

## THE SECOND LESSON AND CAROL

THE LESSON

*Genesis 22:15-18*

Eileen Fritz  
A Reader from NTCA

*God promises to faithful Abraham that through his seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed.*

<sup>15</sup>And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven <sup>16</sup>and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup>I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, <sup>18</sup>and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

**Thanks be to God.**

THE CAROL

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (vv. 1-3)*  
Hymnal 196

## THE THIRD LESSON AND CAROL

THE LESSON

*Isaiah 9:2, 6-7*

Waldo Kemp  
A Reader from the Music Ministry

*Christ’s birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.*

The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who dwell in a land of deep darkness,  
on them has light shined.  
<sup>6</sup>For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
and his name shall be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
<sup>7</sup>Of the increase of his government and of peace  
there will be no end,  
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,  
to establish it and to uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time forth and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

**Thanks be to God.**

THE CAROL

*What Child Is This?*  
Hymnal 213

## THE FOURTH LESSON AND CAROL

THE LESSON

*Isaiah 11:1-9*

Suzanne Swenson  
A Reader from the Women’s Ministry

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*

<sup>1</sup>There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.  
<sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.  
<sup>3</sup>And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

<sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

<sup>6</sup>The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,  
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;  
and a little child shall lead them.  
<sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

<sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,  
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder’s den.

<sup>9</sup> They shall not hurt or destroy  
in all my holy mountain;  
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

**Thanks be to God.**

THE CAROL

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
Hymnal 201

## THE FIFTH LESSON AND CAROL

THE LESSON

*Luke 1:26-38*

LeeAnn DeStefano  
A Reader from the Church Office

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Virgin Mary.*

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” <sup>29</sup>But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

<sup>34</sup>And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

<sup>35</sup>And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God.” <sup>38</sup>And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

**Thanks be to God.**

THE CAROL

*The Magnificat*  
Congregation

**My soul will magnify the Lord; I rejoice in God my Savior, in the wonder of his favor. For he has done great things for me; he was mindful of his servant. Every age shall call me blessed. The Hope of Abraham come in the giving of a Son; for he who promised is mighty in remembering his mercy.**

**My soul will magnify the Lord for his grace to those who fear him through every generation. The proud He scatters to the wind as the ruler’s strength is broken, and the rich are left with nothing. The humble lifted high, and the hungry satisfied; our Portion and our Treasure, our Hope and Help forever.**

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## THE SIXTH LESSON AND CAROL

THE LESSON

*Matthew 1:18-23*

Debbie Jordan  
A Reader from the Women’s Bible Study

*Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus.*

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup> “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel.”

**Thanks be to God.**

THE CAROL

*Away in a Manger*  
Hymnal 205

## THE SEVENTH LESSON AND CAROL

LESSON

*Luke 2:8-20*

James Montoney  
A Reader from the Children’s Ministry

*The shepherds go to the manger.*

<sup>8</sup>And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup>And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup>For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace among  
those with whom he is pleased!”

<sup>15</sup>When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup>And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup>And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**Thanks be to God.**

THE CAROL

*A Manger Is His Throne*  
Worship Choir & Kids of the King

## THE EIGHTH LESSON AND CAROL

THE LESSON

*Matthew 2:1-11*

Richard Hunter  
A Reader from the Youth Ministry

*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.*

<sup>1</sup>Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” <sup>3</sup>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and assembling

all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> ““And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.””

<sup>7</sup>Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” <sup>9</sup>After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup>And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense, and myrrh.

**Thanks be to God.**

† The Carol

*We Three Kings*

**We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar—field and fountain, moor and mountain—following yonder star.**

Chorus

***O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.***

**Born a King on Bethlehem’s plain; gold I bring to crown him again, King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign.**

Chorus

**Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh. Prayer and praising, all men raising, worship him, God on high.**

Chorus

**Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume breathes a life and gathering gloom. Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.**

Chorus

**Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice; alleluia, alleluia! Earth to heav’n replies.**

Chorus

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## THE NINTH LESSON AND CAROL

THE LESSON

*John 1:1-14*

Joan Kosanovich

A Reader from the Hospitality

*John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation.*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the Light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**Thanks be to God.**

THE CAROL

*Joy to the World*

Hymnal 195

THE MEDITATION 

**For to Us a Child is Born**

Rev. Freddy Fritz

THE OFFERING

Offering for PCA Retired Pastors

Please make checks payable to: “PCA Ministerial Relief”

## THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

THE FIFTH CANDLE: CHRIST’S BIRTH

When you light your candle, dip the unlit candle to the flame so that the lit candle can remain upright. This will prevent wax burns and spills.

THE CAROL

*Silent Night! Holy Night!*

Hymnal 210

† THE BENEDICTION

† Ushers may assist latecomers find their seats.

Please refrain from applause and flash photography during the service.

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Pianist: Millie Myers



Copies of Rev. Fritz’s meditation are available at the Information Center.

## Announcements:

- Welcome to the Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church! We wish you a very blessed and Christ-centered Christmas this year.
- Please silence all communication devices. Thank you.
- Children are invited to stay in the sanctuary during the service. However, should your child become restless, a staffed nursery is available for infants and toddlers in Room 13.
- An offering will be received this evening for the PCA Pastors Retirement fund. Please make the check out to “PCA Ministerial Relief.”
- Purchased poinsettias may be taken home following the Christmas Eve Service.
- There will be no Sunday School or Adult Christian Education & Fellowship this coming Sunday.
- Come worship with us on Sunday, December 31, at 10:30 a.m.
- Please fill out a Welcome Card if you would like to learn more about the Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church.



# Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church (PCA) Christmas Eve Service

## A Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

December 24, 2017, 6:00 p.m.

Archbishop Benson first developed the Service of Lessons and Carols in the late nineteenth century for use in the King’s College Chapel in Cambridge. The Service, which has as its focal point the coming of Christ, is characterized by a very simple pattern. It is ordered around Scripture readings that pertain to Christ’s advent, followed by carols.

† Please stand as you are able

PRELUDE

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Freddy Fritz

† THE OPENING HYMN

*Once in Royal David’s City*

Hymnal 225

† THE INVOCATION

Rev. Freddy Fritz

## THE FIRST LESSON AND CAROL

THE LESSON

*Genesis 3:8-15*

Earl Myers

A Reader from the Men’s Ministry

*God announces in the Garden of Eden that the Seed of the woman shall bruise the Serpent’s head.*

<sup>8</sup>And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” <sup>10</sup>And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” <sup>11</sup>He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” <sup>12</sup>The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” <sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

<sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,  
cursed are you above all livestock  
and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go,  
and dust you shall eat  
all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and her offspring;  
he shall bruise your head,  
and you shall bruise his heel.”

**Thanks be to God.**

THE CAROL

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Hymnal 194