



29TH ANNUAL SERVICE  
OF  
LESSONS  
AND CAROLS

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

*The Lord's Day, December 15*

SIX O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

2024

THE 29<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SERVICE OF  
*Lessons and Carols*

**THE PEOPLE'S PREPARATION**

*Welcome, all wonders in one sight!  
Eternity shut in a span;  
Summer in winter; day in night;  
Heaven in earth, and God in man.  
Great little One, whose all-embracing birth  
Lifts earth to heaven, stoops heav'n to earth.*

*To Thee, meek Majesty! soft King  
Of simple graces and sweet loves,  
Each of us his lamb will bring,  
Each his pair of silver doves;  
Till burnt at last in fire of Thy fair eyes,  
Ourselves become our own best sacrifice.*

— FROM *IN THE HOLY NATIVITY OF OUR LORD*, BY RICHARD CRASHAW (c. 1613-1649)



**The Christian Greeting & Call to Preparation**

Rev. Kurt Cooper

**The Brass & Organ Prelude**

*An English Christmas*  
I. Carillon

Charles E. Perry

*Before the paling of the stars,  
Before the winter morn,  
Before the earliest cock crow,  
Jesus Christ was born:  
Born in a stable,  
Cradled in a manger,  
In the world His hands had made  
Born a stranger.*

Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

## The Chiming of the Hour

### The Anthem

*Arise, Your Light Has Come*

David Danner

Awake, my spirit, awake, lute and harp; I will awake at the dawn of day.

I will confess You, O Lord, among the nations.

I will raise a psalm to You, for Your love is wide as the heavens,

And Your truth reaches to the skies!

Wake, awake, for night is flying, the watchmen on the heights are crying;

Awake, Jerusalem at last.

Midnight hears the welcome voices, and at the thrilling cry rejoices:

“Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.

“The bridegroom comes, awake; your lamps with gladness take!” Alleluia!

Prepare yourselves to meet the Lord, Whose light has stirred the waiting guard.

Zion hears the watchmen singing and in her heart new joy is springing.

She wakes, she rises from her gloom.

For her Lord comes down all-glorious, the strong in grace, in truth victorious.

Her star is ris'n, her light is come.

Oh come, You Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God's own Son. Sing hosanna!

We go until the halls we view where You have bid us dine with You.

Now let all the heavens adore You, and saints and angels sing before You.

The harps and cymbals all unite.

Of one pearl each shining portal, where, dwelling with the choir immortal

We gather 'round Your dazzling light.

No eye has seen, nor ear has yet been trained to hear what joy is ours!

Crescendos rise; your halls resound; hosannas blend in cosmic sound.

Arise, O Jerusalem! Arise, clothed in light!

Your Light has come, and the glory of God upon your hearts will shine.

Alleluia!

### The Bidding Prayer

Rev. Cameron Whitehurst

**The First Lesson**

Genesis 3:8-19

Rev. Cooper

*God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise  
and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.*

† **The Hymn**

*Once in Royal David's City*

IRBY

*(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 was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little Child.

*Caroline Blades, soloist*

*(choir)* 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 and mean and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

*(choir)* And through all His wondrous childhood He would honor and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly maiden, in whose gentle arms He lay:  
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as He.

† Verses 4–6 (*sung by all*)

**For He 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.**

**And our eyes at last shall see Him, through His own redeeming love,  
For that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n 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;  
There His children gather 'round, bright like stars with glory crowned.**

**The Second Lesson**

Genesis 22:15-18

Rev. Whitehurst

*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed  
shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.*



**The Anthem***Of the Father's Love Begotten*

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

arr. Paul Wolgemuth

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,  
 He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending, He.  
 Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,  
 Evermore and evermore.

O that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace,  
 By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bare the Savior of our race,  
 And the Babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed His sacred face,  
 Evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heaven adore Him, angel hosts, His praises sing;  
 Powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King;  
 Let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring,  
 Evermore and evermore.

**The Third Lesson**

Micah 5:2-5a

Rev. Cooper

*The prophet foretells the glory of Bethlehem.***The Brass & Organ Interlude***An English Christmas*

Charles E. Peery

II. Chorale

† **The Carol No. 145***O Little Town of Bethlehem*

ST. LOUIS

**The Fourth Lesson**

Isaiah 11:1-9

Rev. Whitehurst

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.***The Anthem**

*Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming*  
*(The women of the Chancel Choir)*

Michael Praetorius

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
 Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung.  
 It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas 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.

**The Fifth Lesson**

Luke 1:26-38

Rev. Cooper

*The Angel salutes the Virgin Mary.***The Anthem***Gloria, I. Gloria in excelsis Deo*

John Rutter

<i>Gloria in excelsis Deo,</i>	Glory to God in the highest,
<i>Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.</i>	And on earth peace to men of good will.
<i>Laudamus te, Benedicimus te.</i>	We praise You, we bless You.
<i>Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.</i>	We worship You, we glorify You.
<i>Gratias agimus tibi.</i>	We give thanks to You,
<i>Propter magnam gloriam tuam.</i>	According to Your great glory.

**The Sixth Lesson**

Luke 2:1-14

Rev. Whitehurst

*Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.***The Anthem***Gloria, II. Domine Deus, Rex caelestis*

John Rutter

<i>Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,</i>	Lord God, Heavenly King,
<i>Deus Pater omnipotens.</i>	God the Father Almighty.
<i>Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe.</i>	Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son.
<i>Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,</i>	Lord God, Lamb of God,
<i>Domine Deus, Filius Patris,</i>	Lord God, Son of the Father.
<i>Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,</i>	Lord God, Heavenly King,
<i>miserere nobis.</i>	have mercy upon us.
<i>Qui tollis peccata mundi,</i>	Who takes away the sins of the world,
<i>suscipe, deprecationem nostram,</i>	receive our prayer,
<i>Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,</i>	Who sits at the right hand of the Father,
<i>miserere nobis.</i>	have mercy upon us.

Rachel Wales, Lacey Thomas, Fran Nabholz, *soloists***The Seventh Lesson**

Luke 2:15-20

Rev. Cooper

*The shepherds go to the manger.***The Anthem***Gloria, III. Quoniam tu solus sanctus*

John Rutter

<i>Quoniam tu solus sanctus.</i>	You alone are holy.
<i>Tu solus Dominus,</i>	You alone are the Lord,
<i>Tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe:</i>	You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ:
<i>Cum sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris,</i>	With the Holy Spirit in the glory of the Father,
<i>Amen.</i>	Amen.

**The Eighth Lesson**

Matthew 2:1-11

Rev. Whitehurst

*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.*

† **The Carol No. 147**

*The First Noel*

THE FIRST NOEL

**The Brass & Organ Interlude**

*An English Christmas*  
III. Toccata

Charles E. Peery

**The Ninth Lesson**

John 1:1-14

Rev. Cooper

*John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

**The Anthem**

*In Silent Night*

Mitchell B. Southall

In silent night, when all is calm and all is bright,  
In silent night, O holy night, the Baby from heaven is born on this night.

The Child, innocent Child, is born.

In silent night, as darkness flies and all is light,  
In silent night, O holy night, the Baby in radiance lay 'sleep on this night.

The Child, the holy Child is born.

In silent night, this Son of God and Son of Man,  
Shall one day cry and later die upon a cross for you and me.

The Child, the Prince of Peace, is born.

† **The Hymn No. 128**

*Joy to the World! The Lord is Come*

ANTIOCH

† **The Parting Blessing**

Rev. Cooper

**The Organ Postlude**

*Paeon on DIVINUM MYSTERIUM*

John Ernest Cook

*And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God  
for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.*

*Luke 2:20*





### LEADING OUR WORSHIP

Rev. Kurt Cooper, *Senior Minister*

Rev. Cameron Whitehurst, *Assistant Minister*

Mark Nabholz, *Director of Music*

Shannon Mathai, *Organist/Assistant Director of Music*

### THE INSTRUMENTALISTS

Michael Huff, Bryan Reeves, Carly Johnson, Theo Hornsby, *trumpet*

Jonathan Houghtling, Brandon Slocumb, *trombone*

Jason Sulliman, *bass trombone*; Mike Mason, *tuba*

Jessica Williams, Brandon Mooney, *percussion*

### THE CHANCEL CHOIR

#### **Soprano**

Georgia Carroll

Hannah Crisler

Diane Danielson

Susan Decker-Bunce

† Mollye Gunnells

Emily Harris

Alyssa Johnson

Melodie Jones

Joan Lasseter

Allison Lynn

Donna Manson

Fran Nabholz

Laurel Pinard

\* Kabei Saiguran

Patsy Tasseff

Lacey Thomas

Rachel Wales

Alice Williams

#### **Alto**

Bonnie Gay Bear

Melissa Behm

Merri Chapman

Rita Dean

Joy Funderburk

Leah Funderburk

Suzanne Hager

Mary Clare Johnson

Katy Leach

Beverly Patterson

Diana Stoneberg

Jessica Taylor

† Anne Young

#### **Tenor**

Brian Atkins

† David Beach

Bob Champion

Thomas Govan

† Chip Lasseter

Richard Stoneberg

Terry Stoneberg

#### **Bass**

† Mike Bunce

Fred Johnson

Steve Lee

\* Shaka Marko

\* Delroy Owino

Mike Schrier

Rolland Stoneberg

Todd Tasseff

Derrell Vaughn

\* Vitalis Wagome

Steve Wales

#### **Children's Choir**

Caroline Blades

Abby Kate Carroll

Sarah Ann Carroll

William Coyne

Lucy Frazer

Ramsey Govan

Caty James Gunnells

Wilda Muzio

Caroline Spooner

Rachel Taylor

Timothy Taylor

Allie Thompson

Sophia Wales

† *Choir Council*

\* *Choral Scholar*