



**2025 Christmas Day**

**9:00 am**

**Lessons and Carols**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIGHTING OF CHRISTMAS CANDLE**

*Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. With Mary and Joseph, with the angels and shepherds, and with the animals in the stable we gather around your Son, born for us. Bless us, and fill us with joy and wonder. May Jesus be born in our lives, that we might share his love with all the world, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever. Amen.*

**GREETING AND PRAYER**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Together, Let us pray.

**Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lies and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**CAROL** *Good Christian Friends*

**#288 (1,3)**

1 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!

3 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 the everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

**CHILDREN'S READING:** *Jesus Is Born*

**LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS**

**Introduction and Brief Reflection**

**Isaiah 9: 2-7** *God promises a king*

**Carol** *Lo, How a Rose Ere Blooming*

**#272 (1,2)**

1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung,  
it came, a flow'r so bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

2 Isaiah had foretold it, the rose I have in mind;  
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,  
when half-spent was the night.

**Micah 5: 2-5a** *The king will come from Bethlehem*

**Carol** *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

**#279 (1,4)**

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.

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;  
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

**Luke 1: 26-35**     *The annunciation to Mary*

**Carol**             *Let All Together Praise Our God*

**#287 (1,2)**

1 Let all together praise our God before the highest throne;  
today God opens heav'n again and sends the only Son, and sends the only Son.  
2 From God's right hand the Son descends, is born an infant small,  
and lies in poverty, his bed a manger in a stall, a manger in a stall.

**Luke 2: 1-7**             *The birth of Jesus*

**Carol**             *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

**#276**

1 Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;  
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!  
2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new  
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

**Luke 2: 8-16**             *The shepherds go to see the Savior*

**Carol**             *Angels We Have Heard on High*

**#289 (1,3)**

1 Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.  
Refrain: 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. [Refrain]

**Luke 2: 21-38**     *Jesus receives his name*

**Carol**             *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

**#270 (1,2)**

1 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem."  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king."  
2 Christ, by highest heav'n 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 man with us to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel!  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

**Matthew 2: 1-11**     *The magi follow the star*

**Carol**             *As With Gladness Men of Old*

**#302 (1,3)**

1 As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led by thee.  
3 As they offered gifts most rare at thy cradle, rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.

**Matthew 2: 13-18**     *The slaughter of the Holy Innocents*

**Carol**             *Your Little Ones Dear Lord Are We*

**#286 (1,3)**

1 Your little ones, dear Lord, are we, and come your lowly bed to see;  
enlighten ev'ry soul and mind, that we the way to you may find.  
3 Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord, and to us your grace accord;  
true faith and love to us impart, that we may hold you in our heart.

**1** Love has come--a light in the darkness! Love explodes in the Bethlehem skies.  
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; Hear how their song of joy arises:  
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

**3** Love has come--and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free.  
Love is Jesus within and among us; Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.  
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas; Love! Love! Praise to You, God on high!

**RESPONSIVE PRAYER**

P: Glory to God in the highest.

**C: And peace to God's people on earth.**

P: Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

**C: Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**

P: Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

**C: Have mercy on all the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.**

P: Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

**C: Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world. Amen.**

**THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERING**    *What Child Is This*    **#296 (1,3)**

**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!

**3** So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, 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!

**OFFERING PRAYER**

**Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND LORD'S PRAYER**

**DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**O Lord our God, we give you thanks for the gifts of bread and wine, the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Send us out into your world to proclaim with joy: Glory to God in highest heaven, who unto us the Son has given. Amen.**

**BLESSING**

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

**DISMISSAL**    Go in peace. Share the good news! **Thanks be to God!**

**CLOSING CAROL**      *"Joy to the World"*

**#267 (1,4)**

**1** Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;  
let ev'ry 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.

**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.

**POSTLUDE**