

(Parts of the service in **bold** are for everyone to speak in unison.)

Festival of Lessons & Carols

The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a bridge between the liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas. The service today is an adaptation of the form used on Christmas Eve at King's College Chapel in Cambridge, England. As the service begins, the prayers of the people are sought for those in need at Christmastime. The nine lessons which follow, detail the salvation story of God's people, from the time of creation through the prophets, and conclude with the fulfillment of these prophecies as recorded in the gospels. Each lesson is followed by a carol or anthem.

Today's Lessons & Carols is a worship service meant to offer space for reflection and prayer.

Welcome

Prelude

Dr. Jonathan Morris

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle – Candle of Love

Ruth Vazquez

Leader: In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered.

People: 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.

Leader: Today we remember Joseph, worn-out traveler and worried husband, doing what was necessary for the sake of his family, the burden of poverty stifling his hope in the promise of God. There was no room for him, yet he knows to whom he belongs.

People: Today we give thanks for the Josephs among us, migrating far from home when there is no choice, fiercely devoted to the ones they love, unwavering in their belief that there is room for all in the Kingdom of God.

Leader: On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light this candle of love as a symbol of Joseph, who knocks at the door, trusting that God will find a way.

Carol - Hymn 121

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Bidding Prayer

Rev. Sheri Fry

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.

Anthem

On That Holy Mountain

Sara Tyburczy

(continued)

First Lesson	Genesis 3:8 -15, 17-19	Teddie McConnell
Carol - Hymn 147	<i>The First Nowell</i> (verses 1-4)	
Second Lesson	Genesis 22:15-18	Rev. Sheri Fry
Carol - Hymn 113	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	
Third Lesson	Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7	Ruth Vazquez
Carol - Hymn 123	<i>It Came Upon a Midnight Clear</i>	
Fourth Lesson	Isaiah 11:1-4, 6-9	Teddie McConnell
Anthem	<i>Picture Baby Jesus</i> by Sara Tyburczy and Teddie McConnell	
Fifth Lesson	Luke 1: 26-35, 38	Rev. Sheri Fry
Carol	<i>What Child is This?</i>	Dr. Jonathan Morris
Sixth Lesson	Luke 2:1, 3-7	Ruth Vazquez
Carol - Hymn 119	<i>Hark the Herald Angels Sing</i>	
Seventh Lesson	Luke 2:8-16	Teddie McConnell
Carol - Hymn 105	<i>People Look East</i>	
Eighth Lesson	Matthew 2:1-11	Rev. Sheri Fry
Carol - Hymn 88	<i>O Come, O Come Emmanuel</i>	
Ninth Lesson	John 1:1-14	Ruth Vazquez
Carol - Hymn 143	<i>Angels from the Realms of Glory</i>	
Collect for Christmas		Rev. Sheri Fry
Blessing		Rev. Sheri Fry
Benediction	<i>While We Are Waiting</i>	

Good Shepherd Staff

Interim Pastor: Rev. Sheri Fry
Choir Director: Sara Tyburczy

Office Admin: Teddie McConnell
Accompanist: Dr. Jonathan Morris