

A Festival Of Nine Lessons And Carols

Prelude

Millie Frambaugh

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Jane

*Opening Hymn *Once in Royal David's City vs. 1,2*

1. Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed; Mary, loving mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.
2. 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, the scorned, the lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.

The Bidding Prayer

Pastor Jane

Beloved in Christ,

this Christmas Season it is our duty and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels, and to go in heart and mind to Bethlehem, and see this thing, which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore, let us hear again from Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our sin until the glorious redemption brought us by this holy Child; and let us make this house of prayer glad with our carols of praise.

But first, because this of all things would rejoice Jesus' heart, let us pray to him for the needs of the whole world, and all his people; for peace upon the earth, he came to save; for love and unity within the one Church he did build; for goodwill among all peoples.

And particularly at this time let us remember the poor, the cold, the hungry, the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly let us remember all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words that Christ himself has taught us.

The Lord's Prayer

All pray together.

Blessing

Pastor Jane

The almighty God bless us with divine grace, Christ give us the joys of everlasting life, and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. Amen.

*Carol *Of the Father's Love Begotten vs. 1, 3*

1. 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 Amen.
3. Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high

thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be: honor, glory and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore. Amen.

Children's Message

Pastor Jane

FIRST LESSON Genesis 3:8 –15, 17–19

God announces in the Garden of Eden: Adam and Eve's punishment for their rebellion and that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

Carol *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* vs. 1, 2

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
2. Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

SECOND LESSON Genesis 22:15 –18

God promises to Abraham that by his descendants all the nations of the earth shall obtain blessing.

Carol *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* vs. 1, 2, 4, 7

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
2. O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh; to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go.
Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
4. O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of thy people be; before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on thy mercy call.
Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
7. O come, Desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind. From dust thou brought us forth to life; deliver us from earthly strife.
Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

THIRD LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6–7

The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness.

Carol *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* vs. 1, 2

1. Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung. It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.
2. 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.

FOURTH LESSON Isaiah 11:1–4a, 6–9

The king is coming and will usher in a reign of justice for the poor and peace for all of God's creation.

Carol *O Little Town of Bethlehem* vs. 1, 4

1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

FIFTH LESSON Luke 1:26 –35, 38

The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give birth to God's promised Son whose kingdom shall never end.

Carol *To a Maid Engaged to Joseph* vs. 1, 6

1. To a maid engaged to Joseph, the angel Gabriel came. "Fear not," the angel told her, "I come to bring good news, good news I come to tell you, good news, I say good news.

6. As Mary heard the angel, she wondered at his words. "Behold, I am your handmaid," she said unto her God. "So be it; I am ready according to your word."

SIXTH LESSON Luke 2:1 –7

Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.

Carol *The First Noel* vs. 1

1. The first Noel the angel 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.

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

SEVENTH LESSON Luke 2:8 –16

The shepherds go to see the Savior of the world, lying in a manger.

Carol *In the Bleak Midwinter* vs. 1, 2

1. In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

2. Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

EIGHTH LESSON Matthew 2:1 –11

The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.

Carol *On This Day Earth Shall Ring* vs 1, 4

1. On this day earth shall ring with the song children sing to the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to save us; him the Father gave us.

Refrain: Ideooo ideooo ideo Gloria in excelsis Deo!

4. On this day angels sing; with their song earth shall ring, praising Christ, heaven's King, born on earth to save us; peace and love he gave us.

Refrain: Ideooo ideooo ideo Gloria in excelsis Deo!

NINTH LESSON John 1:1 –14

John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

Carol *O Come, All Ye Faithful* vs. 1, 3, 6

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem. Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to thee be all glory given. Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Offering

*Dismissal with Blessing

May the Christ who by his Incarnation gathered into One things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go forth in peace and joy. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

*Benediction

“God Be with You”

God be with you til we meet again; by his counsels guide uphold you, with his sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude

Millie Frambaugh

*Indicates to stand

Please take your poinsettia home today.

Upcoming Activities

1/5	7p	Moses Study
1/9	8a	Men's Study via zoom
1/9	10a	Book Club