



St. Francis' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

LESSONS & CAROLS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2023, 10:30AM



# LESSONS AND CAROLS



## WELCOME!

Happy New Year! No matter who you are or where you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome at St. Francis!

Today's service is a departure from our usual Eucharistic Service with a Liturgy of the Word with three readings and a psalm and the celebration of Communion. Instead, on this first day of the new year, we remember the story of our salvation in Jesus Christ in word and song.

We tell this story in a uniquely Anglican way. (The Episcopal Church broke from the Anglican Church after the Revolutionary War, but stays in fellowship with it). The author of *Nine Lessons and Carols* was The Rev. Eric Milner-White, a graduate of King's College in Cambridge, England. He was appointed chaplain at the college in 1912. When WW I broke out in 1914, he volunteered as a military chaplain, and witnessed the horrors of trench warfare on the western front. "Most of life is at night," he wrote in a letter back home, "and the nights are filled with prolonged terror—a horrid, weird, furtive existence. . . . Battle is indescribable, unimaginable. A continuous firework of light balls goes up from the German trenches. But most awesome is the noise. We feel powerless against those splitting cracks and roars, and dream of the metal tearing its way into the bodies of poor men." Decorated for courage under fire in combat, he was released after what he called "a battle of special horror" in early 1918 and returned to King's College, where he was appointed Dean.

After the end of the war on November 11, Milner-White set out to create a special Christmastide service "as a gift to the city of Cambridge" that would serve two purposes. First, he wanted to grieve the loss of young men from the city, and especially from his own college. Twenty-three percent of the members of King's College had died during the war, including Milner-White's roommate. Second, Milner-White wanted to reform liturgical practices so that the simple beauty of Christian worship would shine through and attract those who had lost their faith in the horrors of the war, whether serving in it or watching it take place.

There is intellectual depth to the service. In Milner-White's own words, "the main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God" as viewed "through the windows and the words of the Bible." Yet he aimed at simplicity rather than complex explication of God's purposes in human history. Rather than a lecture, he designed the service to focus on "color, warmth, and delight."

*History derived from Nine Lessons and Carols: A Rookie Anglican Guide by James Manley. December 21st, 2019.*

## PRELUDE

### THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*We bring our whole selves to worship, gathering up the fragments of our lives and offering them to Christ.*

#### GATHERING HYMN *Stand*     **HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING**

**W 185**

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

Christ, by highest heav'n adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold him come, Offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail the incarnate Deity,  
Please as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
*Refrain*

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, Ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that we no more may die.  
Born to raise each child of earth, Born to give us second birth.  
*Refrain*

### THE BIDDING PRAYER

Presider     Beloved in Christ, on this day it is our duty and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels, and to go in heart and mind to Bethlehem, and see this thing which has come to pass, and the Babe, lying in the manger...

Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all God's people; for unity within the Church Christ came to build, and especially in this city of Eureka and diocese of Missouri. And because this of all things would rejoice God's heart, let us remember, in God's name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love. Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are for ever one.

The Almighty God bless us with 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.

People

**Amen.**

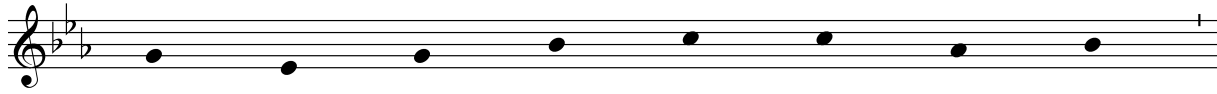
*Seated.*

Reader: Katie Jones

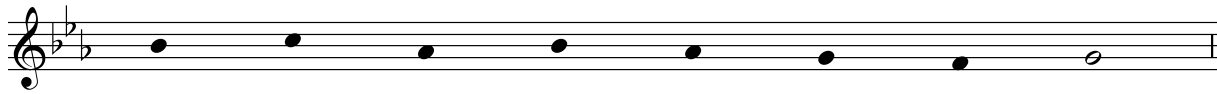
## HYMN

## CREATOR OF THE STARS OF NIGHT

H 60



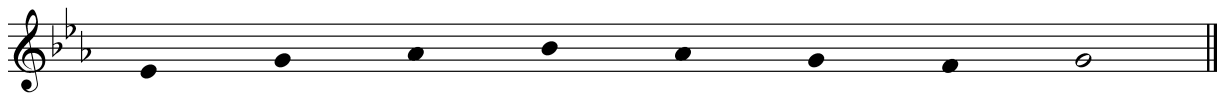
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,  
 2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse  
 \* 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,  
 2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,  
 6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,  
 2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free  
 6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.  
 2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.  
 6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Reader: Abby Jones

**HYMN**

**THE GOD OF ABRAHAM PRAISE**

**H 401**

- 1    The God of Abraham praise,  
        who reigns enthroned above;  
Ancient of everlasting days,  
        and God of love;  
the Lord, the great I AM,  
        by earth and heaven confessed:  
we bow and bless the sacred Name  
        for ever blest.
- 5    The whole triumphant host  
        give thanks to God on high;  
"Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!"  
        they ever cry;  
hail, Abraham's Lord divine!  
        With heaven our songs we raise;  
all might and majesty are thine,  
        and endless praise.

# LESSON 3 THE PEACE THAT CHRIST WILL BRING IS FORETOLD ISAIAH 11:1-3A, 4A, 6-9

Reader: Janet Houseman

## HYMN

## O DAY OF PEACE

H 597



1 O day of peace that dim - ly shines through all our  
2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the



hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to jus - tice, truth, and  
fierce de - vour the small; as beasts and cat - tle calm - ly



love, de - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes. May swords of  
graze, a lit - tle child shall lead them all. Then en - e -



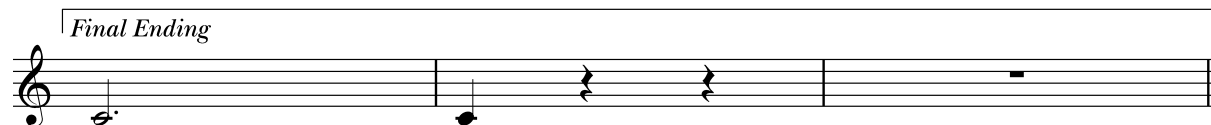
hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re -  
mies shall learn to love, all crea - tures find their true ac -



lease, till by God's grace our war - ring world shall see Christ's  
cord; the hope of peace shall be ful - filled, for all the



prom - ised reign of peace.  
earth shall know the (Lord.)



Lord. \_\_\_\_\_

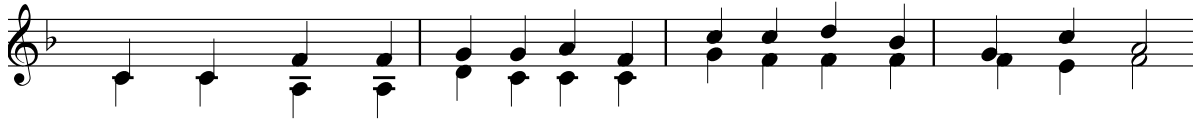
Reader:

Suzanne Jones

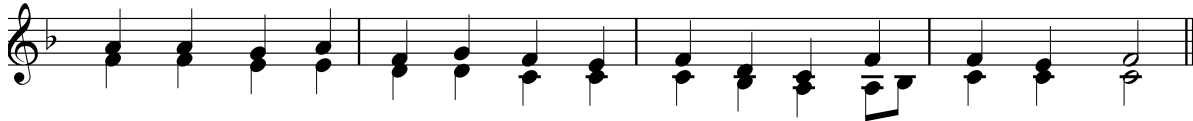
## HYMN

## COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS

H 66



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:  
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,



from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



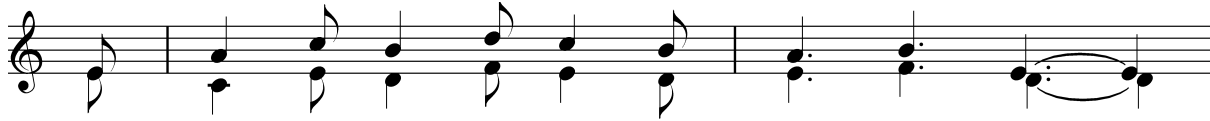
Reader:

Kathleen O'Reilly

## CAROL

## THE ANGEL GABRIEL FROM HEAVEN CAME

H 265



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,  
 2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,  
 3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,  
 4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born



his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;  
 all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,  
 "To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,  
 in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,  
 thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,  
 "my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."  
 and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!  
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!  
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!  
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

**LESSON 6****JESUS IS BORN IN BETHLEHEM AND LAID IN A MANGER****LUKE 2:1-7**

Reader:

Joe O'Reilly

**CAROL****O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM****H 79**

- 1 O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting Light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.
- 2 For Christ is born of Mary;  
and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together  
proclaim the holy birth!  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to men on earth.

Reader:

Anna Mackey

## CAROL

## WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED THEIR FLOCKS

H 94



1 While shep-herds watched their flocks by night, all seat - ed on the ground,  
2 "Fear not," said he, for might - y dread had seized their trou-bled mind;



1 the an - gel of the Lord came down, and glo - ry shone a - round.  
2 "Glad tid - ings of great joy I bring to you and all man-kind.

6 "All glory be to God on high  
and on the earth be peace;  
good will henceforth from heaven to men  
begin and never cease."

Reader:

Jeff Veenstra

## CAROL

## WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE

H 128

- 1 We three kings of Orient are,  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain,  
moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.

*Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright;  
westward leading,  
still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light!*

- 5 Glorious now behold him arise,  
King and God and Sacrifice;  
heaven sings alleluia:  
alleluia the earth replies.

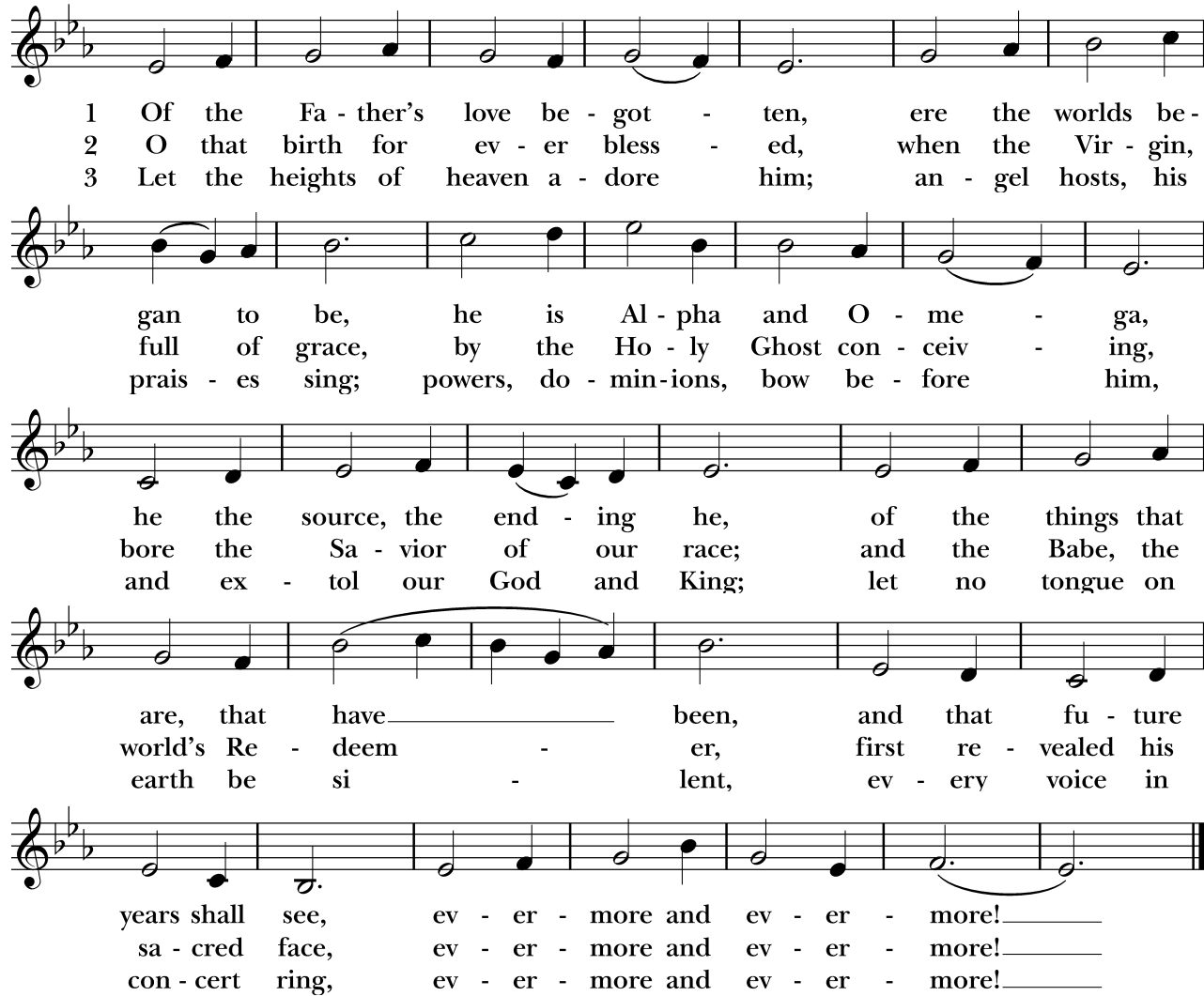
*Refrain*

Reader: Madeleine Whaley

CAROL

OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN

H 82



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be -  
 2 O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin,  
 3 Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his

gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
 prais - es sing; powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him,

he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that  
 bore the Sa - vior of our race; and the Babe, the  
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on

are, that have been, and that fu - ture  
 world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his  
 earth be si - lent, ev - every voice in

years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
 sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
 con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

*A period of reflection follow the homily. At the invitation of the Presider all who are able to stand.*

**THE APOSTLES' CREED** *Stand*

Presider Let us stand and declare our faith in God.

People I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**THE PRAYERS**

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

People 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. 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 SUFFRAGES**

Presider Help us, O God our Savior;

People **Deliver us and forgive us our sins.**

Presider Look upon your congregation;

People **Give to your people the blessing of peace.**

Presider Declare your glory among the nations;

People **And your wonders among all peoples.**

Presider Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;

People **Never forget the lives of your poor.**



Presider Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;  
People **And your favor to those who are true of heart.**  
Presider Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;  
People **So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.**

## THE COLLECTS

Presider Eternal One, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Seated* PIANO INSTRUMENTAL

## THE GREAT SILENCE

Presider Let us in the silence meditate on God's presence among us.

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING *Stand*

Presider Blessed are you, Lord our God creator and redeemer of all; to you be glory and praise for ever. From the waters of chaos you drew forth the world and in your great love fashioned us in your image. Now, through the deep waters of death, you have brought your people to new birth by raising your Son to life in triumph. May Christ your light ever dawn in our hearts as we offer you our sacrifice of thanks and praise. Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

People **Almighty God, Author of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Presider Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Presider            Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:20, 21

## THE PEACE

Presider            The peace of Christ be always with you.

People             **And also with you.**

Presider            Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

*We invite you to extend the peace of God to those in the congregation.*

## NEW YEAR GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *Seated*

### SENDING HYMN

### ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

H 96

1    Angels we have heard on high,  
         singing sweetly through the night,  
and the mountains in reply  
         echoing their brave delight.  
         Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2    Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
         Why these songs of happy cheer?  
What great brightness did you see?  
         What glad tidings did you hear?  
         Gloria in excelsis Deo.

3    Come to Bethlehem and see  
         him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
         Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
         Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Presider            Our worship is ended. Our service to the world now begins. Go in peace.

*Please join us in the Narthex for a New Year's toast immediately after the service.*