

# Lessons and Carols for Christmas

December 25, 2022

## Welcome

### Gathering Song

Joy to the World

### Dialogue

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

**By day and night, he shines for all to see.**

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

**that the world may see the justice and richness of God.**

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

**so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.**

Jesus is the light of the world.

**Jesus is the light of our lives.**

Sing to God a new song!

**A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.**

### Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Gracious God of heaven and earth,  
you have thrown a lifeline to us in our darkness—  
a beam of light that shines through Jesus.

Though born in a manger, he is the firstborn of all creation.

Though crucified on a cross, he is the Lord of life.

Fill us with the wonder and joy of his presence in the world  
and in our hearts.

**Amen.**

### Lessons and Carols

**First Reading:** Genesis 1:1-5, 14-18 – *Jose Sanchez, Spanish*

I wonder as I wander

**Second Reading:** Micah 5:2-5a – *The Rev. Menzi Nkambule, Siswati*

O little town of Bethlehem

**Third Reading:** Luke 1:26-35, 38 – *Morrigan Clarke, English*

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming

**Fourth Reading:** Matthew 1:18-25 – *The Rev. Jisun Kwak, Korean*  
Jesus, What a Wonderful Child

**Fifth Reading:** Luke 2:8-20 – *The Rev. Frantisek Janak, Czech*  
Angels, from the Realms of Glory

**Sixth Reading:** Matthew 2:1-11 – *Jasmin Aguilar*  
What Child is This

**Seventh Reading:** John 1:1-14 – *The Rev. Eric Trozzo, Malay*  
Love has come

## **Homily**

### **Responsive Prayer**

It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

**Your Word, Jesus, is truth.**

In his light, draw all to the manger

**to gather in wonder with the shepherds.**

In his light, draw all to the manger

**to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.**

In his light, draw all to the manger

**to sing for joy with the angels.**

In the brightness of his life

**cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.**

It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

**In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life.**

**Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## **Blessing**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

**Praise God, all creatures here below!**

You are the shepherds telling the story.

**We tell it in the streets and across the land.**

You are the wise ones worshiping with thanksgiving.

**We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.**

You are the angels announcing peace.

**We live with joy and go now in peace.**

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Sending Song**

Good Christian friends rejoice

## **Postlude**