



CHRISTMAS EVE

*Candlelight Communion*



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
of Lynn Haven

*\*The congregation is invited to stand. The People's words are in bold text.*

# A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS

*on the Eve of the Lord's Nativity*

24 December 2021

## THE PRELUDE

Carols of the Season

"Advent Processional"

"O Holy Night *with* Away in a Manger"

traditional, arr. Brad Thoreson

Ashley Danyew

arr. Jeff Bennett and Cindy Berry

## \*THE BIDDING PRAYER

## \*PROCESSIONAL CAROL

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

ADESTE FIDELIS

1 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!

3 Sing, choirs of angels;  
sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

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

2 True God from true God,  
Light from light eternal,  
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
very God, begotten, not created!

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

4 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!

## \*CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER (pray together)

Good and gracious God, on this holy night you gave us your Son, the Lord of the universe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, the Savior of all, lying in a manger. On this holy night draw us into the mystery of your love. Join our voices with the heavenly host that we may sing your glory on high. Give us a place among the shepherds that we may find the One for whom we have waited: Jesus Christ, the Messiah and Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen!

## BIDDING CAROL "The Wexford Carol"

traditional, arr. Brad Thoreson

*Good people all, this Christmas time,  
Consider well, and bear in mind,  
What our good God for us has done,  
In sending his beloved Son.  
With Mary holy, we should pray  
To God with love this Christmas day;  
In Bethlehem upon that morn,  
There was a blessed Messiah born.*

*Let all your songs and praises be,  
Unto his Heav'nly Majesty;  
And evermore, amongst our mirth,  
Remember Christ our Savior's birth.  
That night the Virgin Mary mild,  
Was safe deliver'd of a child;  
According unto Heav'n's decree,  
Man's sweet salvation for to be.*

*With thankful heart and joyful mind,  
The shepherds went the babe to find,  
And as God's angels had foretold,  
They did our Savior Christ behold.  
Within a manger he was laid,  
And by His side the virgin maid  
Attending on the Lord of Life  
Who came to earth to end all strife.*

*The night before that happy tide,  
The noble Virgin and her guide  
Were long time seeking up and down  
To find a lodging in the town.  
But mark how all things came to pass:  
From ev'ry door repelled Alas!  
As long foretold their refuge all  
Was but a humble ox's stall.*

*Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep  
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;  
To whom God's angels did appear,  
Which put the shepherds in great fear.  
"Prepare and go," the angels said,  
"To Bethlehem. Be not afraid  
For there you'll find this happy morn  
A princely babe sweet Jesus born."*

*See how the Lord of Heav'n and earth,  
Showed himself lowly in His birth;  
A sweet example for mankind,  
To learn to bear a humble mind.  
If quires of Angels did rejoice,  
Well may mankind with heart and voice  
Sing praises to the God of Heav'n,  
That unto us His Son has giv'n.*

## LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

### FIRST LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

*The people who walk in darkness receive the promise of the Messiah.*

### CAROL "Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People"

GENEVAN 42, arr. Howard Helvey

*Comfort, comfort ye my people,  
Speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
Comfort those who sit in darkness,  
Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.  
Speak ye to Jerusalem  
Of the peace that waits for them;  
Tell her that her sins I cover,  
And her warfare now is over.*

*Make ye straight what long was crooked,  
Make the rougher places plain;  
Let your hearts be true and humble,  
As befits His holy reign.*

*Hark, the voice of one that crieth  
In the desert far and near,  
Calling us to new repentance  
Since the kingdom now is here.  
Oh, that warning cry obey!  
Now prepare for God a way;  
Let the valleys rise to meet Him  
And the hills bow down to greet Him.*

*For the glory of the Lord  
Now o'er earth is shed abroad;  
And all flesh shall see the token  
That the word is never broken.*

SECOND LESSON Micah 5:2, 4-5a

*The prophet Micah foretells the glory of Bethlehem.*

CAROL

**Choir & Congregation**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

ST. LOUIS

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 all on earth.

3 How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming,  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.

4 O holy child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in;  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us; abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel!

THIRD LESSON Luke 1:26-38

*The angel Gabriel appears to Mary, announcing that she will bear the holy child.*

CAROL

**Choir & Congregation**

“What Child is This”

GREENSLEEVES

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
on Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

2 Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through;  
the cross be borne for me, for you.  
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come, one and all, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high.  
The virgin sings her lullaby.  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

FOURTH LESSON Luke 2:1-7

*Joseph and Mary journey to Bethlehem; Mary gives birth to Jesus.*

BELL CAROL "Still, Still, Still"

traditional Austrian melody, arr. Steve Danyew

FIFTH LESSON Luke 2:8-14

*Angels appear to shepherds in the fields, announcing the birth of the Messiah.*

CAROL

**Choir & Congregation**

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

GLORIA

1 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!

2 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!

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!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

SIXTH LESSON Luke 2:15-20

*The shepherds go to Bethlehem and return, praising God.*

CAROL "The First Noel"

English carol, W. Sandy's *Christmas Carols*, 1833, arr. Dan Forrest

*The first Noel, the angels did say,  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they  
lay,  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!  
Born is the king of Israel.*

*They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east, beyond them far,  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!  
Born is the king of Israel.*

*Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to the heav'nly Lord,  
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,  
And with His blood mankind hath bought.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!  
Born is the king of Israel.*

**-THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION-**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

## GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*The peace of the Lord be with you!*

**And also with you!**

*Lift up your hearts.*

**We lift them to the Lord.**

*Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

[The prayer continues] ... *Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the celestial choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:*

8) Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav'n\_\_\_ and

6 8) earth\_\_\_ are full\_\_\_ of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Ho - san-na in the

12 8) high-est. Blessed is he who comes\_\_\_ in the name\_\_\_ of the Lord. Ho -

17 8) san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

[The prayer continues] ... *With voices united, we are bold to pray:*

**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. AMEN.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

#### COMMUNION CAROL "The Lamb of Christmas"

Ken Bible, French melody, arr. Tom Fettke

*"Come," said the lamb to the Holy Child:  
"Come share my straw and rest awhile.  
Come, Jesus, gentle, soft and mild,  
For you are the Lamb of Christmas."*

*"Come," said the song from the midnight sky.  
"We'll sing throughout the world tonight,  
'All glory and praise to God on high!"  
For you are the Song of Christmas."*

*“Come,” is the call of the Holy Child.  
“Come share my straw and rest awhile.  
You’ll find me gentle, soft and mild,  
For I am the Lamb, for I am the Lamb,  
I am the Lamb of Christmas.”*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

### \*PROCESSION OF LIGHT

### \*CANDLELIGHT CAROL

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

**Choir & Congregation**

STILLE NACHT

**1 Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
'round yon virgin mother and child!  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly  
peace.**

**2 Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing “Alleluia:  
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior  
is born!”**

**3 Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love’s pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy  
birth.**

**4 Silent night, holy night!  
Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
with the angels let us sing  
Alleluia to our King:  
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior  
is born.**

### \*SEVENTH LESSON John 1:1-5, 9-14, 16

*The Word of God becomes flesh and lives among us, full of grace and truth.*

**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being **4** in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. **9** The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

**10** He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. **11** He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. **12** But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, **13** who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

**14** And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

**16** From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

\*CAROL

“Joy to the World”

Choir & Congregation

ANTIOCH

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, 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.

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.

4 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.

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE “Ding, Dong, Merrily on High”

Setting by M. Hayes, arr. Douglas Wagner

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LEADING WORSHIP: Brad Thoreson, music director; Resounding Joy Handbell Choir; Claire Calohan, organ;  
The Chancel Choir; and The Reverends Lisa and Roy Martin

Merry  
Christmas

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