



TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL  
SERVICE OF

*Lessons  
and Carols*

THE LORD'S DAY, DECEMBER 17

4:00 P.M. AND 6:00 P.M.

THE SANCTUARY

2017



**TRINITY**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

THE TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL  
**CHRISTMAS SERVICE**  
of  
**LESSONS AND CAROLS**

The Prelude

Rejoice!  
The Christmastide  
Mabs Seay, *mezzo-soprano*

Stephen Amundson  
Donald Frazer

The Striking of the Hour

The Invitatory Carol  
C. F. Alexander

*Once in Royal David's City*

H. J. Gauntlett; arr. David Willcocks

[stanza 1: Joel Alexander, *boy soprano*; stanza 2: choir; stanzas 3-4: ALL]

†

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.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,  
We shall see Him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;  
Where like stars His children crowned all in white shall wait around.

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The Bidding Prayer

The Reverend Claude E. McRoberts, III (4:00)  
The Reverend Patrick Curles (6:00)

**The First Lesson – Genesis 3:1-19 ~ The first promise of the Gospel**

The Anthem

*Salvation is Created*

Pavel Tchesnokoff; ed. Walter Ehret

Salvation is created, O Lord, God, Lord God Almighty,  
We praise Thee above; O Lord, holy Lord, God. Alleluia!

**The Second Lesson – Isaiah 9:2-7 ~ The Prophet foretells the coming of the Savior**

The Anthem

*Sussex Carol*

English Traditional; arr. Barlow Bradford

On Christmas night all Christians sing to hear the news the angels bring.  
News of great joy news of great mirth, news of our Merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be sad since our Redeemer made us glad.  
When from our sin He set us free. All for to gain our liberty.

When sin departs before His grace then life and health come in its place.  
Angels and men with joy may sing all for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light which made the angels sing this night.  
All Glory to God and peace to men, now and forevermore. Amen.

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**The Third Lesson – Micah 5:2-5a ~ The Prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem**

† The Congregational Carol  
E. Caswall

*See Amid the Winter's Snow*

John Goss; arr. Willcocks

Stanza 1: CHOIR ONLY: See amid the winter's snow...

ALL: Lo, within a manger lies He who built the starry skies;  
He who, throned in height sublime, sits amid the cherubim:

***Refrain: Hail, thou ever blessed morn! Hail, redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.***

WOMEN: Say, ye holy shepherds, say what your joyful news today;  
Wherefore have ye left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep?  
***ALL on Refrain***

MEN: 'As we watched at dead of night, lo, we saw a wondrous light;  
Angels singing, "Peace on earth" told us of the Saviour's birth.'  
***ALL on Refrain***

ALL: Sacred Infant, all divine, what a tender love was thine,  
Thus to come from highest bliss down to such a world as this! ***Refrain***

ALL: Teach, O teach us, Holy Child, by thy face so meek and mild,  
Teach us to resemble thee, in thy sweet humility: ***Refrain***

**The Fourth Lesson – Isaiah 40:1-9 ~ The Prophet in exile foresees the coming of the glory of the Lord**

The Anthem  
From Isaiah 40

***O Thou, That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion from Messiah***

Mabs Seay, mezzo-soprano

G. F. Handel

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain.  
O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength;  
lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah,  
"Behold your God!"

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, arise, shine; for thy light is come,  
And the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, good tidings to Jerusalem,  
Arise, say unto the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"  
Behold, the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

**The Fifth Lesson – Matthew 1:18-25 ~ Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus**

The Anthem  
Timothy Dudley-Smith

***Child of the Stable's Secret Birth***

Thomas Hewitt Jones

Child of the stable's secret birth, the Lord by right of the lords of earth,  
Let angels sing of a King newborn- the world is weaving a crown of thorn:  
A crown of thorn for that Infant head cradled soft in the manger bed.

Eyes that shine in the lantern's ray; a face so small in its nest of hay-  
Face of a Child, who is born to scan the world of men through the eyes of man:  
And from that face in the final day earth and heaven shall flee away.

Voice that rang through the courts on high contracted now to a wordless cry,  
A voice to master the wind and wave, the human heart and the hungry grave:  
The voice of God through the cedar trees rolling forth as the sound of seas.

Child of the stable's secret birth, the Father's gift to a wayward earth,  
To drain the cup in a few short years of all our sorrows, our sins and tears-  
Ours the prize for the road He trod: ris'n with Christ; at peace with God.

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**The Sixth Lesson – Luke 2:8-20 ~ The shepherds go to the manger**

The Congregational Carol  
English Carol, 17th c.

***Festival First Nowell***

Sandys' *Christmas Carols*, 1883; arr. Dan Forrest

[The congregation may remain seated for the first two stanzas; standing before the final stanza]

ALL: The first Nowell the angels did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay.  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep:  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

WOMEN: They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far;  
MEN: And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.  
CHOIR ONLY: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

† ALL (STANDING): Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,  
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught, and with His blood mankind hath bought:  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

**The Seventh Lesson – Matthew 2:1-11 ~ The wise men are led by the star to Jesus**

The Anthem  
Theodorieus Petri, 16th c.

***Personent Hodie from Christmas Ornaments***

Piae Cantiones, 1582; arr. Randol Bass

*Literal translation of the Latin:*

Let resound today the voices of children, joyfully praising Him Who is born to us,  
Given by most high God, and conceived in a virginal womb.

Three Magi come, they were bearing gifts, and sought the little One,  
Following a star, to worship Him, and offer Him gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Let all priests just like boys sing like angels: "You have come to the world,  
I pour out praises to You. Therefore, glory to God in the highest!"

**The Eighth Lesson – John 1:1-14 ~ John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation**

- † The Congregational Carol No. 208                      ***O Come, All Ye Faithful***                      arr. John Rutter
- † The Benediction
- † The Congregational Response                      ***Hallelujah from Messiah***                      G. F. Handel  
(Musical scores are available in the hymnal rack. Please return the score to the hymnal rack as you leave.)
- † The Organ Postlude                      Hark! The Herald Angels Sing                      arr. Donald Hustad

*Trinity Presbyterian Church expresses gratitude to tonight's guest musicians.  
Thank you for helping to enhance the worship of our Savior.*

**Claude E. McRoberts, III, Senior Minister**  
**Patrick W. Curles, Executive Minister**  
**Todd Alexander, Director of Music and Organist**  
**Jana Turner, Assistant Director of Music and Organist**