



A Service of

Lessons and Carols

December 12, 2021

Lutheran Chapel Church
Chancel Choir

Reader:

Rev. Michael C. Comer

Lessons and Carols for 2021

Lessons contained in The Holy Bible (NKJV)

Pastor Michael C. Comer

**Please stand for all hymns to honor Father, Son and Holy Spirit*

P: We gather here in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

(Cantor sings v. 3, Congregation sings vv.1-3)

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Yiddish folk tune
arr. Wayne L. Wold

1. Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish
2. Light two can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish
3. Light three can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish
4. Light four can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish

dark - ness. He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
dark - ness. He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
dark - ness. Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry!
dark - ness. He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your light be shin - ing!

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Confession

P: Examine your thoughts, your words and deeds. Let us take them to the foot of the cross.

Congregation kneels.

P: Lord of grace and truth, we confess our unworthiness to stand in Your presence as Your children. We have sinned.

C: Forgive us and heal us.

P: The Virgin Mary accepted Your call to be the mother of Jesus. Forgive our disobedience to Your will. We have sinned.

C: Forgive us and heal us.

P: Your Son, our Savior was born in poverty in a manger. Forgive our greed and rejection of Your ways. We have sinned.

C: Forgive us and heal us.

P: The shepherds left their flocks to go to Bethlehem. Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision. We have sinned.

C: Forgive us and heal us.

P: The wise men followed the star to find Jesus the King. Forgive our reluctance to seek You. We have sinned.

C: Forgive us and heal us.

P: May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw us to Himself, and cleanse us from all our sins that we may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

***ProceSSIONAL Hymn:**

1st v. solo by Amy Carpenter

C. F. Alexander

Once In Royal David's City

H. J. Gauntlett
Harmonized by: A. H. Mann

The musical score is written for a solo voice and a choir. It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words in parentheses indicating optional or alternative phrasing. The score includes a solo part and a choir part, with the choir part starting on the second line of music.

Lyrics:

Solo 1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty Stood a
 Choir 2. He came down to earth - from hea - ven Who is
 Choir 3. And through all his won - drous child - hood He would
 Choir 4. For He is our child-hood's pat - tern, Day by
 Choir 5. And our eyes at last - shall see Him, Through His
 Congregation 6. Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, With the
 low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her ba - by In a
 God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a sta - ble, And His
 hon - our and o - bey, Love and watch the low - ly maid - en, In whose
 day like us He grew, He was lit - tle, weak and help - less, Tears and
 own re - deem - ing love, For that child so dear and gen - tle Is our
 ox - en stand - ing by, We shall see Him; but in heav - en, Set at
 man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus
 cra - dle was a stall; With the poor and mean and low - ly Lived on
 gen - tle arms He lay; Chris - tian chil - dren all must be Mild, o -
 smiles like us He knew; And He feel - eth for our sad - ness, And He
 Lord in heav - n a - bove; And He leads His chil - dren To the
 God's right hand on high, Where like stars His chil - dren crowned All in
 Christ her lit - tle child.
 earth her our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 be - dient, good as He.
 shar - eth in our glad - ness.
 place where He is gone.
 white shall wait a round.

Introduction/Bidding Prayer/The “Our Father...”:

P: We have come together as the family of God, in our Father’s presence, to celebrate the great festival of Jesus’ coming into our world.

In this service we hear and receive the good news of Jesus’ birth and offer our thanksgiving to God.

As we gather together in the name of Christ, we pray for the world He came to save:

For the church,...that it may be enabled in our generation to surrender anew to God’s holy Wisdom, and bear the good news of God’s love to our sin-sick world;

For the world,...which is already Christ’s, that all its peoples may recognize their responsibility for its future, and may be inspired by the message of Christmas to work together for the establishment of justice, freedom and peace everywhere;

For all in special need,...the sick, the anxious, the lonely, the fearful and the bereaved, that the peace and light of the Christ-child may bring hope and healing to all who sit in darkness. *Intercessions here.*

We commend all for whom we pray to the unfailing mercy of our heavenly Father, and say together, as Christ Himself taught us to pray:

*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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.*

***Hymn:**

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You? LSB 334

Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676

tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Johann Crüger, 1598-1662;

setting Richard J. Heschke, b. 1939

All 1. O Lord, how shall I meet You, How wel - come You a -
Men 2. I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; You came to set me
Women 3. Love caused Your in - car - na - tion; Love brought You down to
All 4. Re - joice, then you sad - heart - ed, who sit in deep - est

right? Your peo - ple long to greet You, My hope, My heart's de -
free. I stood my shame be - moan - ing; You came to hon - or
me. Your thirst for my sal - va - tion Pro - cured my lib - er -
gloom, Who mourn your joys de - part - ed and trem - ble at your

light! O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, Your lamp with - in my
me. A glo - rious crown You give me, A trea - sure safe on
ty. Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, That led You to em -
doom. All hail the Lord's ap - pear - ing! O glo - rious Sun, and

breast To do in spir - it low - ly All that may please You best.
high That will not fail nor leave me As earth - ly rich - es fly.
brace In love, all love ex - cel - ing, Our lost and fall - en race.
come, Send forth your beams so cheer - ing and guide us safe - ly home.

First Reading: Isaiah 9: 2,6,7 *The Prophecy of the Messiah's Birth*

P: Lord, our God, on the first day of creation You made the light that scatters all darkness. Let Christ, the light of lights, hidden from all eternity, shine at last on Your people and free us from the darkness of sin. Fill our lives with joy as we go to welcome Your Son at His coming. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

C: Amen.

Anthem

"Shadow and Substance"

Chancel Choir

Daniel C. Damon / arr. David W. Music

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Shadow and substance, wonder and mystery, spellbinding spinner of atoms and earth;
Soul of the cosmos, person and energy, source of our being: we sing of your birth.

We are your image, formed in community; sisters and brothers of Adam and Eve.
You gave us color, custom, and history; teach us to honor what others receive.

Naming the nameless, Spirit of unity, scanning the heavens for signs of your care.
God of the ages, give us humility; guide us to mystical union in prayer.

Shadow and substance, wonder and mystery, guide us to mystical union in prayer.

Second Reading: Luke 1: 26-38 *The Annunciation to Mary*

P: Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised Savior, fill us with Your grace, that in all things we may embrace Your holy will and with her rejoice in Your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Anthem

“Gabriel to Mary Came”

Chancel Choir
arr. David Willcocks

Gabriel to Mary came, and entered at her dwelling,
With his salutation glad, Her maiden fears dispelling,
All hail thou queen of virgins bright! God, Lord of earth and heaven's height,
Thy very Son, shall soon be born in pureness, The Savior of mankind.
Thou art the ate of heave bright, the sinner's healer kind.

“How could I a mother be that am to man a stranger?
How should I my strong resolve, my solemn vows endanger?”
“Pow'r from the Holy Ghost on high, shall bring to pass this mystery.
Then have no fear; Be of good cheer, believing that still thy chastity
In God's almighty keeping, shall all unsullied be.”

Then to him the maid replied, with noble air supernal,
“Lo! The humble maiden I of God the Lord eternal!
With thee, bright messenger of heav'n, by whom this wondrous news is giv'n,
I well agree and long to see fulfilled, thy gracious prophecy.
As God my Lord doth will it, so be it unto me!”

Hail! Thou Mother of the Lord, who brought of gifts the rarest,
Peace to angels and to men, when Christ the Lord thou barest!
Do thou, we pray, entreat thy Son, For us our longed redemption Himself to win,
And from our sin release us; His support for to give,
That when we hence are taken, we too in heav'n may live.

Third Reading: Luke 2: 1-7 *The birth of Jesus*

P: (Going to manger in chancel near altar) Holy Jesus, to deliver us from the power of darkness You humbled Yourself to be born among us and were laid in a manger. Let the light of Your love always shine in our hearts, and bring us at last to the joyful vision of Your beauty, for You are now alive and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.

C: Amen.

*Hymn:

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Nahum tate, 1625-1715

Winchester Old
melody from The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1592
harmony from Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1922

1. While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, all
 2. "Fear not," said he, for might - y dread had
 3. "To you, in Da - vid's town, this day is
 4. "The heav'n - ly Babe you there shall find to
 5. Thus spake the ser - aph, and forth - with ap -
 6. "All glo - ry be to God on high and

3
 seat - ed on the ground, the an - gel of the
 seized their troub - bled mind; "Glad tid - ings of the
 born of Da - vid's line the Sav - ior, Who great
 hu - man view dis - played, all mean - ly wrapped in
 peared a shin - ing through all of an - gels prais - ing
 on the earth be peace; good will hence - forth from

6
 Lord came down, and glo - ry shone a - round.
 joy I bring, and to you and all man - kind.
 — Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:
 swath - ing bands, and in a man - ger laid.
 God, who thus ad - dressed their joy - ful song:
 heav'n to men be - gin and nev - er cease."

Fourth Reading: Luke 2: 8-16 *The shepherds go to the manger*

P: Lord Jesus Christ, Your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth; accept our heartfelt praise as we worship You, our Savior and our eternal God.

C: Amen.

Anthem

Chancel Choir

"Shepherd's Pipe Carol"

John Rutter / simp. arr. R. Myers

Going through the hills on a night all starry, on the way to Bethlehem,
Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping, On the way to Bethlehem.
Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
"Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King is come to bring us peace on the earth,
And He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem."

"Tell me shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily, on the way to Bethlehem,
Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely, on the way to Bethlehem.
Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
"Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King is come to bring us peace on the earth,
And He's lying cradled there at Bethlehem."

"None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely, on the way to Bethlehem.
But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies, when I get to Bethlehem."
Angels in the sky came down from on high,
Hovered o'er the manger where the babe was lying cradled in the arms of His mother Mary,
Sleeping now at Bethlehem.

"May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily, Come with you to Bethlehem?
Pay my homage too at the new King's cradle, Is it far to Bethlehem?"
Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
"Dance and sing for joy that Christ the infant King is born this night in lowly stable yonder.
Born for you at Bethlehem."

Fifth Reading: Matthew 2: 1-12 *Wise men are led by the star to Jesus*

P: Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Anthem

“Small Wonder the Star”

Chancel Choir
arr. Paul Edwards / ed. Roger Myers

Small wonder the star, small wonder the light,
the angels in chorus, the shepherds in fright,
but stable and manger for God, no small wonder!

Small wonder the kings, small wonder they bore
the gold and the incense, the myrrh, to adore;
but God gives His life on a cross, no small wonder!

Small wonder the love, small wonder the grace,
the power, the glory; the light of His face;
but all to redeem my poor heart, no small wonder!

Gospel Acclamation:

P: Alleluia, alleluia. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory.

C: Alleluia.

P: The holy Gospel this day is from John the First Chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord

Sixth Reading (Gospel): John 1: 1-14 *The Incarnation of the Word of God*

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

***Hymn:**

The Only Son from Heaven

309

Elizabeth Cruciger, 1500-1535;
tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-1874, alt.

HERR CHRIST, DER EINIG GOTTS SOHN
Enchiridion, Erfurt, 1524

1. The on - ly Son from heav - en, fore - told by an - cient seers,
2. Oh, time of God ap - point - ed, oh, bright and ho - ly morn!
3. A - wak - en, Lord, our spir - it to know and love you more,
4. O Fa - ther, here be - fore You with God the Ho - ly Ghost,

by God the Fa - ther giv - en, in hu - man form ap - pears.
He comes, the King a - noint - ed, the Christ, the vir - gin born,
in faith to stand un - shak - en, in spir - it to a - dore,
and Je - sus, we a - dore You, O pride of an - gel - host;

No sphere His light con - fin - ing, no star so bright - ly shin - ing
grim death to van - quish for us, to o - pen heav'n be - fore us
that we, through this world mov - ing, each glimpse of heav - en prov - ing,
be - fore You mor - tals low - ly cry, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,

as He, our Morn - ing Star.
and bring us life a - gain.
may reap its full - ness there.
O bless - ed Trin - i - ty!"

Antem

"The Glory of the Father"

Chancel Choir
Egil Hovland

The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.
We beheld the glory of the Father,
We beheld the glory of the Father, full of grace and truth.

In the beginning was the Word. The Word, the Word was with God.
In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.
He came to his own, and his own, and his own received him not.

The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.
We beheld the glory of the Father,
We beheld the glory of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Blessing:

Congregation kneels

P: May the Father, who has loved the eternal Son from before the foundation of the world, shed that love upon us..... May Christ, who by His incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill us with joy and peace..... May the Holy Spirit, by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer, give us grace to carry the news of Christ. And the blessing of God almighty, + Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon us this day and forever.

C: Amen.



***Recessional Hymn:**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786
tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880 sts. 1, 3-4
tr. unknown st. 2

attr. John Francis Wade

Unison 1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
SATB 2. The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal, —
Unison & Descant 3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, —
Unison 4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap - py morn - ing, —

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem; come and be - hold Him,
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes; Son of the Fa - ther
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove! Glo - ry to God —
Je - su, to Thee be glo - ry giv'n! Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain

born the King of an - gels,
now in flesh a - pear - ing! O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a -
in the high - est: ing:
now in flesh a - pear - ing:

dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ — the Lord!

PARISH NEWS

Facemasks are recommended but not required during all indoor events and to spread out as much as possible during in-person worship with a 3-foot space between households.

NURSERY ATTENDANTS BY REQUEST: If your family is in need of a nursery attendant during the 10:30 service, please let our ushers know and they will contact one of our standby attendants.

STAFF GIFTS: Annually, we at Lutheran Chapel provide a "thank you" to our Church Staff in the month of December. Many have already contributed to the gifts and still others have requested that we extend the collection through Sunday, December 12. With this in mind, those interested can see/contact Debra Hoffman, Josh Carpenter, Ed Robinson, Sherrie Angstadt, or me to contribute, no later than noon, December 12. The Executive Committee will meet the afternoon of December 12 to finalize the gift totals. The Gifts to Staff will be presented at our December 19 10:30 Worship Service. -Stephen Laws, Council President

2022 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR: The following dates are still available on the 2022 altar flower calendar: Feb. 20, Feb. 27, March 27, June 26, July 3, July 24, Oct. 23, Nov. 6 and Nov. 20. If you'd like to sign up for one of these Sundays, please call or text Susan Lewis at 704-914-8451.

2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES: The 2022 offering envelopes are ready to be picked up and can be found in the Narthex.

AN INVITATION FROM CHRISTIAN ED: The members of the Christian Ed Committee would like to invite any congregation member who is interested to consider joining this committee. This committee is responsible for choosing the youth Sunday school curriculum, planning VBS and hosting church-wide events throughout the year. If you are interested, please contact the Pastor at michael.comer@lutheranchapelchurch.org.

FROM THE WORSHIP COMMITTEE: Are any of you dreading the next number of weeks as Christmas gets closer and closer? How much to spend on gifts? Who to buy for and what to buy? Which parties/events to attend? How to be safe and accepting of each other? This doesn't leave much time to dwell on the "reason for the season". All of us need some balance during the holidays. Part of our balance at Lutheran Chapel is remembering whose we are, and why we exist. We exist to worship the one who gives us life-that beautiful baby in the manger. A wonderful opportunity to worship will be **Wednesday evenings in December; December 1st, 8th, and 15th at 7pm**. This will be a time of worship, prayer, and celebration as we slow down and focus on preparing for Christmas. Would you and your family worship with us at the Wednesday night Advent Services? We promise there won't be any commercials, it won't cost anything, and you won't gain any weight. We do promise that you will be blessed as we get ready for the birthday of Jesus.

YOU'RE INVITED!: The congregation of Lutheran Chapel is cordially invited to attend a reception in the Family Life Center immediately following the 10:00 Service on **January 2, 2022** to celebrate the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Terry and Trish Ratchford. Please drop in for some delicious treats and to share in their celebration of love and commitment. No gifts please ~ your presence will be their present.

DAILY PRAYER

EACH MORNING AND EVENING, PRAY TO THE LORD. (*Psalm 1:2*) Prayer lists and roster, Psalter readings, daily Bible lessons, and a song of praise are below.

PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP: BT & Pauline Bradley, Todd Carpenter, Renee Dockery, Kathy Finch, Ervin Hoffman, Henry Hoffman, Pr. Peter Homovich, Larry Hoover, Dru Huffstickler, Ann Marie Lentz, Betty Petty, Terry Ratchford, Bill Robinson, Ed Robinson, Pat & Barbara Robinson, **Bill Seabrook**, Bob Thornburg, and Myra Weaver

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Eula Brazell, Bill Bridges, Deborah Carpenter, Mary Collins, Laura Dixon, Jamison Franklin, Mona Fulton, Victoria Garcia, family of Sandy Helms, Sherry Hester, Jack Jeffries, Paula Kadel, Ernestine Kincaid, Robbie and Cathy Lewis, Frieda Moses, Lee Norris, Dakota Shuford, Luke Slessman, Charlene Sorenson, and Judi Truesdail

To share concerns and updates for the prayer list you can contact the church office (704-864-6491), Pastor Comer (704-787-6439) or our prayer team (Katherine Carpenter 704-214-2493).

PRAYER ROSTER - Pray for one another. (*Ephesians 6:18*)

Sunday: Miles Carpenter

Thursday: Emily Carpenter

Monday: Sharon Carpenter

Friday: Drew Carpenter

Tuesday: Shirley Carpenter

Saturday: Ben Carpenter

Wednesday: Todd Carpenter

FEAST OF PSALMS: *Advent*

	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
AM	6, 8	19, 21	33, 40	53, 62	80, 85	96, 98	122, 126
PM	17, 18	24, 25	42, 50	67, 72	93, 94	110, 111	143, 145

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - Week 50: December 12 to December 19, 2021

12/12 Morning Reading: Revelation 3—Evening Reading: Hosea 9, 10, 11

12/13 Morning Reading: Revelation 4—Evening Reading: Hosea 12, 13, 14

12/14 Morning Reading: Revelation 5—Evening Reading: Joel

12/15 Morning Reading: Revelation 6—Evening Reading: Amos 1, 2, 3

12/16 Morning Reading: Revelation 7—Evening Reading: Amos 4, 5, 6

12/17 Morning Reading: Revelation 8—Evening Reading: Amos 7, 8, 9

12/18 Morning Reading: Revelation 9—Evening Reading: Obadiah

12/19 Morning Reading: Revelation 10—Evening Reading: Jonah

Songs of Praise: *"Joy to the World"*

ELW #267

"Soon and Very Soon"

W&P #128

Next Sunday, December 19, 2021 ~ 4th Sunday of Advent

Luke 1:26-38 and Luke 1:39-55 ~ *"Journey of Mary, Mother of our Lord"*

The *"Our Daily Bread"* devotional is available as a booklet, an app in eBook format, daily e-mail, or podcast. Visit odb.org/subscribe.

This QR code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that list the commemorations for the week.



CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12 - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2021

Sun-12 8:30 am Early Worship w/ Holy Communion (Chapel)
 9:15 am Luther Choir
 9:30 am Sunday School for all ages
 10:30 am Christmas Cantata (Sanctuary)
 6:00 pm Chancel Choir
 8:00 pm Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)

Mon-13 8:30 am Preschool

Tues-14 8:30 am Preschool
 10:00 am Clothing Closet Workday

Wed-15 8:30 am Preschool
 6:00 pm Handbell Choir
 7:00 pm Advent Service (Sanctuary)

Thur-16 8:30 am Preschool

