

A SERVICE OF
CHRISTMAS LESSONS AND CAROLS



THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
Sunday, December 27th, 2020

THE DIOCESE OF SOUTHERN VIRGINIA

ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude [et Noel]: On s'en vont ces gays Bergers

Michel Corrette

THE OPENING HYMN

O come, all ye faithful

arr. David Willcocks

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, be it this Christmas season our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels; in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger. Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child; and let us make this community glad with our carols of praise:

But first let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for unity within the Church he came to build, and especially in this Diocese: And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; all who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

Almighty God bless us with his grace: Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 22

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed the nations of the earth be blessed

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed. And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, and said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: that in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

HYMN

O Come, o come Emmanuel

Plainsong

THE SECOND LESSON

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah

Isaiah 9

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

CAROL

*Light a candle*Marta Keen
arr. Jay Althouse

THE THIRD LESSON

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary

Luke 1

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

CAROL

Gabriel's Message

Anne Krentz Organ

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

CAROL

*Mary had a baby*African-American Spiritual
Arr. Hall Johnson

THE FIFTH LESSON

The shepherds go to the manger

Luke 2

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!’ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

CAROL

Angels’ Carol

John Rutter

THE SIXTH LESSON

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus

Matthew 2

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judæa in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judæa: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

CAROL

Sure on this shining night

Morten Lauridsen

THE SEVENTH LESSON

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation

John 1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. 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.

CAROL

Change Ring on *Divinum Mysterium*

arr. Fred Gramann

THE HOMILY

The Right Reverend Susan B. Haynes

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Lamb

William Bradley Roberts

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

HYMNAL S128

William Mathias

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory.

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, mother of God, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Saviour Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say:

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 trespasses,

as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

CAROL *Noche de Paz* (Silent Night) *Stille Nacht*

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray. *The People stand.*

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING

CHRISt, who by his incarnation gathered into one thing earthly and heavenly, fill you with peace
and goodwill and make you partakers of the divine nature; and the blessing of God Almighty:
The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you this day and
forever. Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

THE CLOSING HYMN *Hark! the heralds angels sing* Mendelssohn

THE POSTLUDE *Toccata on Antioch* Craig Phillips



Service Participants

Celebrant and Homilist	The Rt. Rev. Susan B. Haynes, XI Bishop of Southern Virginia
Readers	Gareth Kalfas, Judy Dobson, The Rev. Canon Mario Melendez, The Rev. Canon Ed Tracy, Megan Dern, Lynn Farlin, The Rev. Canon Roy Hoffman
Assisting Priests	The Rev. Canon Win Lewis, The Rev. Grant Stokes

Parish Musicians

Bruton Parish, Williamsburg	Beckie Davy & JanEl Will
Christ & St. Luke's, Norfolk	Kevin Kwan & Marj Setnicky Keaton Whitehurst & Scott M. Crissman, soloists
Grace Yorktown	Suzanne Daniel, flute & keyboard
Holy Apostles, Virginia Beach	Fr. Mario Melendez
Mission of the Holy Spirit, Norfolk	Keith, Felicia, and Kaden Josey
Old Donation, Virginia Beach	Gathering Band
St. Martin's Williamsburg	Phaedra McNorton, soloist
St. Michael's, Bon Air	Crystal Jonkman, organ & piano Lauren Relaford, soloist from the Greater Richmond Children's Choir
St. Paul's, Suffolk	Al Reese and the Virginia Handbell Consort

Music Acknowledgements
OneLicense Podcast/Streaming Bundle A-737638
CCLI Copyright license 886199, CCLI streaming license 20459113

Hymn: O come, all ye faithful

Music att. John Francis Wade; arr. David Willcocks; text tr. Frederick Oakeley and others

Hymn: O come, O come Emmanuel

Text from 9th century; Music from 15th century Plainsong

Light a candle

Words and Music by Marta Keen, arr. Jay Althouse

Copyright © 1997 Alfred Publishing

Gabriel's Message, arr. Anna Krentz Organ

Copyright © 1998 Augsburg Fortress

Mary Had A Baby, African-American Spiritual, arranged by Hall Johnson

Copyright © 1949, 2007 by G. Schirmer, Inc.

Angels' Carol, Words and Music by John Rutter

Copyright © 1988 Oxford University Press, licensed to Hinshaw

Sure On This Shining Night, Morten Lauridsen

Copyright © 2005 by Songs of Peer, Ltd., Poem Copyright 1968 by The James Agree Trust

Prelude on Divinum Mysterium, Fred Gramann

Copyright © 2002 Lorenz Publishing Co.

The Lamb, William Bradley Roberts, Text by William Blake

Copyright © 2000 Selah Publishing

Sanctus, William Mathias

Copyright © 1985 The Church Pension Fund

Hymn: Silent Night

Text by Joseph Mohr, Music by Franz Gruber

Hymn: Hark! The herald angels sing

Text by Charles Wesley; Music by Felix Mendelssohn, arr. David Willcocks

Copyright © 1961 Oxford University Press

Toccata on Antioch, Craig Phillips

Copyright © 1996 Selah Publishing

Special thanks to Will Lee, Ann Turner, Leah Sicignano, the Rev. Grant Stokes, Suzanne Daniel, Kevin Kwan, and everyone in the Bishop's office for making this service possible.