

Advent Festival of

Lessons & Music



The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
Athens, Ohio

WELCOME

In the Name of Christ, the Good Shepherd, and of this parish, welcome to this annual festival of lessons and music, set in the context of the Church's ancient liturgy of vespers, with the lighting of lamps, beautiful music, and the evening sacrifice of prayer. We hope that the worship we offer to the glory of God will help us all prepare for the coming of the Prince of Peace. In the words of one of our Advent Carols:

The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near; Go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear. The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand. Arise, O heirs of glory, the bridegroom is at hand.

Soon, our season of waiting will be over, and the Son of God will come among us, full of grace and truth. If you are looking for a church home or would simply like to experience the joy of Christmas, we warmly invite you to join us for the holy days to come.

We will celebrate Christmas Eve at 4:00 p.m. (simple, come as you are communion service with singing and a story for children) and at 10:30 p.m. (Festival Eucharist of the Nativity, with prelude music beginning at 10:00 p.m.).

Until then, may the stark beauty of this holy season give us time to watch, wait, and prepare for the Love about to be revealed. Surely, he is very near to us. "Let every heart prepare him room."

Advent Festival of Lessons and Music

This service is framed on ancient precedent and has been used in similar form at King's College, Cambridge, England. The order of service includes old liturgical forms that vividly express the Church's preparation for the coming of the Lord Jesus. It moves from darkness to light, from the Fall of Adam and Eve to the Annunciation to Mary. Between the Lessons are sung carols and anthems to praise the goodness of our God, and voice the joy and worship of us all at the coming of God's Holy Child.

Following the service, please join us downstairs, in Nehls Hall, for a reception and Holiday House.

THE LESSONS

The people sit for the lessons, remain seated for the portions of the liturgy sung by the choir, and stand for hymns sung by the entire congregation. The response following each lesson is:

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

The First Lesson: Genesis 3:1-15

Reader: Kate Cottrill

Carol: *Adam lay ybounden*

English Carol arr. Mark Schweizer

Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond. Four thousand winter thought he not too long. And all was for an apple, an apple that he took. As clerkes finden, written in their book. Ne had the apple taken been, ne had never our Lady a been heavn-e queen. Blessed be the time that apple taken was. Therefore we moun singen, Deo gracias

The Second Lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9a

Reader: Jack Flemming

Carol: *Jacob's Ladder*

English carol, arr. Stephen Darlington

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|---|--|
| 1. As Jacob with travel was weary one day
At night on a stone for a pillow he lay;
He saw in a vision a ladder so high
That its foot was on earth and its top in the sky. | 2. This ladder is long, it is strong and well-made
Has stood hundreds of years and is not yet decayed;
Many millions have climbed it and reach'd Sion's hill
And thousands by faith are climbing it still |
| 3. Come, let us ascend! All may climb it who will;
For the angels of Jacob are guarding it still:
And remember each step that by faith we pass o'er,
Some prophet or martyr hath trod it before. | 4. And when we arrive at the haven of rest
We shall hear the glad words, "Come hither, ye blest
Here are regions of light, here are mansions of bliss,
O who would not elimb such a ladder as this?" |

The people join in singing the following hymn, singing the stanzas as indicated. All sing the refrain after each stanza.

Hymn: *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

1. Solo: 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. All: O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily; to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. (Refrain)
3. Women: O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree, free them from Satan's tyranny; that trust thy mighty power to save, and give them victory o'er the grave. (Refrain)
4. Men: O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight. (Refrain)
5. All: O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind; bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our King of Peace. (Refrain)

The Third Lesson: Revelation 21:22-22:5,12,13

Reader: Alex Buckley

Anthem: *Lo, in the time appointed*

Healey Willan

Lo, in the time appointed the Lord will come; the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands for the Lord God shall come into his everlasting kingdom. And upon the throne of David shall he reign for ever. Alleluia

The Fourth Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Reader: Roland Swardson

Anthem: *The King shall come when morning dawns*

Kentucky Harmony
Arr. George Mabry

The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks; when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.

Not as of old a little child to bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.

The King shall come when morning dawns and earth's dark night is past; O haste the rising of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;

And let the endless bliss begin, by weary saints foretold, when right shall triumph over wrong, and truth shall be extolled

The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy people pray, come quickly, King of Kings

The Fifth Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10

Reader: Pat Grean

Anthem: *O divine Messiah*

Dale Grotenhuis

O come, divine Messiah, the world in silence waits the day when hope shall sing its triumph and sadness shall flee away. Dear Savior haste! Come to earth. Dispel the night and show your face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace. Joy shall come even to the wilderness, and the parched land shall then know great gladness; as the rose shall deserts like a garden blossom. For living springs shall give cool water; in the desert streams shall flow. You come in peace and meekness and lowly will your cradle be; all clothed in human weakness shall we your blessed Godhead see.

The people stand and sing from the blue Hymnal

Hymn 67 *Comfort, comfort ye my people* (tune: Psalm 42)

There will be an instrumental interlude between each stanza.

The Sixth Lesson: Micah 5:2-4

Reader: A. J. Stack

Carol: *Cherry Tree Carol*

English carol, arr. Stephen Cleobury

Joseph was an old man, and an old man was he, when he wedded Mary in the land of Galilee. Joseph and Mary walked through an orchard good where was cherries and berries so red as any blood. O then bespoke Mary, so meek and o so mild "Pluck me one cherry, Joseph; for I am with child." O then bespoke Joseph, with words most unkind "Let him pluck thee a cherry that brought thee with child." O then bespoke the baby within his mother's womb. "Bow down then the tallest tree for my mother to have some." Then bowed down the highest tree unto his mother's hand; then she cried, "See Joseph, I have cherries at command." O then bespoke Joseph, "I have done Mary wrong: But cheer up my dearest and be ye not cast down" Then Mary plucked a cherry, as red as any blood. Then Mary went she homewards all with her heavy load.

The Seventh Lesson: Zephaniah 3:14-18

Reader: Sarah Parker-Clever

Anthem: *Hosanna to the son of David*

Tomas de Luis Victoria

Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

The people stand and sing from the blue Hymnal

Hymn 59: *Hark a thrilling voice is sounding* (Merton)

The Eighth Lesson: Luke 1:26-38

Reader: Fr. Carroll

Carol: *Of a rose, lovely rose*

Medieval Carol, arr. Richard deLong

Sung by the Good Shepherd Choral Scholars

Of a Rose, a lovely Rose, of a Rose is all my song.

Canticle: *Magnificat* (Song of Mary)

setting by Philip Moore

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Offertory

The offering goes to the June Black Music Fund. June was active in the music ministry of the parish during the tenure of her husband, the Rt. Rev. William Black, rector of Good Shepherd from 1962-1973. This fund helps support the music ministry of the parish. Please give generously as you are able.

Carol: *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers*

Swedish Carol, arr. Paul Bouman

1. Rejoice, rejoice believers and let your lights appear; the evening is advancing and darker night is near. The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh. Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.
2. The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near; Go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear. The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand. A rise, O heirs of glory, the bridegroom is at hand.
3. The saint who here in patience their cross and sufferings bore, shall live and reign forever when sorrow is no more. Around the throne of glory the Lamb they shall behold; In triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.
4. Our hope and expectation, O Jesus now appear; Arise O Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere. With hearts and hands uplifted we plead, O Lord, to see the day of earth's redemption that sets your people free.

All stand as the choir sings the following

Vesper Responsory

Judah and Jerusalem fear not, nor be dismayed: Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you. Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.

All remain standing for the collect, blessing, and final hymn.

Collect for the Second Sunday of Advent

The Blessing

Hymn 57: Lo, he comes, with clouds descending (Helmsley)

St. 1,2,4 – all, st. 3 – choir

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Postlude: Rejoice all ye believers

Margrethe Hokanson

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PARTICIPANTS

The Rev. R. William Carroll, Officiant
Marsha Reilly, Music Director

Soprano

Pam Callahan
Phyllis Dean
Katharin Foster
Joan Hayes
Christy Ortman
Cita Strauss
Lois Wagner
Chrissy Wenning*
Joanne Worstall

Alto

Susanne Boyd
Ruth Borovicka
Harolyn Brient
Lindsay Cheek*
Marsha Dutton
Deb Hillard
Jeanne Wells
Sandi White
Laurie Zucker

Tenor

Alan Boyd
Charles Brient
Rocco Contini*
Gifford Doxsee
Steven Steward

Bass

Richard Carlson
Richard Dean
Ted Foster
Don Frazier
Allyn Reilly
Ray Wolfe*

*Good Shepherd Choral Scholars

Instrumentalists:

Organ: Janice Robison
Flute: Christina Wince
Saxophone: Allyn Reilly
Percussion: Men of the choir

Librarian: Sandi White
Robe mistress: Phyllis Dean
Cover design: Heidi Kauffman

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

Seeking and serving Christ in all persons

Christmas Eve Services: 4 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. (with prelude beginning at 10 p.m.)

Sunday Schedule: Holy Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist at Lindley Inn, every other Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Tuesdays: Holy Eucharist at 5:30 p.m. followed by a community meal
at the Good Earth Farm (10011 Armitage Rd., Athens)

Thursdays: Evening Prayer at 5:30, followed by Bible study

64 University Terrace, Athens (740)593-6877; www.chogs.org

The Rev. Bill Carroll (Rector): (740)590-7106 (cell); gsrector@gmail.com

The Rev. Steve Domienik (Assistant to the Rector): (513) 582-6834 (cell); sdomienik@gmail.com

The Rev. Connie Jo McCarroll (Deacon): conniejodo@cs.com

Marsha Reilly (Director of Music): mareilly1@columbus.rr.com