

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