

SANCTUARY CHOIR

*Bob Allen
Donna Allen
Daniel Arnold
Sally Arnold
Jill Bray
Rusty Crownover
Dave Deison
Dianna Dixon*

*Marion Harris
Deb Kaiser
Janie Pendleton
Kirk Pendleton
Betty Riall
Randy Riall
Janice Smith
Linda Young*

SANCTUARY HANDBELLS

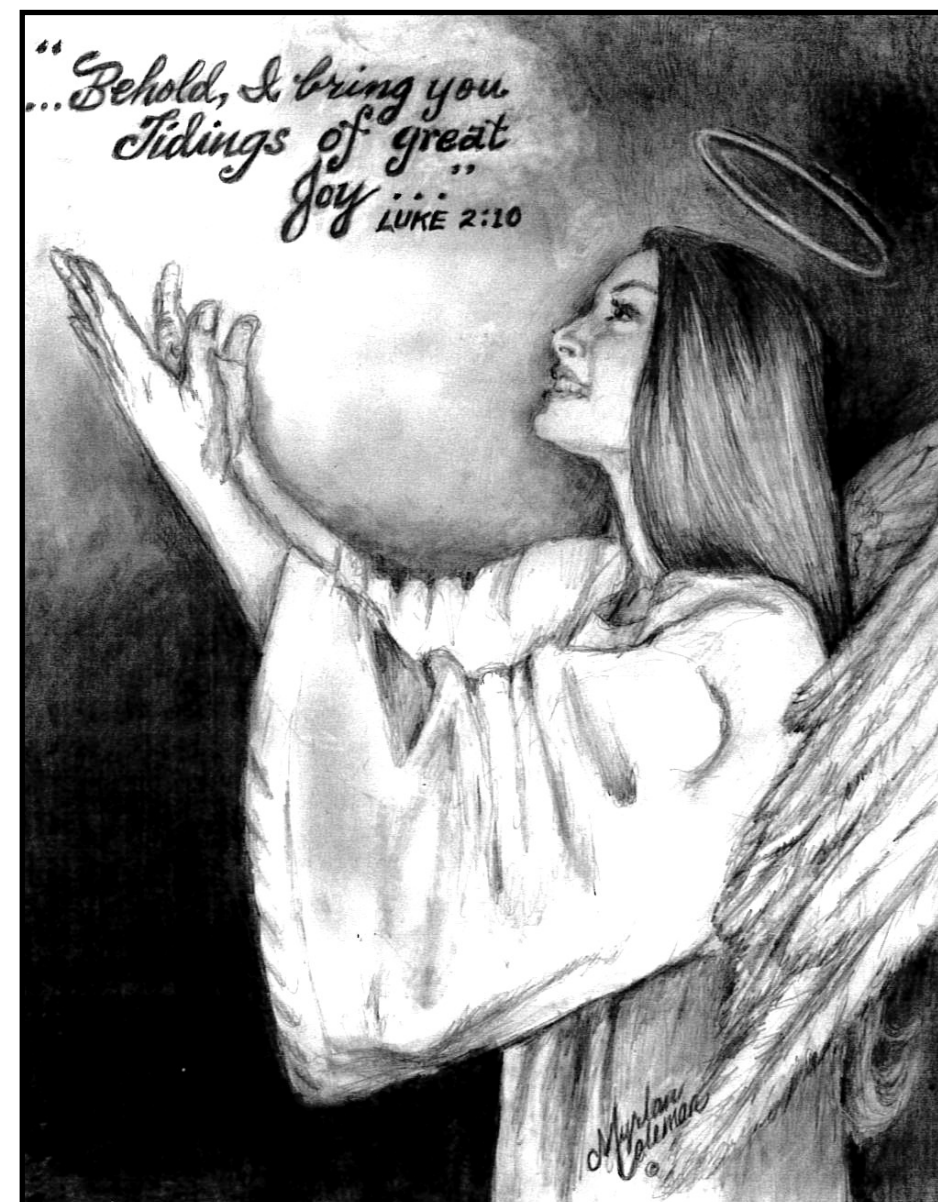
*Susie Bossert
Wendy Coleman
Linda Crownover
Nancy Deison
Leslie Goeldner
Seth Goeldner
Danny Ingram
Sue Jones*

*Dave Kaiser
Deb Kaiser
Suzanne Rothrock
Kay Sheffield
Janice Smith
Linda Young
Cathy Zellers*



The Reverend Ashley Drake Mertz, Pastor
The Reverend David A. Slyter, Associate Pastor
Marialice Parish, M.M., Organist and Director of Music

Today's Liturgy has been adapted from: (Feasting on the Word:
Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1.



Third Sunday of Advent

**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.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Pastoral Joys and Concerns of the Church

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
Sanctuary Choir Arr. Douglas E. Wagner

*Congregation Response Hymn 119, verse 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

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*Hymn 113 *Gloria*
“Angels We Have Heard on High”

*Benediction

*Closing Congregational Response Hymn 147 Refrain *The First Nowell*
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

*Closing Voluntary “From Heaven on High” Johann Pachelbel

Eighth Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Joe Barnhart

Luke tells of the birth of Christ.

Carol

"Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head"

American Folk

Sanctuary Choir

Arr. Kevin Robison

Jesus, Jesus, rest your head, you have got a manger bed;
All the evil folk on earth sleep in feathers at their birth;

Have you heard about our Jesus? Have you heard about His fate?
How his mother went to a stable on that Christmas Eve so late!
Winds were blowing, cows were lowing, stars glowing, glowing, glowing.

To that manger came the wise men, bringing things from hin and yon
For the mother and the father and the blessed little Son.
Milkmaids left their fields and flocks and sat beside the ass and ox.

Jesus, Jesus, rest your head, in your little manger bed.

Ninth Lesson

John 1:1-18

The Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz

John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.

Carol

"Hodie! Christ Is Born!"

Benjamin Harlan

Sanctuary Choir

Hodie! Christ is born this holy day.

Once upon a winter's night, heaven's Star shone bold and bright,
Rending darkness, lending light. Christ the Lord is born!

Kings and shepherds rush to see how the Promise came to be
clothed in awe and mystery. Christ the Lord is born!

Angels sing a glad Noel! God has come with us to dwell.
Prince of Peace! Emmanuel! Christ the Lord is born!

THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

December 15, 2019

10:40 A.M.

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

Welcome and Announcements

In the ancient world, various peoples lit fires to mark the turning of the light into winter's season and to pray for the return of the light. The church has Christianized that practice in the lighting of the Advent wreath. To us, these candles are signs of the growing light of Christ who is coming again in all fullness into the darkness of our world. During Advent we light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love remembering the promises of God. ***(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

"'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime"

Sanctuary Handbells

French-Canadian Carol

Entrance of Baptismal Water, and the Bible

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Coody, Zellers, and Varnon Family

*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.

Carol	“Adam Lay Ybounden” Sanctuary Choir	Boris Ord Medieval Text
-------	--	----------------------------

Adam lay ybounden, bounded in a bond; For 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.
Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been, Ne had never our lady a
been heavene queen. Blessed be the time that apple taken was,
Therefore we moun singing, *Deo gracias!*

Second Lesson	Isaiah 9:2-6	Shanteé Siebuhr
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.		

Hymn 86	“The People Who Walked in Darkness”	<i>Isaiah 9</i>
---------	-------------------------------------	-----------------

Third Lesson	Isaiah 11:1-9	Ed Kramer
The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown		

Carol	<i>Christmas Song</i> Arr. Rusty Crownover
-------	---

“There’s a Song in the Air”
Claire Varnon, Dave Deison, Rusty Crownover

There’s a song in the air! There’s a star in the sky!
There’s a mother’s deep prayer and a baby’s low cry.
And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,
For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

There’s a tumult of joy o’er the wonderful birth,
For the Virgin’s sweet boy is the Lord of the earth.
Ay! The star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,
For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

We rejoice in the light, and we echo the song
that comes down through the night from the heavenly throng.
Ay! We shout to the lovely evangel they bring,
and we greet in His cradle our Savior and King!

Fourth Lesson	Isaiah 40:1-5	Greg Rosché
God comforts His people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.		

Hymn 87	“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”	<i>Genevan 42</i>
---------	----------------------------------	-------------------

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

Hymn 107	“Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn”	<i>Rejoice, Rejoice</i>
----------	--	-------------------------

Sixth Lesson	Luke 1:26-43	Virginia Welsh
The angel Gabriel salutes Mary.		

Carol	“There Is No Rose of Such Virtue” Sanctuary Choir	John Joubert
-------	--	--------------

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:
Resmiranda. (thing to be marveled at)
By that rose we may well see there be one God in Persons Three:
Pares forma. (of equal form)
Then leave we all this worldly mirth, and follow we this joyous birth:
Transeamus. (Let us cross over)

Seventh Lesson	Luke 1:46-55	Cara LaBrake
My soul magnifies the Lord.		

Carol	<i>Czechoslovakian Carol</i> Arr. Kevin McChesney
-------	--

“The Rocking Carol”
Sanctuary Handbells

(Mary’s little baby, sleep, sweetly sleep; sleep in comfort, slumber deep;
We will rock you, rock you, rock you. We will rock you, rock you, rock you.
We will serve you all we can, darling, darling, little man.)