

"Longest Night" by Jan Richardson

2021 CHRISTMAS EVE

CANDLELIGHT LESSONS & CAROLS

WHITE MEMORIAL

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ORDER OF SERVICE

* Please rise in body or spirit

Greeting Kirsten Homdrom

One: The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

All: Oh, come, let us adore him.

One: Let us prepare for worship.

Preparation for Worship

The church rejoices in Christ's first coming, and eagerly looks forward to Christ's coming again. We pray for the coming of Christ in glory, even as we give thanks for the mystery of God with us, Emmanuel. (While the tradition of Lessons and Carols has evolved since the model service was held in 1918, the scriptures and music still help us to trace the loving purposes of God from prophecy through fulfillment.)

Prelude

Andante Sostenuto from Symphony No. 9 La Nativité Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937) Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

Our prelude music tonight reflects the scene at the nativity. The second movement from Widor's 9th Symphony (Symphonie Gothique) is a pastorale, using pedal drones and a memorable melody to evoke a sense of shepherds in the fields. *La Nativité* by Langlais features different sections and musical textures to paint the picture of the angels, shepherds, and holy family. *La Nativité* was played in 1971 and 1996, WMPC's 25th and 50th anniversary years.

Christian Welcome and Announcements

(6:30 p.m.) Cate Church Norman; (11:00 p.m.) Chip Pope

Call to Worship and Lighting of the Christ Candle (All singing)

text: Tom Troeger; music: Sally Ann Morris



One: Throughout Advent we have sought to find our place in

the story of God's coming into the world.

All: We pray that we hear your call upon each of our lives, and that, indeed, you may grant us hearts open to glory.

(lighting the Christ candle)

- One: We have gathered to hear, in readings from the Holy Scriptures, how the prophets of Israel foretold that God would visit and redeem those waiting in darkness. We rejoice, in carols and hymns, that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled. But first let us pray for the needs of God's whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth.
- All: Let us remember the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind, them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children, and all who do not know the loving kindness of the Lord.
- One: We also remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which none can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh.
- All: Almighty God, lead us to live our lives, trusting in your abundant grace, seeking to live in unity and fellowship with all your people and reverent of all that you have made, to the glory of Jesus, our Lord, Amen. (Bidding Prayer; adapted from King's College Lessons and Carols Service)

Carol 140 – *Once in Royal David's City*

IRBY

Please remain seated until stanza 2. Stanza 1: Soloist; **Stanzas 2-4: All**

The First Lesson – Isaiah 40:1-8; pew Bible p. 627 (6:30 p.m.) Anne Galliher; (11:00 p.m.) Gloria Johnson *God's people are comforted.*

The Second Lesson – Genesis 22:15-18, pew Bible, p. 17 *God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.*

Anthem

(6:30) Sing Praise to God with One Accord

Haydn/Field

Sing praise to God with one accord, All nations join to praise the Lord, Sing to the Lord who reigns above, The God of power, the Lord of love.

(11:00) Et Exultavit from Magnificat

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Sung in Latin, English translation:

And my spirit rejoices in God my savior.

The Third Lesson – Isaiah 9:2-7, pew Bible p. 600 (6:30 p.m.) Cate Church Norman; (11:00 p.m.) Jim Ferry *The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.*

*Carol 119 – Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

The Fourth Lesson – Isaiah 11:1-9, pew Bible, p. 602 (6:30 p.m.) Andrew Amodei; (11:00 p.m.) Chip Pope *The Messiah will come from the root of Jesse to restore the peace of creation.*

The Fifth Lesson – Luke 1:26-38, pew Bible, p. 53 (6:30 p.m.) Andrew Amodei; (11:00 p.m.) Chip Pope *An angel appears to Mary and announces that she will bear a holy child.*

Anthem – Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

J.S. Bach

Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light, And usher in the morning; Ye shepherds, shrink not with affright, But hear the angel's warning. This child, now weak in infancy, Our confidence and joy shall be, The power of Satan breaking, Our peace eternal making.

This piece was first programmed at WMPC in 1946.

*The Sixth Lesson – Luke 2:1-7, pew Bible p. 54 (Read in unison)

(6:30 p.m.) Anne Galliher; (11:00 p.m.) Jim Ferry

Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem, where Mary gives birth to her child.

All: In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

*Carol 145 – What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

The Seventh Lesson – Luke 2:8-16, pew Bible, p. 54 (6:30 p.m.) Andrew Amodei; (11:00 p.m.) Chip Pope *Angels appear to the shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah.*

Anthem

(6:30) Angels from the Realms of Glory

arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Angels, from the realms of glory, Wing your flight over all the earth; Ye who sang creation's story Now proclaim Messiah's birth: Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds in the field abiding, Watching over your flocks by night, God with man is now residing; Yonder shines the infant light: Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Sages, leave your contemplations; Brighter visions beam afar; Seek the great desire of nations; Ye have seen his natal star: Gloria in excelsis Deo.

(11:00) The Little Road to Bethlehem

Michael Head (1900-1976)

As I walked down the road at set of sun, The lambs were coming homewards, one by one, I heard a sheepbell softly calling them Along the little road to Bethlehem.

Beside an open door, as I drew nigh, I heard sweet Mary sing a lullaby. She sang about the lambs at close of day And rocked her tiny King among the hay.

Across the air the silver sheepbell rang, "The lambs are coming home," sweet Mary sang, "Your Star of gold is shining in the sky, So sleep, my little King, go lullaby."

The Eighth Lesson – Matthew 2:1-11, pew Bible, p. 1 (6:30 p.m.) Anne Galliher; (11:00 p.m.) Gloria Johnson *Led by the star, wise men from the East come seeking the Messiah and offer gifts to the baby Jesus*.

*Carol 147 – The First Nowell

FIRST NOWELL

Verse 1-3 and 6 Verse 1: all voices Verse 2: high voices Verse 3: low voices Verse 6: all voices

Christmas Eve Meditation

Christopher Edmonston

Christmas Eve Offering

(6:30) O Light Everlasting

(6:30 p.m.) Andrew Amodei; (11:00 p.m.) Jim Ferry

Olaf Christiansen (1901-1984)

O Light everlasting, O Love never failing. Illumine our darkness, and draw us to Thee; May we from Thy spirit receive inspiration That children together Thy wisdom may see. Make known to all nations Thy peace and salvation, And help us, O Father, Thy temple to be.

(11:00) *Lullaby*

Randall Thompson (1899-1984)

Upon my lap my sovereign sits and sucks upon my breast; Meantime his love maintains my life and gives my sense her rest. Sing lullaby, my little boy, sing lullaby, mine only joy!

When thou hast taken thy repast, repose, my babe, on me; So may thy mother and thy nurse thy cradle also be. Sing lullaby, my little boy, sing lullaby, mine only joy!

I grieve that duty doth not work all that my wishing would; Because I would not be to thee but in the best I should. Sing lullaby, my little boy, sing lullaby, mine only joy!

Yet as I am, and as I may, I must and will be thine Though all too little for thyself vouchsafing to be mine. Mine only joy!

Prayer for Peace and Goodwill and the Lord's Prayer

(6:30 p.m.) Cate Church Norman; (11:00 p.m.) Gloria Johnson

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Ninth Lesson – John 1:1-5, 14, pew Bible, p. 86 (6:30 p.m.) Anne Galliher; (11:00 p.m.) Chip Pope *The Word of God becomes flesh and lives among us, full of grace and truth.*

Lighting of the Candles

Christopher Edmonston

Carol 122 – Silent Night, Holy Night (Sing when directed)

STILLE NACHT

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright, round you virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born."

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light, radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing, alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born. Christ the Savior is born.

(Please hum an additional stanza. Raise your candles when invited. Extinguish your candles when the next hymn begins.)

*Christmas Blessing and Benediction

Christopher Edmonston

*Carol 134 – *Joy to the World* (All singing)

ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King: let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns: let us our songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

*The Chiming of the Trinity

Please return all candles and candle holders to the containers provided. Thank you.

Postlude - *Toccata on ANTIOCH*

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

Thank you to our musicians:

(6:30) Members of the Youth and Adult Choirs; (11:00) Susannah Stewart, guest soloist. Soloists for Once in Royal David's City (6:30 p.m.) Savannah and Sydney Coll

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Welcome visitors! For more information about White Memorial or membership, please call Elizabeth Viohl at 919-834-3424, ext. 206.

Restrooms are located at the Oberlin Road entrance in front of the Sanctuary.

Additional restrooms are located in the Luther Building immediately behind the Sanctuary beyond the Jane Bell Gathering Space.

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ADVENT/CHRISTMAS

decorations are given to the glory of God in memory of, or in honor of the following friends and loved ones:

In Memory of:

Jim & Helen Kelly, and Robert & Phyllis Sliger, by Judy & Fred Kelly.

Virginia Connell Payne, by Mike & Diane Payne.

Pete Carruthers, by the family of Pete Carruthers.

Charlotte Swart, by Julie Nau.

Betsy & Penn Marshall, by Julie Nau and Martha Marshall.

Jeff Sanders, by Lynne, Thomas & Sara Sanders.

Ethel & Bob Wyatt, Mary & Warren Wittmer, and Cindy Wittmer, by Laura & Robert Wyatt.

Robert & Marion Johnson, Robin Johnson, and Carmi & Kathryn Preston, by William & Terry Preston.

Lewis H. Stocks III, by Jackie Rufty, Sara Bailey Pate, Lewis Stocks, and Jaxson Stocks.

Bettye & Jeff Senter, by Faye Senter.

Peter Pearsall, and Elizabeth & J. D. Lamm, by Frances L. Pearsall.

Glenn J. Douden, and William & Mary Margaret Brawley, by Nancy & Bill Brawley.

Verne E. Cayton Sr., and Frances Gaskins Cayton, by Ellis, Alison, Frances & Donald Cayton.

Cornelia Vick, by Presbyterian Women Circle I.

Thomas A. Newby, Jr., Bernice & Roger Henshaw, and Margaret & Ashby Newby, by Charlotte Newby.

Martha & William McLaurin, Sr., and Jane Ann & John Sawyer, by Sally & Bill McLaurin.

Nezar Ipock, and Lemuel & Paula Whitsett, by Whit & Carol Whitsett.

Tom Nelson, by Anne Boney and Bo Boney.

George Smith, by Patsy B. Smith.

Betty Jamerson, by Bobby & Carolyn Guhrie.

Melba McWilliams Spain, and Hatcher & Liz Kincheloe, by Jack Spain & Martha Kincheloe.

Jon Honeycutt, and Arch Newbold, Jr., by Amy Hall & Caroline and Jonathan Kennemur.

Elmer & Frances Deering, and Beth White, by Marge Jackson and Kathy Jackson.

Margaret McKee, Clark McKee, and Terry Baughman, by Margaret Baughman.

Roy & Lacy Coates, and Derby & Lois Daniel, by Kaye & Mike Daniel.

C. Dewey McCullen, by the McCullen family.

Betsy Case, by the Case family.

Bonnie & Bob Altstaetter, and Betty & Lawrence Wilson, by Angie & Bruce Altstaetter.

James Brown III, by James E. Brown Jr.

Jane & Vic Bell, by Mary Grady, Vic & Mary Grady Bell.

H. William Vassey, and Tom Badger IV, by Carol Vassey.

Carolyn Andrews, by Bonner Jones.

Mac Jones, by Bonner & Hal Jones.

Ray Lichtner, and Marjorie & Bill Turner, Ann Turner Lichtner.

Cheryl McLean, and Kay Menius, by Wynn Dorsett.

Peggy Hibbert, Susan Burnette, and Cornelia Vick, by Bob & Mary Brent Wright.

Chelsea Banta Barnes, by Molly & Bob Banta.

Kate Carney, by Tom & Ann Carney.

Margie & Jerry Wright, Jerry Wright, Jr., and Rachel & Brooks Riddick, by the Riddick family.

Erna & William Priebe, and Anne & Paul Vaughn, by Jan and Brad Vaughn.

David & Joan Kidd, and John & Harriet Staples, by John & Robbie Kidd.

Gloria Tisdale, by Terree, Thomas, Jackson & Maggie Montgomery.

Charles Howard, Rita & T.J.

Canning, and Mable Turnage, by
Cindy & Tim Canning.

In Memory of:

Tyler Studstill, by Alden Maier.

Will Raynor, by Millie, Reed, & Watsie Raynor.

Kathryn & Hadley Wilson, and Margie & Tom Davis, by Dee & Tom Davis.

Kay Menius, by Alan Menius

Jim Dorsett, Sr., by Anna Lee Dorsett.

Charles & Eleanor Kennedy, and Bill & Martha Anne Sigmon, by Bill & Mary Catherine Sigmon.

Lynda Ferrell, and Mary Eleanor & Hampton Goode, by Mary Hampton & Ken Neuhoff.

Burnie Batchelor, Joyce & H. Maclin Fuller, and Betsy Case, by Marlene & Ronnie Batchelor & family.

Heidi Bauer, Pete Carruthers, Bob Ames, Matthew Haneline, Jean & Marvin Speck, Marybelle & Harvey Jester, Jim Strickland, and Charlotte Swart, by an anonymous giver.

H. Gray Hutchison, Sr., by Betsy Hutchison.

Hazel & Fred Hoke, and Fred Renfrow, by Julia, David & Emilie Hoke.

Jack & Janet Scott, and Mary Lib Davenport, by Elizabeth Scott.

Bill & Judy Anderson, and John & Emily Zima, by William Clark & Lorraine Anderson.

Joan & Preston F. Kodak, Jr., by Kristi, Scott, Graham, & Reid Wilson.

Mark Bond, and Kirk Kirkland, by F3 Raleigh.

Rachel Barwick, by Bill & Betsy Barnett.

Roy & Madeline Hylton, and John Landers, by Ruth Landers.

Matthew Haneline, Raymond Terry, and Travis & Thelma Haneline, by Steve & Karen Haneline.

Cheryl McLean, and Judy Bright, by Paul & Melinda Fox.

G.B & Catherine Hooks, and Mary Nelson, by Catherine H. Stevens.

Rachel & Duffy McKenzie, Eliot McKenzie, and Jeannette & David Olmsted, by Varner & Becky Olmsted.

Ruffin King, V, Cornelia Vick, Lucinda Holderness, Adelaide & Howard Holderness, and Eleanor & Egbert Davis, by Sandra & Lawrence Davis.

AV & Carter Williams, by June Williams.

Kelly Lynn, and Benjamin Hager, by Carol & Jerry Lynn.

Daniel C. Gunter Jr., Edward Clarence Blank II, and William Anderson "Andy" Banks Jr., by Kimberly & Jason Layton.

Rebecca W. Brown, by the Colin Brown family.

In Honor of:

Cornelius Swart, by Julie Nau.

Lucy Garrison and Ellie Boney, by June Ann & Ken Ward.

Ann Hargrove, Hampton Hargrove, Lucas Hargrove, Lela Hargrove and Julian Hargrove, by Wade & Sandy Hargrove.

Sandra & Lawrence Davis, and Joan & Jack DeBruyn, by Sally & Bill McLaurin.

Bobby Nelson, by Anne Boney and Bo Boney.

Jim Ferry, by Patsy B. Smith.

Bill & Susie Jackson, and the Christian Fellowship Class, by Carol Vassey.

WMPC children, youth, and adult music ministry participants, by Karl & Lora Zinsmeister.

Karl Zinsmeister and Kirsten Homdrom, by Wynn Dorsett.

Pastoral and Administrative Staff of WMPC, by Sandra S. Gray.

Tricia & Colon Willoughby, by their children and grandchildren.

Gary & Ruth Mock, by Kevin & Frances Mock.

WMPC Ministers and Staff, by John & Blair Hughes.

Millie, Reed, & Watsie Raynor, by John & Cathy Payne.

Ed Davenport, by Elizabeth Scott.

Our beloved families & friends, by Jane & Paul Whit Howard.

Hugh Barwick, and Ruth & Bill Barnett, by Bill & Betsy Barnett.



Like "All Things Bright and Beautiful" (see no. 20), this popular Christmas hymn was written by an Irish poet to illustrate for children the various articles of the Apostles' Creed. It is not known which of several English villages the composer had in mind when naming this tune.

119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH What Child Is This 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap 2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass bring him in-cense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all,

Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing? Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing. King of kings sal-va-tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing; Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you. the song on high. The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by. Raise, raise





haste to bring him laud, the babe, the of Mar-y! haste, son Hail, the Word made flesh, babe, the Mar - y! hail. the of son for Christ is born, the babe, the Mar - v! Joy, joy, son



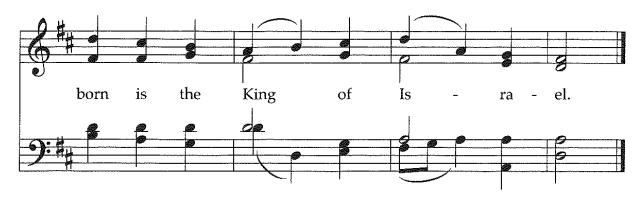
This Victorian text gains scope and power by having the original second halves of stanzas two and three restored. They give a stark forward glimpse of what lies ahead for this "babe, the son of Mary!" The tune is much older, dating from Tudor England.

is sleep-ing? are feed - ing?

to own him.



"Nowell" is the English form of the French "noel," a shout of joy formerly used at Christmas (as in Chaucer's "Franklin's Tale"), a clue that the word is older than its first printing. It may have Latin and French roots related to "born" ($natus / n\acute{e}$) as well to "news" (nova / nouvelle).



- 5 Then entered in those wise men three, 6 Then let us all with one accord full reverently upon their knee, and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.
 - Refrain

sing praises to our heavenly Lord, that hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought. Refrain



1 Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

1 고요한밤 거룩한밤 어둠에 묻힌밤 주의부모 앉아서 감사기도 드릴때 아기잘도 잔다 아기잘도 잔다

SPANISH

1 ¡Noche de paz, noche de amor! Todo duerme en derredor, entre los astros que esparcen su luz, bella, anunciando al niñito Jesús, brilla la estrella de paz, brilla la estrella de paz.

The tradition that this carol's tune was created for guitar accompaniment at its first singing on Christmas Eve 1818 seems reliable, though a recent find shows that the text was about two years old. But there is no question that this is now a favorite Christmas carol worldwide.



While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4–9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.