i>John Fields</i>	<i>Linda Young</i>

SANCTUARY HANDBELLS

<i>Susie Bossert</i>	<i>Danny Ingram</i>
<i>Wendy Coleman</i>	<i>Dave Kaiser</i>
<i>Linda Crownover</i>	<i>Deb Kaiser</i>
<i>Nancy Deison</i>	<i>Suzanne Rothrock</i>
<i>John Fields</i>	<i>Kay Sheffield</i>
<i>Leslie Goeldner</i>	<i>Janice Smith</i>
<i>Seth Goeldner</i>	<i>Linda Young</i>
<i>Sue Jones</i>	<i>Cathy Zellers</i>

*The Sanctuary Handbells are pleased to present one of their commissioned handbell pieces. It was written in 2016 to honor bell ringers past, present and future of Grace First Presbyterian Church*

Third Lesson

Isaiah 35:1-10

Ace Rawlins

The prophet proclaims that God will come and save us.

Carol

“Christmas Hallelujah”

Claire Varnon, Rusty Crownover, Dave Deison

I’ve heard about this baby boy, who’s come to us to bring us joy, and I just wanna sing this song to you. It goes like this, the 4th, the 5th, the Minor fall, the major lift, with every breath I’m singing Hallelujah, Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

A couple came to Bethlehem expecting child they searched the inn, to find a place for you were coming soon. And there was no room for them to stay so, in a manger filled with hay God’s only son was born, oh Hallelujah! Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

The shepherds left their flocks by night to see this baby wrapped in light, a host of angels led them all to you. It was as the angels said, “You’ll find him in a manger bed,

Emmanuel the Savior, Hallelujah!”  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

And though you came to rescue me, the world was just too blind to see, but Prophets taught that God would save us through you, and by his will, in Jesus’ birth, proclaimed his presence here on earth, all Glory be to God, oh Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-5

The Rev. Andrew Short

God comforts His people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.

Carol

“Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming”

Michael Praetorius

Sanctuary Choir

Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse’s lineage coming as men of old have sung.  
It came a flow’ret bright, amid the cold of winter  
When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah ‘twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind,  
With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.  
To shew God’s love aright she bore to men a Savior,  
When half-spent was the night.

**Fifth Lesson** Zechariah 9:9-10 Ed Moss  
The Lord promises that the King will come to Israel in peace.

\*Hymn 87 “Comfort, Comfort Now My People” *Genevan 42*

**Sixth Lesson** Luke 1:26-43 Jamie Mittendorf  
The angel Gabriel salutes Mary.

Carol “Gabriel’s Message” *Gabriel’s Message*  
Sanctuary Choir Arr. Tony Alonso

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
with wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame.  
“All hail,” said he, “O lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady.” Gloria!  
“How blest among all women you shall be, with every age will praise continually.  
Your Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favored lady.” Gloria!

*Magnificat anima mea Dominum.*

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head. “To me be as it pleases God.” She said.  
“My soul shall laud and magnify God’s holy name.” most highly favored lady. Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn.  
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:  
most highly favored lady.”  
Gloria! Gloria!

**Seventh Lesson** Luke 1:46-55 Eryn Williams  
My soul magnifies the Lord.

Carol “Coventry Carol” *Coventry Carol*  
Sanctuary Handbells *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*  
Arr. Keith Burt

**Eighth Lesson** Luke 2:1-7 Claire Varnon  
Luke tells of the birth of Christ.

Carol “A Manger Carol” *Polish Carol*  
Sanctuary Choir Arr. Keith Christopher

Infant holy, Infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the Babe is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging angels singing, Noels ringing, tiding bringing:  
Christ the Babe is lord of all.

Flock were sleeping, shepherds keeping Vigil till the morning new.  
Saw the glory, heard the story, Tidings of a gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, Praises voicing greet the morrow:  
Christ the Babe was born for you!

**Ninth Lesson** John 1:1-18 The Rev. Dr. Edith Gause  
John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.

Carol “And the Glory of the Lord” George Fredrick Handel  
(Messiah)  
Sanctuary Choir

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,  
and all flesh shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

Pastoral Joys and Concerns of the Church

Pastor Nominating Committee Update Joe Barnhart

Prayer for the People and the Lord’s Prayer Choral Amen  
**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.**

Call to Stewardship

Offertory “How Far Is It to Bethlehem?” Trad. English Carol  
Arr. Douglas E. Wagner

\*Congregation Response Hymn 119, vs. 1 *Mendelssohn*

**Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”  
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

\*Offertory Prayer