

"The Adoration of the Shepherds" (1712) by Paolo de Matteis (1662-1728) Virginia Museum of Fine Arts; Richmond, VA

Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

DECEMBER 18, 2022 AT 4:00 PM

This Service of Lessons and Carols is modeled after the service started at Truro Cathedral in 1880 and first sung at King's College Chapel, Cambridge, in 1918. It celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ by weaving together the music of anthems and carols with the reading of Scripture lessons that tell the story of salvation. Every year, some carols may be changed and some new ones introduced. Nevertheless, the backbone of the service, the lessons and prayers, remains virtually unchanged. The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God, seen through the windows and words of the Bible. The center of the service is still found by those who "go in heart and mind" and who consent to follow where the Christmas story leads.

An asterisk (*) invites all to stand; items in bold typeface indicate that the congregation participates in word or song.

Welcome

*Hymn 49

Once in Royal David's City Tonna Miller-Vallés, soprano Verses 1 and 2 are sung by the choir. Irby

*BIDDING PRAYER

*The Lord's Prayer

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.

Invitatory Carol

Behind the Clouds Hannah Goodman, *soprano* Abbie Betinis (b. 1980)

Behind the clouds that darken human life, Forever shines the Light of God;
And whensoever those clouds may go,
Dispelling the shadows in which we so blindly grope,
Then is it, indeed,
Hope.

With ears attuned to heaven's prophecies, Our hearts await a Prince of Peace, And whensoever that Prince appear, And we in darkness, and we in fear find release, Then is it, indeed, Peace.

Awake! Awake! Lift up your hearts downcast, For sorrow shall transform at last, And whensoever that Rose unfurled, Invites Hosannas for all the world to employ, Then is it, indeed, Joy.

O Come, O come, come closer still tonight,
The pains of life remain, but Light ...!
And whensoever that Light breaks through,
And we, in radiance, reflect a new
world above,
Then is it, indeed,
Love.

Tou unnounces in the Garaen of Luch that the seed of woman shall bruise the scripents head.

Carol *Boris Ord (1897–1961)*

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 clerkes finden Written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been, The apple taken been, Ne had never our lady Abeen heavené queen.

Blessed be the time That apple taken was, Therefore we moun singen, Deo gracias!

Anonymous (English, 15th century)

Second Lesson Genesis 22:15–18 Christopher Allen, Beadle God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

*Hymn 9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

THIRD LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6–7 Daniel Hoy,

Deacon and member of the Chancel Choir

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

Carol People, Look East French carol, arr. June Nixon (b. 1942)

People, look East! The time is near Of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able, Trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look East and sing today:

Love the guest, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch; when night is dim One more light the bowl shall brim, Shining beyond the frosty weather, Bright as sun and moon together. People, look East and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce to man and beast Him who cometh from the East. Set every peak and valley humming With the word: The Lord is coming. People, look East and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Eleanor Farjeon (1881–1965)

FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-3a; 4a; 6-9

Dr. Raymond Nagem, *Minister of Music*

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

Carol A Tender Shoot

Kerensa Briggs (b. 1991)

A tender shoot has started up from a root of grace, As ancient seers imparted, from Jesse's holy race, It blooms without a blight, blooms in the cold bleak winter Turning our darkness into light.

This shoot Isaiah taught us from Jesse's root should spring; The Virgin Mary brought us the branch of which we sing; Our God of endless might gave her this child to save us, Thus turning darkness into light.

Anonymous (German, 15th century), trans. William Bartholomew (1793–1867)

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26–35, 38

Marie Fabian, Director of the Brick Church School

The angel Gabriel salutes the blessed Virgin Mary.

CAROL The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came (World première)
Radhika Samson, *tanpura*

Laura Jobin-Acosta (b. 1988)

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; "All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary, Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

"For know a blessed mother thou shalt be, All generations laud and honor thee, Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say: Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

Basque carol, trans. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834–1924)

Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:1; 3-7

Christiane Ramírez, Director of Administration

St. Luke tells the birth of Jesus.

*Hymn 31

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

Seventh Lesson

Luke 2:8–16

The Rev. Adam D. Gorman,

Associate Minister

The shepherds go to the manger.

Carol

Ding Dong! Merrily on High

16th-century French carol, arr. David Willcocks (1919–2015)

Ding dong! merrily on high In heaven the bells are ringing: Ding dong! verily the sky Is riv'n with angel singing. Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here, below, below, Let steeple bells be swungen, And io, io, io, By priest and people sungen.

Pray you dutifully chime Your matin chime, ye ringers; May you beautifully rime Your evetime song, ye singers.

George R. Woodward (1848–1934)

EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1–12

The Rev. Dr. Kimberly A. Jackson, *Associate Minister*

The Magi are led by the star to Jesus.

Carol

Candlelight Carol

John Rutter (b. 1945)

How do you capture the wind on the water? How do you count all the stars in the sky? How can you measure the love of a mother, Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?

Candlelight, angel light, firelight and starglow Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn. Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! Angels are singing; the Christ child is born.

Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore him, Seraphim round him their vigil will keep; Nations proclaim him their Lord and their Savior, But Mary will hold him and sing him to sleep. Find him at Bethlehem laid in a manger: Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay. Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation: A child with his mother that first Christmas Day.

John Rutter

*NINTH LESSON

John 1:1–14

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Evans, Senior Minister

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

Carol

Verbum caro factum est

Hans Leo Hassler (1564–1612)

Verbum caro factum est, et habitavit in nobis, et vidimus gloriam ejus, gloriam quasi unigeniti a Patre, plenum gratiae et veritatis.

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.

John 1:14

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*H_{YMN}

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste fideles

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.

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 ...

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; Glory to God in the highest. O come, let us adore him ...

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesu, to thee be glory given; Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing. O come, let us adore him ...

Benediction

Postlude

Postlude on "Mendelssohn"

David Willcocks

If you would like to make a donation to support the ministry of Brick Church, ushers will be at the Park Avenue doors after the service to receive your offerings.

ABOUT TODAY'S COMMISSIONED CAROL

The Angel Gabriel, for choir, organ and tanpura, is a journey into the essence of Gabriel's visit to Mary. I wanted to bring out the feelings of mystery, beauty, and sacred transcendence, as Mary's destiny was bestowed on her. All the angels in heaven rejoice, sparkling in the good news. Mary remains humble and grounded, as reflected in the tanpura. She is not afraid. Praising God, she accepts her fortune. Gabriel leaves her and the people sing her praises until the end of time. —Laura Jobin-Acosta

CHRISTMAS AT BRICK CHURCH

Join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ!

December 24th | 4:00 PM | Christmas Eve Family Service

December 24th | 9:30 PM | Prelude Music

December 24th 10:00 PM | Christmas Eve Communion Service

December 25th | 11:00 AM | Christmas Day Communion Service

MINISTERS

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Evans, Senior Minister

The Rev. Adam D. Gorman, Associate Minister

The Rev. Dr. Kimberly A. Jackson, Associate Minister

The Rev. Michael L. Lindvall, Pastor Emeritus

Sean Baz, Joshua Garry, Student Ministers

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Dr. Raymond Nagem, Minister of Music

Julianna Grabowski, Director of Children's Music Ministries

Isaac Lee, Wilson Family Sacred Music Intern

CHANCEL CHOIR

Sopranos: Hirona Amamiya, Amber Evans, Hannah Goodman, Julianna Grabowski, Laura Jobin-Acosta, Alina Lee, Tonna Miller-Vallés, Lindsey Nakatani, Jennifer Wu Altos: Sónia Batten, Annmarie Errico, Katie O'Neal, Guadalupe Peraza, Melissa Raymond Tenors: Sean Fallen, Johnny Maldonado, Ongama Mhlontlo, Jeffrey Taveras Basses: Phillip Cheah, Buddy Crutchfield, Daniel Hoy, Dominic Inferrera, Nathaniel Sullivan

GREETERS

Trish Chapman, Ann Darmstaetter, Ross Oliver, Joyce Mitchell, Gracey Stoddard, Cynthia Watson

USHERS

Mark Altherr, John Argenti, Tom Auth, Marcus Bellows, David Chiang, Jonathan Conrad, Richard Corey, Richard Faux, *Team Captain*, Paul Perkins, Richard Peters, Manuel Rodriguez, Willis G. Ryckman IV, Chris Seck, Gibbons 'Crick' Sinclair, Chris Singh, Douglas Watson, *Team Captain*

ORDER OF SAINT PAUL

Michael Appleby, Ethan Jung, Leah Lee, Holly Miller, Caroline Pickering and Christopher L. Allen, Beadle

SESSION

Michael J. Appleby, Youth Elder, Bret M. Barasch, Nicholas M. Berry, Elizabeth Boehmler, Theodore D. Clement, David Darst, Helen T. Elmiger, Karen Fang, Pamela Ferguson, Jay A. Galloway, Mimi Hah, Amanda Heath, Lindsay Higgins, Ben C. Huneke, Stefan Kruger, Jill W. Lampe, Lisa L. Margosian, Amy K. McDonald, David Morgan, Jane Muqaddam, Margaret E. Pennoyer, Elizabeth Stearns, Youth Elder, Margaret D. Stocker, Christopher Thorpe, Cynthia Watson, Tanya S. Wells, Thomas Robinson, Clerk of Session, Debra N. Seraphim, On-Call Clerk of Session

DEACONS

Emily Abelson, Susan B. Appleby, Preston Blankenship, Virginia Harper Breen, Julie T. Chang, Trish Chapman, Ann Darmstaetter, Marilyn T. Dikkers, Luc M. Dowling, Henry Greene, Maxime C. Guignand, Tiffany Hoke, Daniel Hoy, Ruth Jin, Sarah Johnson, Megan Kim, Alexander W. King, Leah Lee, *Youth Deacon*, Marisa Leichtling, Liane McAllister, Sam Puopolo, Christopher L. Randall, David R. Rose, Willis G. Ryckman IV, Whitney Schwartz, Carla Stearns

TRUSTEES

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"The Adoration of the Magi" by Giuseppe Bartolmeo Chiari (1654-1727) Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden; Dresden, Germany



THE BRICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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