



Christ Church  
Cathedral  
Ottawa

## Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday | December 17<sup>th</sup> | 2023

4 pm | A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas

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### Welcome

A service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas was first developed in 1880 by Bishop Edward Benson of Truro (who eventually became the Archbishop of Canterbury). A later adaptation by King's College, Cambridge, became widely known. Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa has further adapted this iconic Christmas liturgy, using readings and carols to narrate the story of God's loving purpose in creation, from the Spirit of God, which moved over the waters at the beginning of time, and the covenant God made with humankind, to the abandonment of that covenant and the hope-filled promise of humankind's redemption by the Holy Child of Bethlehem. The lessons are read by individuals from the Cathedral's diverse community. The service is offered by Christ Church Cathedral as a gesture of peace and goodwill to the people of the Nation's Capital.

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# Order of Service

Preludes | *Quand Jésus naquit à Noël* | Jean-Jacques Beauvarlet-Charpentier  
| *In dulci júbilo (BWV 751)* | J.S. Bach  
| *Musette on 'Adeste fidelis'* | Jeanne Demessieux  
| *The Holy Boy* | John Ireland

Hymn | *Once in Royal David's City*

*Please join in singing verses 3-6.*

- 3. And through all his wondrous childhood he would honour and obey,  
love and watch the lowly maiden, in whose gentle arms he lay.  
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as he.*
- 4. For he is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew,  
he was little, weak and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew:  
and he feeleth for our sadness and he shareth in our gladness.*
- 5. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love,  
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on, to the place where he is gone.*
- 6. Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,  
we shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;  
when like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.*

A Bidding Prayer

First Lesson | *Genesis 1:1-25* | *God creates the earth and heavens and all living creatures*

Carol | *Resonemus laudibus* | Malcolm Archer

*Resonemus laudibus cum jocunditatibus ecclesiam fidelibus. Apparuit quem genuit Maria. Deus fecit hominem ad suam imaginem et similitudinem. Apparuit quem genuit Maria. Deus fecit omnia, cælum, terram, maria, cunctaque nascentia. Apparuit quem genuit Maria. Ergo nostra concio in chorids et organo benedicat Domino. Apparuit quem genuit Maria. Et Deo*

*qui venias donat et lætitiis nos eidem gratias. Apparuit quem genuit Maria. | Let us make the church resound with joyful praise of the faithful. He who was born of Mary has appeared. God made man in his own image and likeness. God created everything, heaven, earth, seas, and all living creatures. Therefore let this gathering, with string and wind instruments bless the Lord. And to God who is gracious to us and gladdens us, we give thanks.*

## Second Lesson | Genesis 1:26-2:1 | God creates and blesses humankind

Carol | *The truth from above* | arr. R. Vaughan Williams

*This is the truth sent from above, The truth of God, the God of love, Therefore don't turn me from your door, But hearken all both rich and poor. The first thing which I do relate Is that God did man create; The next thing which to you I'll tell Woman was made with man to dwell. Thus we were heirs to endless woes, Till God the Lord did interpose; And so a promise soon did run That he would redeem us by his Son. And at that season of the year Our blest Redeemer did appear; He here did live, and here did preach, And many thousands he did teach. Thus he in love to us behaved, To show us how we must be saved; And if you want to know the way, Be pleased to hear what he did say.*

## Third Lesson | Genesis 17:1-8; 22:18 | God makes a covenant with humankind through Abram

Carol | *Adam lay ybounden* | Peter Warlock

*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 clerkës finden Written in their book. Ne had one apple taken been, The apple taken been, Ne had never Our Lady A been heaven's Queen. Blessèd be the time That apple taken was. Therefore we moun singen: Deo gratias!*

## Fourth Lesson | Isaiah 1:2-4, 16-17 | Humankind forsakes the covenant with God

Carol | *Ecce Puer* | Christopher Chivers

*Of the dark past A child is born. With joy and grief My heart is torn. Calm in his cradle The living lies. May love and mercy Unclose his eyes! Young life is breathed On the glass; The world that was not Comes to pass. A child is sleeping: An old man gone. O, father forsaken, Forgive your son!*

Hymn | *It came upon a midnight clear*

*It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, to all good will from heaven's most gracious king!"  
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

*Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.*

*Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;  
beneath the angel-strain have rolled two thousand years of wrong;  
and we amid our wars hear not the words of peace they bring:  
O listen now, and still your strife to hear the angels sing.*

*For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold:  
when the new heaven and earth shall own the Prince of Peace their King  
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.*

Fifth Lesson | *Isaiah 9:2b, 6; 11:5-9* | *Isaiah announces redemption through God's  
Messiah*

Carol | *In the bleak mid-winter* | *Lucy Walker*

*In the bleak mid-winter Frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron, Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, Snow on snow, In the bleak mid-winter Long ago. Our God,  
Heav'n cannot hold him nor earth sustain; Heav'n and earth shall flee away When he comes to  
reign: In the bleak mid-winter A stable place sufficed The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ. What  
can I give him, Poor as I am? If I were a shepherd 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.*

Sixth Lesson | *Luke 1:26-38* | *The angel Gabriel greets the Virgin Mary*

Carol | *The Rose* | *Ola Gjeilo*

*The lily has a smooth stalk will never hurt your hand; But the rose upon her brier is lady of the  
land. When with moss and honey she tips her bending brier, and half unfolds her glowing  
heart. There's sweetness in an apple tree, and profit in the corn; But lady of all beauty is a rose*

*upon a thorn. When with moss and honey she tips her bending brier, and half unfolds her glowing heart, she sets the world on fire.*

## Seventh Lesson | Luke 2:1-7 | *The Messiah is born in Bethlehem*

Carol | *Away in a manger* | Esther Bersweden

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head; The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky, And stay by my side until morning is nigh. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.*

Hymn | *While shepherds watched*

*While shepherds watched their flocks by night  
all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down  
and glory shone around.*

*"Fear not," said he, for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind.  
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to you and humankind.*

*To you in David's town this day  
is born of David's line  
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
and this shall be the sign:*

*The heavenly babe you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
all meanly wrapped in swaddling bands,  
and in a manger laid."*

*Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith  
appeared a shining throng  
of angels praising God, who thus  
addressed their joyful song:*

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

**Eighth Lesson | Luke 2:8-16 | The Messiah's birth is proclaimed by angels**

**Carol | Angels' Carol | John Rutter**

*Have you heard the sounds of the angel voices ringing out so sweetly, ringing out so clear?  
Have you seen the star shining out so brightly as a sign from God that Christ the Lord is here?  
Have you heard the news that they bring from heaven to the humble shepherds who have  
waited long? Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo! Hear the angels sing their joyful  
song. He is come in peace in the winter's stillness, like a gentle snowfall in the gentle night. He  
is come in joy, like the sun at morning, filling all the world with radiance and with light. He is  
come in love as the child of Mary. In a simple stable we have seen his birth. Gloria in excelsis  
Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo! Hear the angels singing 'Peace on earth'. He will bring new light to  
a world in darkness, like a bright star shining in the skies above. He will bring new hope to the  
waiting nations When he comes to reign in purity and love. Let the earth rejoice at the  
Saviour's coming. Let the heavens answer with the joyful morn: Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in  
excelsis Deo! Hear the angels singing, 'Christ is born'.*

**Ninth Lesson | John 1:1-14 | The timeless Messiah brings redemption to the whole  
world**

**Carol | Sussex Carol | arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams**

*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 Thy grace,  
Then life and health come in its place; Angels and men with joy may sing, All for to see the  
new-born King. All out of darkness we have light, Which made the angels sing this night: 'Glory  
to God and peace to men, Now and for evermore. Amen.'*

**Offertory Hymn | O come, all ye faithful**



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*O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him Born the King of Angels:*

*Refrain:*

*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

*God of God, Light of Light,  
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God, Begotten, not created: [Refrain]*

*See how the shepherds, Summoned to his cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
We too will thither Bend our joyful footsteps: [Refrain]*

*Lo! star-led chieftains, Magi, Christ adoring,  
Offer him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
We to the Christ Child Bring our hearts' oblations: [Refrain]*

*Child, for us sinners Poor and in the manger,  
Fain we embrace thee, with awe and love;  
Who would not love thee, Loving us so dearly? [Refrain]*

*Sing, choirs of Angels, Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God In the Highest: [Refrain]*

*Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born on Christmas morning,  
Jesu, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing: [Refrain]*

## Closing Prayer

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

O God, whose Son Jesus Christ is Emmanuel, God With Us, help us to know his presence among us and to be so transformed by his power, that in our worship, our words and our actions we may reflect something of the glory of the light of the world to those with whom we share our lives, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



# Episcopal Blessing

Hymn | *Hark! The herald angels sing*

*Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King,  
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King."*

*Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail, the incarnate deity,  
pleased as one of us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King."*

*Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, risen 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.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King."*

Postlude | *Bring a torch, Jeannette Isabella* | *Keith Chapman*

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Dean | The Very Reverend Beth Bretzlaff  
Bishop | The Right Reverend Dr. Shane Parker  
Reader 1 | Ron Medas  
Reader 2 | Maya Devlen  
Reader 3 | Declan Grant  
Reader 4 | Katherine Spencer-Ross  
Reader 5 | Margaret Porter  
Reader 6 | Daniel Jerusalemiec  
Reader 7 | Tom Delsey  
Reader 8 | Peggy Morgan

Organists | James Calkin | Owen Spicer  
| Shireen Kwok | Eva Liu  
Directors | James Calkin | Andrew McAnerney  
Sung by | The Cathedral Choirs  
Duty Wardens | John Serrati | Jane Morris

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# Advent, Christmas, New Year's Day at the Cathedral

Wednesday | December 20<sup>th</sup>

12.05 pm Eucharist

Fourth Sunday of Advent | Christmas Eve | December 24<sup>th</sup>

8.30 am Holy Eucharist | 10.30 am Choral Eucharist

7 pm Choral Eucharist | 10 pm Festal Eucharist

Christmas Day | Monday | December 25<sup>th</sup>

10.30 am Choral Eucharist with Children's Story

The Epiphany of the Lord | Sunday | December 31<sup>st</sup>

8.30 am Holy Eucharist | 10.30 am Sung Eucharist

The Naming of Jesus | Monday | January 1<sup>st</sup>

Noon Choral Eucharist with the Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada

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# Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa

Anishinaabe aking ate awaso kikinawadjichigan | A place of prayer on Algonquin territory  
The Anglican Cathedral in the Nation's Capital  
Cathedral of the Canadian Forces Anglican Military Ordinariate

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Bishop of Ottawa | The Right Reverend Dr. Shane Parker

Dean of Ottawa and Rector | The Very Reverend Beth Bretzlaff (ext. 16)

Vicar | The Reverend Canon Douglas Richards (ext. 19)

Deacon Residentiary | The Reverend Dr. Jarrett Carty

Honorary Assistants | The Reverend Canon Rob Heard | LCol (ret'd) The Venerable Michelle Staples

Algonquin Teacher in Residence | Albert Dumont (Oshki Nodin)

Spiritual Director in Residence | Deacon Christine Jannasch (613.818.1754)

Cathedral Administrator | Josephine Hall (ext. 29)

Church Wardens | Jane Morris | Katherine Spencer-Ross

Director of Music and Organist | James Calkin (ext. 20)

Associate Director of Music | Andrew McAnerney (ext. 12)

Assistant Organist | Owen Spicer

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