

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS



“Run, shepherds, run. Run to Bethlehem. Run!”

**DECEMBER 11, 2022 11:00 A. M.
WESLEY MONUMENTAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA**

The Rev. Dr. Benton C. Martin, Senior Pastor

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 11, 2022 11:00 A. M.

The Third Sunday of Advent

GATHERING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Dr. Ben Martin

Welcome to Worship. Thank you for joining us.

If needed, the nursery for infants to three years old is located on the first floor.

Hearing-assistance devices are available in the narthex; an usher will be happy to help you with them.

Please fill out the attendance register found in the pew, silence your cell phones, and refrain from flash photography during the Service.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Miss Elizabeth Huff

VOLUNTARY

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

arr. McDonald and Nelson

*In this hour we pray that the heavenly Father may grant us glimpses of His beauty,
and make us worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore;
and that, rejoicing in the nativity, we may learn to serve Thee with gladness.*

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 250

Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

Stanza 1: Miss Olivia Wanager, soloist

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed;
Mary, loving mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.

Stanza 2: All

**He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall.
With the poor, the scorned, the lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.**

Stanza 3: All

**Jesus 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.**

Stanza 4: All

**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.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Mr. and Mrs. Sly Knight,
Oliver and Asher

All: "Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel."

BIDDING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. Nelle Bordeaux

FIRST LESSON

Miss Ellen Muenckler

God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head. (Genesis 3)

Jesus Christ The Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston

The tree of life my soul hath seen, Laden with fruit, and always green:
The trees of nature fruitless be Compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel: By faith I know, but ne'er can tell,
The glory which I now can see In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought, And pleasure dearly I have bought:
I missed of all; but now I see 'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil, Here I will sit and rest awhile:
Under the shadow I will be, Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

- Unknown, 18th century

SECOND LESSON

Miss Anna Livingood

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed. (Genesis 22)

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

arr. Gustav Holst

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded for with blessing in His hand,
Christ our Lord to earth descendeth our full homage to demand.

King of Kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of Lords, in human vesture, in the Body and the Blood
He will give to all the faithful His own Self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way
As the light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day
That the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph; Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Lord most High."

Amen. Amen.

- 4th century (Liturgy of St. James)

*Children ages three through third grade may leave through doors at the front of the Sanctuary for Children's Worship on the second floor.
Please pick-up from the Fellowship Hall after the Service.*

THIRD LESSON

Mr. T. Jeffrey O'Connor

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah. (Isaiah 9)

Sing, All Ye Nations!

Daniel Meyer

Sing, all ye nations!

The arm of the Lord is revealed in its power, fulfilling God's word.

Ye watchmen of Zion, the glory beholding,
long promised, now dawning to gladden our eyes,
shout aloud, through all lands the bright vision unfolding,
and call Zion's hosts to awake!

Roll on, thou glad Earth, thy dark places are gleaming
with light from on high, and the new risen ray
on thy far distant mountains and lone isles is beaming,
and the nations awaken, and hail.

Roll on in thy path, till the radiance, increasing,
its noonday effulgence around thee shall fling,
and thy people all join in hosannas unceasing,
to praise their Creator, Redeemer, and King!

- Francis Scott Key (1833)

FOURTH LESSON

Mr. Adam Hess

The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem. (Micah 5)

HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem

FOREST GREEN

**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 street shineth The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in Thee tonight.**

**O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth.
And praises sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary; And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond'ring love.**

**How silently, how silently, The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming; But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ enters in.**

**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!**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

The Rev. James P. Owens

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Let Us Rejoice Today

Natalie Sleeth

O be joyful, O be jubilant, put your sorrow far away.
Come rejoice and sing together this happy day.

- Calypso Carol

OFFERING

*Please give attendance sheets to the acolytes as a symbolic offering of our presence in Worship.
To tithe, text wesleymunc to 77977 or place your offering in the offering plate.
Online giving is also available on our website.*

FIFTH LESSON

Mr. and Mrs. George Webster, III

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary. (Luke 1)

O Magnum Mysterium

O magnum mysterium,
et admirabile sacramentum,
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum,
jacentem in praesepe!
Beata Virgo, cujus viscera
Meruerunt portare
Dominum Christum. Alleluia!

Morten Lauridsen

O great mystery,
and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the newborn Lord,
lying in a manger!
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb
was worthy to bear
the Lord, Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

- Medieval Response from Christmas Day Matins

SIXTH LESSON

Mr. David Gelaude

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus. (Luke 2)

Gaudete

Piae Cantiones (1582)

Gaudete, Gaudete! Christus est natus ex Maria virgine, Gaudete!
(Rejoice, rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary, Rejoice!)

Tempus adest gratiae hoc quod optabamus,
Carmina laetitiae devote reddamus.

The time of grace has come—what we have wished for
Songs of joy let us give back faithfully.

Deus homo factus est natura mirante,
Mundus renovates est a Christo regnante.

God has become man, with nature marvelling,
The world has been renewed by the reigning Christ.

Ezechielis porta clausa pertransitur,
Unde lux est orta salus invenitur.

The closed gate of Ezekiel is passed through,
When the light is risen; Salvation has been found.

Ergo nostra contio psallat iam in lustro;
Benedicat Domino: Salus Regi nostro.

Therefore, let our assembly now sing in brightness.
Let us bless the Lord: Salvation to our King.

- Medieval Praise Song

SEVENTH LESSON

Ms. Camille O'Neill

The shepherds go to the manger. (Luke 2)

Run, Shepherds, Run!
Run, shepherds, run!

Jonathan Dove

Run, shepherds, run, where Bethlem blest appears,
We bring the best of news, be not dismayed,
A Savior there is born, more old than years,
Amidst heav'n's rolling heights this earth who stayed.

Run, shepherds, run to Bethlehem!

In a poor cottage inned, a virgin maid
A weakling did Him bear, who all upbears;
There is He, poorly swaddled, in a manger laid,
To whom too narrow swaddlings are our spheres:

Run, shepherds, run to Bethlehem!

This is that night
No, day grown great with bliss,
In which the power of Satan broken is;
In heav'n be glory, peace unto the earth.

Thus singing, through the air the angels swam,
And cope of stars re-echoèd the same.

Run, shepherds, run to Bethlehem! Run!

- William Drummond of Hawthornden (1585 - 1649)

EIGHTH LESSON

Mr. Don Riddle

The Wise Men are led by the star to Jesus. (Matthew 2)

Go Where I Send Thee!

arr. Caldwell and Ivory

Children go where I send thee! Children how shall I send thee?

I'm gonna send thee twelve by twelve.
Twelve for the twelve disciples.
Eleven of them singin' in heaven,
Ten for the ten commandments,
Nine for the angel choirs divine,
Eight for the eight the flood couldn't take,
Seven for the day God laid down His head.

I'm gonna send thee six by six.
Six for the days when the world was fixed,
Five for the bread they did divide,
Four for the Gospel writers,
Three for the Hebrew children.

I'm gonna send thee two by two.
Two for Paul and Silas.
I'm gonna send thee one by one.
One for the little bitty baby,
The baby boy born in Bethlehem.

Children go where I send thee!

- Traditional Spiritual

NINTH LESSON

The Rev. Dr. Ben Martin

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation. (John 1)

Go, Tell It On the Mountain

arr. Ryan Murphy

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo, above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

- Traditional Spiritual

HYMN NO. 234

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELIS

**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, Christ the Lord.**

**God of God, Light of Light
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's Womb;
Very God, begotten not created:
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God in the highest;
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

**Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

BENEDICTION

The Rev. Dr. Ben Martin

VOLUNTARY

Variations on Adeste Fidelis

Marcel Dupré

* *Please stand as you are able.*

MUSICIANS

Wesley Chancel Choir
Wesley Youth Choir
Ms. Julia Flowers, Music Assistant
Mrs. Sheila Watts, Youth Choir Assistant
Mr. Skip Watts, Youth Choir Assistant
Dr. Leah Dutton, cellist
Ms. Kara Mobley, pianist
Mr. Raymond Patricio, percussion
Dr. Monica Dekle, Director of Music and Organist



Cover painting: *Adoration of the Shepherds* by Domenico Ghirlandaio, 1485

**CHILDREN
OF THE LIGHT**
AN EVENING OF HYMNS & HERITAGE

Benefiting the Building Fund for Children's and Music Ministries

Feb. 26, 2023 | 5-6 p.m.
Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church
Children & Youth Choirs With Full Orchestra

Get your tickets at www.MonumentalMusic.eventbrite.com!

*The flowers by the altar today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Sally M'Liss Williams,
who in her walk of faith forever inspired all who knew her.*

*The roses worn by the ushers today are given in loving memory of Bob Farrow
by his children and grandchildren.*

Joyful Noise Choir Christmas Celebration
Sunday, December 11. 5:00 P. M.

Elementary Children's Nativity Pageant
Wednesday, December 14. 6:15 P. M.