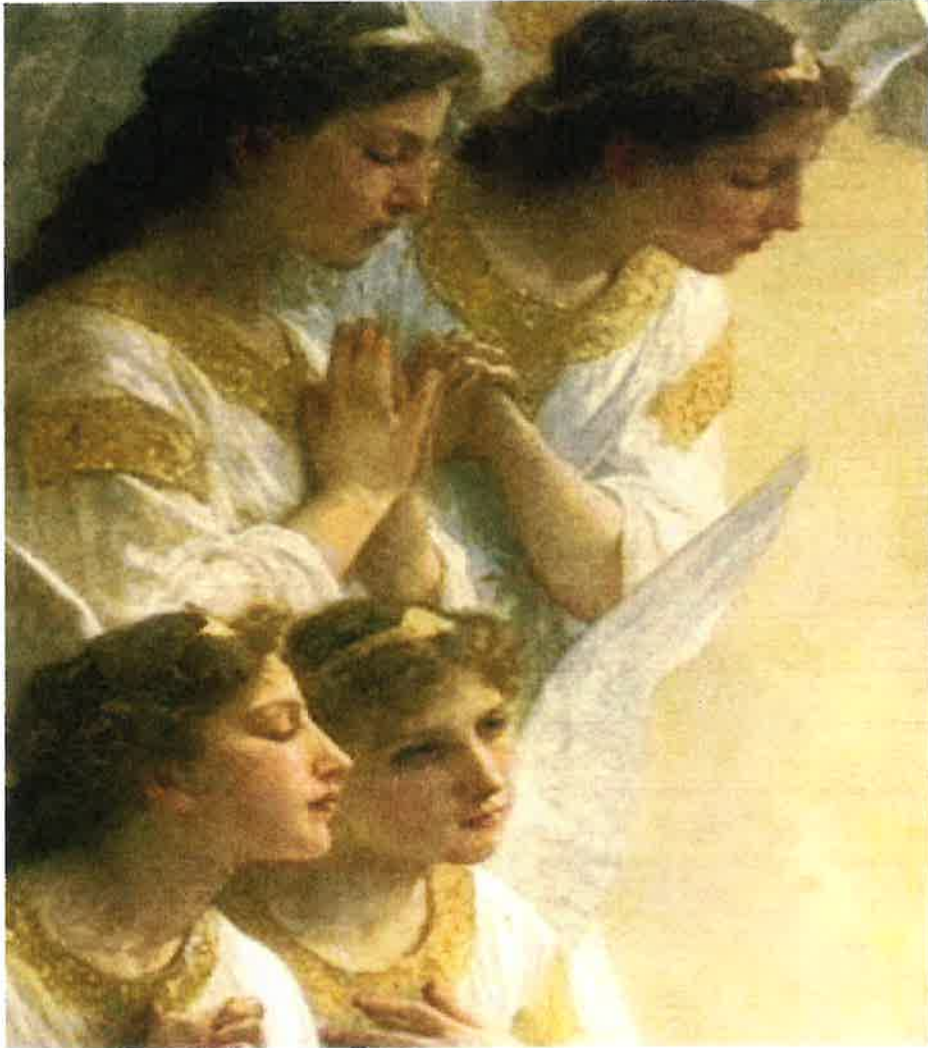


Historic  
Independent Presbyterian  
Church



Service of Lessons and Carols  
December 20, AD 2020

207 Bull Street • Savannah, Georgia 31401 • 912/236-3346 • [www.ipcsav.org](http://www.ipcsav.org)

**THE SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS**  
**NINE AND ELEVEN O’CLOCK**  
**SUNDAY ~ DECEMBER 20, 2020**

**The Prelude** – “Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella” arr. Lloyd Larson  
“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” arr. Cynthia Dobrinski  
*Handbell Choir*

**The Welcome**

**The Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer** The Rev. Dr. Terry Johnson

\* **The Opening Carol** – “Once in Royal David’s City” IRBY

*Stanza 1 – Chapel Choir*

Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

*The congregation rises with organ interlude*

*Stanza 2 – All*

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, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

*Stanza 3 – Chapel, Youth, and Sanctuary Choirs*

And through all His wondrous childhood He would honor and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly maiden in whose gentle arms He lay:  
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as He.

*Stanza 4 – All*

And our eyes at last shall see Him, through His own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav’n above,  
And He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.

*Stanza 5 – All, in unison*

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,  
We shall see Him, but in heaven, set at God’s right hand on high;  
When like stars His children crowned all in white shall wait around.

*The congregation is seated.*

**The First Lesson** – Genesis 3:1–15 The Rev. Timothy Shaw  
*God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent’s head.*

**“The Lord at First Did Adam Make”** arr. David Willcocks  
English Carol

*The Chapel and Youth Choirs*  
*Cello: Mrs. John Garnett*

The Lord at first did Adam make out of the dust and clay,  
And in his nostrils breathed life, e’en as the Scriptures say.  
And then in Eden’s paradise He placed him to dwell,  
That he within it should remain, to dress and keep it well:

*Refrain:*

Now let good Christians all begin an holy life to live,  
And to rejoice and merry be, for this is Christmas Eve.

And thus within the garden he was set therein to stay;  
And in commandment unto him these words the Lord did say:  
“The fruit which in the garden grows to thee shall be for meat,  
Except the tree in the midst thereof, of which thou shalt not eat.”

*Refrain*

“For in the day thou shalt it touch or dost to it come nigh,  
If so thou do but eat thereof then thou shalt surely die.”  
But Adam he did take no heed unto that only thing,  
But did transgress God’s holy law, and so was wrapt in sin:

*Refrain*

Now mark the goodness of the Lord, which He for mankind bore;  
His mercy soon He did extend, lost man for to restore;  
And then, for to redeem our souls from death and hellish thrall,  
He said His own dear Son should be the Savior of us all:

*Refrain*

**The Second Lesson – Isaiah 9:2, 6–7**

Mr. Alex Sutherland

*Isaiah prophesies a Messiah who will sit on David’s throne.*

\* **The Psalm – Psalm 72:1–4, 7–8, 11–14, 19**

PUER NOBIS

*The congregation rises with organ introduction*

- 1 O God, Thy judgments give the King,  
His reigning Son Thy righteousness;
- 2 He to Thy people right shall bring,  
With justice shall Thy poor redress.
- 3 The heights shall bring prosperity,  
The hills bring peace by righteousness;
- 4 He’ll judge the poor, the wronged set free,  
And crush the men who them oppress.
- 7 The just shall flourish in His day;  
While lasts the moon shall peace extend;
- 8 From sea to sea shall be His sway,  
And from the River to earth’s end.
- 11 All kings shall down before Him fall,  
All nations His commands obey.
- 12 He’ll save the needy when they call,  
The poor, and those that have no stay.
- 13 He’ll show the poor His sympathy,  
And save the needy by His might;
- 14 From fraud and force He’ll set them free;  
Their blood is precious in His sight.
- 19 And blessed be His glorious name,  
Long as the ages shall endure.  
O’er all the earth extend His fame;  
Amen, amen, for evermore.

*The congregation is seated*

**The Third Lesson – Micah 5:2–4**

Mr. Alex Sutherland

*Micah prophesies a Messiah to come forth from Bethlehem, who shall “Shepherd His flock  
in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord His God.”*

**“There Shall a Star from Jacob Come Forth”**

Felix Mendelssohn  
from *Christus*, op. 97

*The Youth and Sanctuary Choirs*

There shall a star from Jacob come forth, and a Scepter from Israel rise up,  
and dash in pieces princes and nations. (Num. 24:17; Ps. 2:9)

How brightly beams the morning star!  
With sudden radiance from afar,  
With light and comfort glowing!  
Thy Word, Jesus,  
Inly feeds us, rightly leads us, life bestowing.  
Praise, oh praise such love o'erflowing!

(WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET DER MORGENSTERN [Schlegel])

**The Fourth Lesson – Luke 2:1–20**

The Rev. Evan Gear

*Christ is born, and the angels announce His birth to the shepherds.*

**“He Is Born”**

arr. Ruth Elaine Schram  
French carol

*The Chapel Choir*

*Refrain:*

He is born, the holy Child,  
Play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!  
He is born, the holy Child,  
Sing we all of the Savior mild.

Through long ages of the past,  
Prophets have foretold His coming;  
Through long ages of the past,  
Now the time has come at last.

*Refrain*

Jesus, Lord of all the world,  
Coming as a child among us,  
Jesus, Lord of all the world,  
Grant to us Thy peace, heavenly peace.

*Refrain*

**The Fifth Lesson – John 1:1–14**

The Rev. Dr. Timothy Foster

*The Apostle John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Dr. Terry Johnson

**“WORD, LORD, GOD”**

\* **The Hymnal – #207 “Good Christian Men, Rejoice”**

IN DULCI JUBILO

**The Blessing and Benediction**

**The Postlude - “In Dulci Jubilo”**

J.S. Bach

## Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:11

1. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice, with heart and soul and voice;  
 2. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice, with heart and soul and voice;  
 3. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice, with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

earth and heav'n be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
 He hath o - pened heav - en's door, and man is bless - ed ev - er - more.  
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

## MUSICIANS & DIRECTORS

Handbell Choir Director ..... Dr. Jacob Fuhrman  
Cello ..... Mrs. John Garnett  
Piano ..... Dr. Cameron Fuhrman

Organist & Choirmaster ..... Dr. Jacob Fuhrman

## ABOUT THE SERVICE

The Service of Lessons and Carols was first drawn up by Archbishop Benson, when Bishop of Truro, for use in the Truro Cathedral. It was later simplified and modified in 1918 for use in King's College Chapel, Cambridge, by its then Dean, the Very Reverend Eric Milner-White.

The service joins Scripture texts that speak of the birth of Christ with anthems and carols which highlight the themes found in those texts.

Universally beloved, this service is used with some variation all over the world.

## THE CAROLS

The carols in this morning's service come from German, French, and English sources from the fourteenth century through the nineteenth. Some of them (especially *In Dulci Jubilo* and *Puer Nobis Nascitur*) have been well-beloved in many countries and many languages for hundreds of years.

## NURSERY

Nurseries are available for children three-years-old and under. They are located down the hallway behind the pulpit.

## PICTURE ON COVER

The cover art "Adoration of Angels" is a portion of the original painting by William-Adolphe Bouguereau of LaRochele, France (1825-1905), which was painted by him in 1900 entitled, "The Virgin with Angels."