

A Festival  
of  
Lessons and Carols  
by Hal H. Hopson



Shallotte Presbyterian Church

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# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 8, 2019 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

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## SOUNDING OF THE TRINITY

### PRELUDE

*Carol Prelude*

arr. Hal H. Hopson

String Ensemble, Handbells, Percussion, and Organ  
*(As the Prelude begins, let us prepare silently for worship.)*

### RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP *(Please pass the Fellowship Pad)*

### CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Group Home

### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We live in Peace. As we light the Candle of Peace, we remember:

**All: The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon God's anointed one.  
Righteousness shall be the belt around His waist.**

### \*PROCESSIONAL CAROL

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

\*Those who are able, please stand.

**All: 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;  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

**All: True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,  
Lo, he shuns not The Virgin's womb;  
Son of the Father, begotten, not created:  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

Choir: Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;  
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;  
*Venite adoremus, venite adoremus,  
venite adoremus, Dominum.*

**All: Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning.  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given.  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Shepherds and Angels* Larry Shackley  
String Ensemble

\*DOXOLOGY VENI EMMANUEL

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\*BIDDING PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

**FIRST LESSON**

Genesis 3:8-15

Adam and Eve rebel against God.

CAROL *God Walked in Eden's Garden Fair* CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

God walked in Eden's garden fair, such beauty there none could compare.  
It soon became a place of shame; there Adam's sin disowned God's name.  
*Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison. (Lord have mercy.)*

A world of peace was swept away when Adam chose to disobey.  
We too are marked by Adam's fall; we still refuse to hear God's call.  
*Christe eleison, Christe eleison, Christe eleison. (Christ have mercy.)*

The tale of Adam is our own. Like him we see God's love made known;  
Yet we rebel and go our way. The bitter cost we then must pay.  
*Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison. (Lord have mercy.)*

## SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

God promises to faithful Abraham that his descendants  
will be a blessing to all the nations of the earth.

CAROL

*The God of Abr'am Praise*

LEONI

**All: The God of Abr'am praise, sing praises to God's name,  
Who was and is and is to be, fore'er the same!  
The one eternal God, before what now appears;  
The First, the Last: beyond all thought through timeless years!**

**God's spirit freely flows, high surging where it will;  
God spoke of old in prophet's word; that word speaks still.  
Established is God's law, and changeless it shall stand,  
Deep written on the human heart, in every land.**

**God has eternal life implanted in the soul;  
God's love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.  
All praise the living God! All laud that hallowed name,  
Who was, and is, and ever shall be still the same!**

## THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

Christ's birth and rule of peace and justice are foretold by Isaiah.

CAROL

*Comfort, Comfort, O My People*

Genevan Psalter

Comfort, comfort, O my people, tell of peace, now says our God;  
Comfort those who sit in darkness bowed beneath oppression's load.  
Speak unto Jerusalem; speak of peace that waits for them;  
Tell that all their sins I cover; tell that warfare now is over.

Hark, the herald's voice is calling in the desert far and near,  
Bidding us to make repentance since the kingdom now is here.  
O that warning cry obey: now prepare for God away;  
Let the valleys rise to meet him;  
Let the hills bow down to greet him.

O make straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;  
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign.  
See the glory of the Lord now o're earth is shed abroad;  
All the world shall see this token, God's own word is never broken.

## FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

CAROL

*Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming*

ES IST EIN'ROS'/VENI EMMANUEL

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung.  
It came a floweret 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 show God's love a-right she bore for us a Savior,  
When half spent was the night.

This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,  
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.  
Enfleshed, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us and lightens every load.

## FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will be the mother of Jesus.

CAROL

*There Is No Rose*

Hal H. Hopson

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu;  
*Alleluia, Alleluia.*

For in this rose contained was heav'n and earth in little space;  
*Resmiranda, Resmiranda. (Let us marvel.)*

By that same rose we may well see there be one God in persons three,  
*Pares forma, Pares forma. (A mystery beyond understanding.)*

Then leave we all this worldly mirth, and follow we this joyous birth,  
*Transeamus, Transeamus. Pares forma, Pares forma.*  
*Resmiranda, Resmiranda, Alleluia. (Let us follow.)*

## SIXTH LESSON

Matthew 1:18-23

Saint Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus.

CAROL

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

IN DULCI JUBILO

**All: Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today!  
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today, Christ is born today!**

Choir: Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He hath opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!

**All: Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!**

## SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds go to Bethlehem.

CAROL

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

GLORIA

**All: Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.  
*Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!***

Choir: Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?  
*Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

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

**All: See him in a manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.  
*Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!***

## EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-11

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

CAROL

*From a Distant Home*  
Wayne Tillman, Tenor

Puerto Rican Carol

From a distant home the Savior we come seeking,  
Using as our guide the star so brightly beaming.  
Lovely eastern star that tells us of God's morning,  
Heaven's wondrous light, O never cease your shining!  
Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven,  
And upon the earth be peace and love to all.

Glowing gold I bring the newborn babe so holy,  
Token of his power to reign above in glory.  
Lovely eastern star that tells us of God's morning,  
Heaven's wondrous light, O never cease your shining!  
Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven,  
And upon the earth be peace and love to all.

Frankincense I bring the child of God's own choosing,  
Token of our prayers to heaven ever rising.  
Lovely eastern star that tells us of God's morning,  
Heaven's wondrous light, O never cease your shining!  
Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven,  
And upon the earth be peace and love to all.

Bitter myrrh have I to give the infant Jesus,  
Token of our pain that he will bear to save us.  
Lovely eastern star that tells us of God's morning,  
Heaven's wondrous light, O never cease your shining!  
Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven,  
And upon the earth be peace and love to all.

## NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

CAROL

*Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come*

ANTIOCH

**All: Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.**

**(continued)**

**All: Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy!**

Choir: Be joyful, sing alleluia; Christ is born!  
Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Repeat the sounding joy!

**All: He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness,  
And wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,  
And wonders, wonders of his love!**

\*Closing Prayer (*Congregation standing*)  
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

The Collect: O God, who made us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ; grant that as we joyfully receive the Word made flesh as our redeemer, we may one day with sure confidence behold the Son of Righteousness, who will come to be our judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The Blessing: May Christ, the Incarnate One fill you with inward peace and love; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Postlude (*remain seated*)                      *Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come*                      ANTIOCH  
String Ensemble, Handbells, and Organ

**Director of Music**

Robin Fort

**Handbells & Percussion**

Deb Claxton

Nancy Gorman

Margaret Westmoreland

**String Ensemble**

Lynn Auman, I Violin

Laura Black, II Violin

Sarah Daniels, Viola

Chad Hammer, Cello

**Organist/Pianist**

Randy Warner

**Narrator-** Rev. John Causey

**Lessons and Carols** had its origin at Truro Cathedral (England) on Christmas Eve 1880, when the Bishop of Truro, F.W. Benson, developed a service of scripture and supporting carols. Some 38 years later in 1918, this format was adapted for Christmas Eve at King's College Chapel, Cambridge, England. The BBC broadcast from King's College helped to popularize the Service of Lessons and Carols, and cathedrals and small churches throughout the world quickly duplicated it. This particular collection of lessons and carols was arranged and compiled by Hal H. Hopson. The heart of the service continues to this day—that is, the retelling of the Christian's story of faith from the fall of Adam to the coming of the Word Incarnate.