

ST. JOHN'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

First Sunday after Christmas
Festival of Lessons & Carols

December 31, 2023
10 a.m.



Welcome to St. John's!

Welcome and thank you for worshiping with us today! Whatever your religious background (if any) and however you have come to be here with us, we welcome you. Whether you are online or in-person, we are glad that you have found us and we invite you to return here any Sunday so that we may continue to worship with you. Please visit us on the web at www.stjohnsmib.org where you can also sign our Virtual Guest Book, and, if you are in-person, please pick up a welcome bag at the back of the church.

A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

The Congregation joins in the portions printed in ***bold italics***.

Voluntary

Das alte Jahr vergangen ist
(The old year now has past away)

J. S. Bach

Processional Hymn 109, "The First Nowell"

Tune: THE FIRST NOWELL

1. The first No - well the an - gel did say was to cer - tain poor
 2. They look - ed up and saw a star shin - ing in the
 6. Then let us all with one ac - cord sing prais - es

shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields as they lay, keep - ing their
 east to be - yond them far, and to the earth it gave their
 to our heav - en - y Lord; that hath made heaven and earth great
 of

sheep, on a cold win - ter's night that was day so deep. No - well, No -
 light, and so it con - tin - ued both and night. No - well, No -
 naught, and with his blood our life has bought.

well, No - well, No - well. Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Book of Common Prayer (BCP), p. 355

And blessed be his kingdom, now, and for ever. Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

All sit

The Fall: Genesis 3:1-23

*After God's creation of the universe, and of man and woman,
we immediately turned away from God and wanted to do it our own way.*

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they

knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you

have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you." And to the man he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life;

thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all living. And the LORD God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them. Then the Lord God said, "See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"—therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn #81, “Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming”

Tune: ES IST EIN ROS

1. Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten-der stem hath sprung!
2. I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,
Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing it, as seers of old have sung.
with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir gin Mo ther kind.
It came, a blos-som bright, a - mid the cold of win - ter,
To show God's love a - right, she bore to us a Sa - vior,
when half spent was the night.
when half spent was the night.

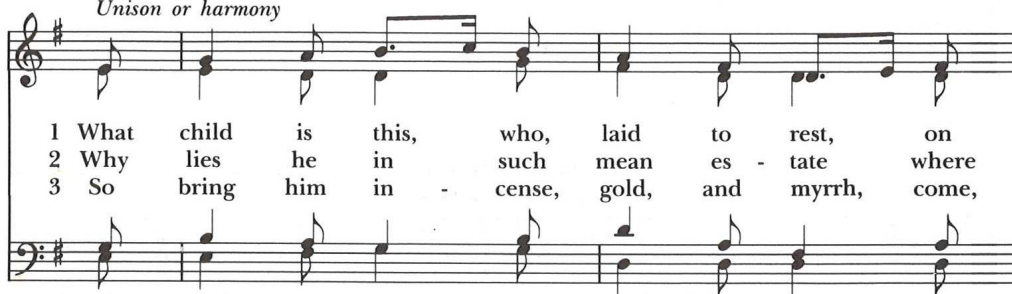
The Savior Revealed: Isaiah 11:1–9

God was not satisfied that His beloved creation would be apart from Him as a result of the fall, so a Savior was promised to make the way for our restoration to God.

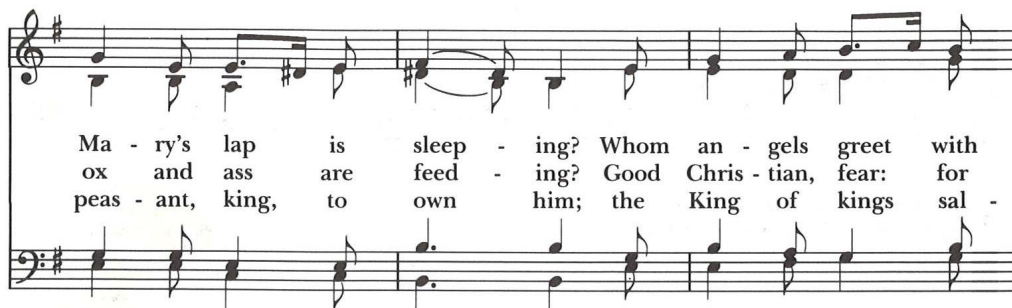
A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the

leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

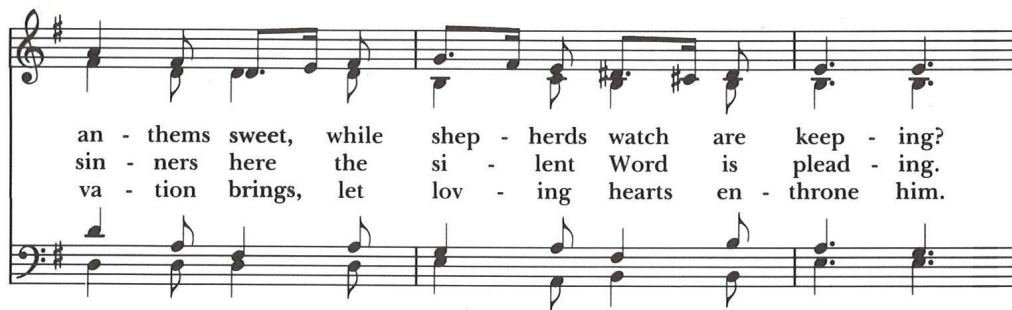
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Unison or harmony


1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,



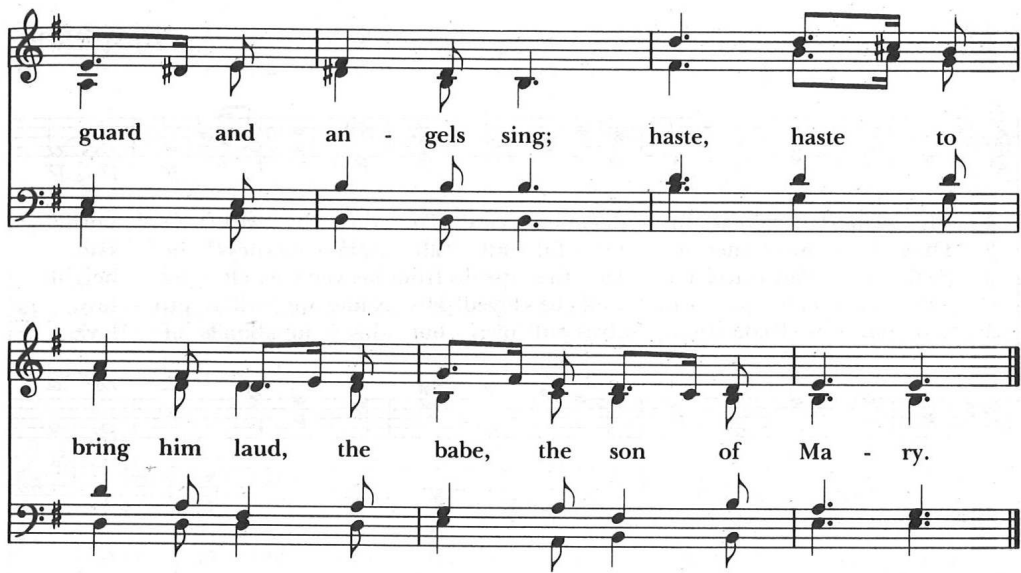
Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -



an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

Refrain


This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds



Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

Music: Greensleeves, English melody; harm. *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871

87. 87 with Refrain

The Birth of the Savior Foretold: Luke 1:26-38

Now, at last, the promised Savior is to appear.

Even the birth will be miraculous as God begins to deliver the new creation.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 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 ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no

end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to 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 holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



1.O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how
2.For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and
3.O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De -

still we see thee lie! A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the
gath - ered all a - bove, while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their
scend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and en - ter in, be

si - lent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the
watch of won - dering love, O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro -
born in us to - day, We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the

ev - er - last - ing Light; the hopes and fears of all the years are
claim the ho - ly birth! and prais - es sing to God the King, and
great glad tid - ings tell; O come to us, a - bid with us, our

met in thee to - night,
peace to men on earth,
Lord Em-man - u - el!

The Savior is Born: Luke 2:1–20

The promised Savior enters this world as a helpless baby, and heaven rejoices!

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.

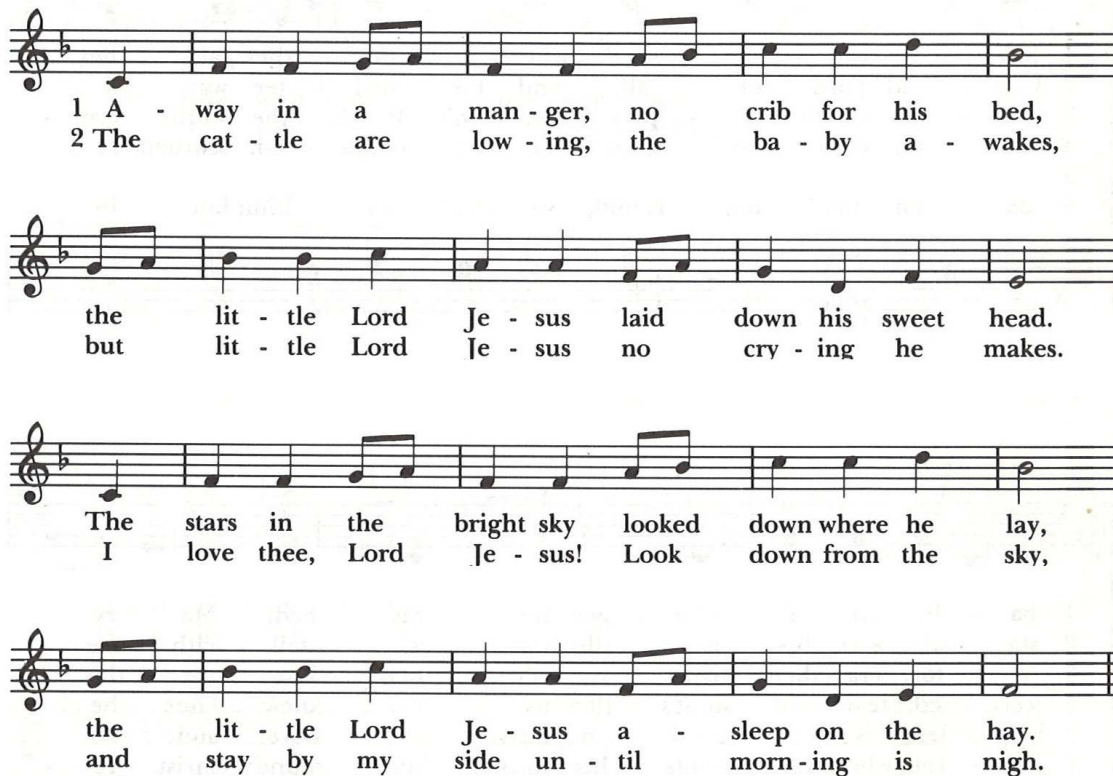
In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please continue on next page.



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.

Words: Traditional carol

Music: *Cradle Song*, melody William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)

11 11. 11 11

The Plan of Salvation: John 1:1-18

The Gospel writer John steps back to give us the "big picture" account of God's work in creation and redemption through the newborn Savior.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into

being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of

whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn #102

"Once in Royal David's City"

1. Once in royal David's city stood a
 2. He came down to our earth from hea - ven, who is
 4. For he is that poor low - ly sta - ble, Dail - y, the
 6. Not in that 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
 when on earth he grew, he was temp - ted, scorned, re - ject - ed, tears and
 ox - en stand - ing round, we shall see him; but in hea - ven, where his
 man - ger for his bed; Ma - ry was that moth - er
 cra - zed with the poor, the scorned, the
 smiles like us he knew. Thus he feels for all our
 saints his throne sur - round: Christ, re - vealed to faith - ful
 mild, Je - sus on Christ her lit - tle child,
 low - ly, lived on earth shares her Sa - vior ho - ly,
 sad - ness, and he at God's in all our glad - ness,
 eye, set at God's right hand on high.

The Sermon

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, Presiding Bishop; Justin, our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for Grace Church, Port Orange, and Church of the Nativity, Port St. Lucie.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the bishops and clergy of The Anglican Church of Rwanda.

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Heavenly Father, watch over and protect our nation's military members and their families, especially, ***David, Luke, Jeremy, Craig, Dobson, Murray, Joel, Mack, Sergio, Ryan, Jimmy, Carl Jr., Matthew, Julian, Andrew, Jim, Brandon, Kyle, Nate, Evan, Patrick, Clay, Ian, Ricky, and Geoffrey.*** *Silence.*

We pray for our brothers and sisters who cannot be here with us today especially ***Barbara, Jan, Bryan, Lilian, and Brenda.*** And for those on our weekly prayer list, ***Roberta, Carl, Nancy, Richard, and Carol.*** *Silence*

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *Silence*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

God of peace and justice, we pray for all those who live under armed conflict in the Holy Land, Ukraine, Sudan, Iran and other places around the world. We pray for those with power over war or peace and those commanded to fight; for wisdom, compassion and restraint to guide their decisions. We pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. In the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. ***Amen.***

The priest adds a concluding collect.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Holy Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus

Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Announcements

All sit

Birthday and Anniversary Prayer

At the Offertory, Anthem

“Ring out wild bells”

Charles Gounod

Ring out, wild bells to the wild, wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light;
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.
Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow;
The year is going, let him go.
Ring out the False, ring in the True.
Ring out the grief that saps the mind
For those that here we see no more.
Ring out the feud of rich and poor;
Ring in redress to all Mankind.
Ring out the Want, the Care, the Sin,

The faithless coldness of the times;
Ring out, ring out, my mournful rhymes,
But ring the fuller minstrel in!
Ring out old shapes of foul disease,
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.
Ring in the valiant Man, and Free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the Land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be!

Alfred, Lord Tennyson

The General Thanksgiving

All kneel, as able

BCP, p. 366

***Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.***

*We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

The Blessing

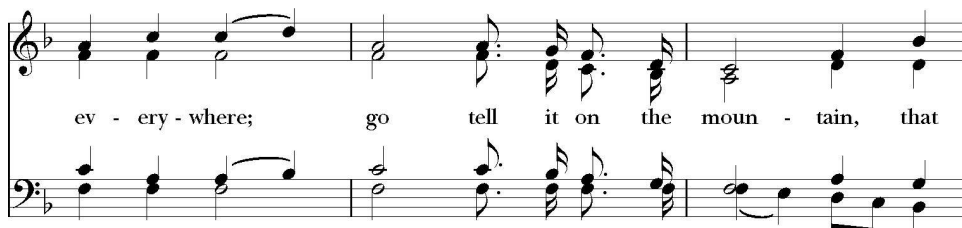
Hymn 99, "Go, tell it on the mountain"

Tune: Go tell it on the mountain


Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and

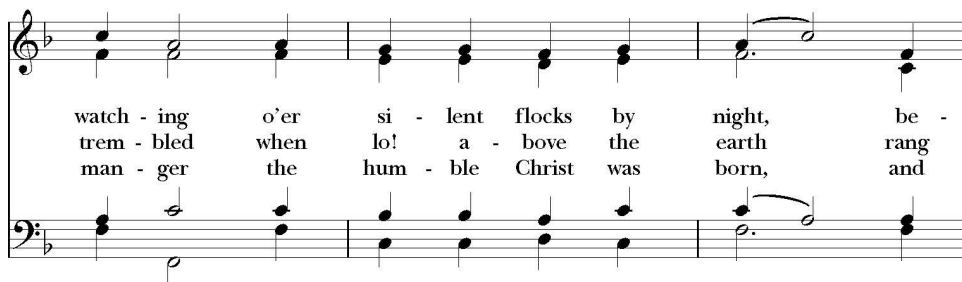


ev - ery - where; go tell it on the moun - tain, that



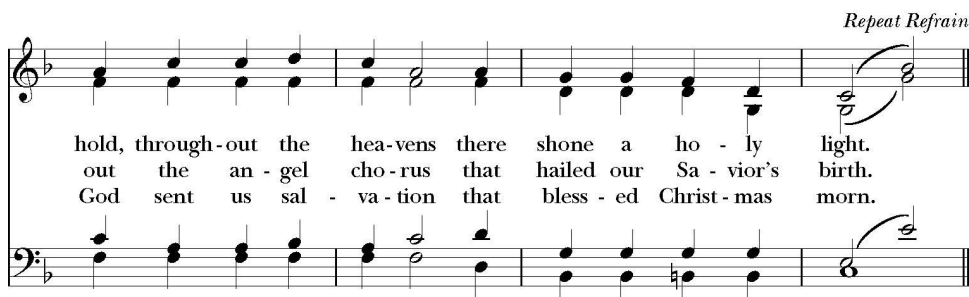
Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep - herds kept their
2 The shep - herds feared and
3 Down in a low - ly



watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth rang
man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, and

Repeat Refrain



hold, through - out the hea - vens there shone a ho - ly light.
out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sa - vior's birth.
God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

Thanks be to God!

Voluntary

Bransle du champagne

Gervase



THIS MORNING'S MUSIC

Although the tradition of Nine Lessons and Carols is popularly associated with King's College, Cambridge, its origins are attributed to Truro Cathedral in Cornwall. Up to the late 19th century, the singing of Christmas carols was normally performed by singers visiting people's houses, and carols – generally considered to be secular in content – and had been excluded from Christian worship. In the Victorian era, the rising popularity of hymnody encouraged church musicians to introduce carols into worship. An 1875 book of carols, *Carols for Use in Church During Christmas and Epiphany* by Richard Chope and Sabine Baring-Gould, was an influential publication. At around this time, the composer and organist John Stainer was compiling a collection, *Christmas Carols New and Old*, and during Christmas 1878 he introduced carols into the service of Choral Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral in London. Other cathedrals also began to adopt carols at Christmastide that year and the *Royal Cornwall Gazette* reported that the choir of Truro Cathedral would sing a service of carols at 10:00 pm on Christmas Eve.

This morning's opening voluntary is the setting of one of the choral melodies in Bach's "Little Organ Book" or *Orgelbuchlein*. The musicologist Karl Rimenschneider says that "This setting portrays the sadness occasioned by the passing of the old year. Bach employs three means of expressing this: First, by the use of chromatics (musical half-steps); Second, by the use of the coloratura style (many decorative notes added to the melody) which Bach largely reserved for pieces of more or less sad content; and Third, by the use of sharp dissonance." It is widely accepted that Bach was a numerologist, that is, he associated mystical significance to the relationship of letters and numbers. In several of his works musicologists have discovered relationships between music and texts that seem incredible. It is probably no accident that this choral prelude contains exactly 365 notes.

"Ring Out, Wild Bells" was published in 1850, the year Tennyson was appointed Poet Laureate. It forms part of *In Memoriam*, his elegy to Arthur Henry Hallam, his sister's fiancé who died at the age of 22. According to a story widely held in Waltham Abbey (a town in Essex, England), the "wild bells" in question were the bells of the Abbey Church. According to the local story, Tennyson was staying at High Beach in the vicinity and heard the bells being rung on New Year's Eve. (from the *Wikipedia*)



VISITORS AND GUESTS: Welcome to St. John's! We hope you will stay after the service for an opportunity to chat. Nibbles, coffee and bottled water will be provided in our Parish Hall. If you have questions about baptisms, weddings, membership, or any other need we can respond to, please call the Church Office at: 321-254-3365. And if you wish to know more about this church or to be included on our weekly and newsletter mailing lists, please call the office or email us at office@stjohnsmlb.org.

SIGN OUR VIRTUAL GUEST BOOK!

Scan the QR code at right or visit stjohnsmlb.org and click on Virtual Guest Book to let us know you were here and pass on any comments you would like to make!



THE ALTAR FLOWERS AND SANCTUARY CANDLE may be given in memory of a loved one, or to commemorate some occasion. Contact the church office at office@stjohnsmlb.org or 321-254-3365.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Austin Louks, Cade Oas, Lory Bittner, Dorinder Campbell.

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: None known.

ADULT AND YOUTH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION. On hiatus until Feb 4.

TGIF: Men's Bible study, Fridays, 8 a.m., at La Loma Coney Island, 1180 Aurora Rd, Melbourne, 32935. 321-254-8559.

COFFEE HOUR. A sign-up sheet to bring snacks, or assist with set-up/clean-up, on Sunday morning is in the Parish Hall.

SUNDAY MINISTRIES

	Dec 31	Jan 7
Greeters	A. Weeks	A. Weeks A. Lacy
Ushers	J. & S. McLaughlin	J. & S. Hamilton
LEM	D. Miller Caldwell	J. Bond
Altar Gld	L. Bennett	M. Salmon
Daughter	L. Miller	
Counter	K. Wilson	K. Wilson
A/V	B. Kendall V. Mitz	B. Kendall V. Mitz

THANK YOU FR. TERRY! Fr. Terry Highland will retire from his official position as Priest Associate here at St. John's effective Jan. 1. No, the Highlands aren't going anywhere! Fr. Terry is focusing his time and energy on serving as the Diocesan Chaplain to the Daughters of the King. We will have a special coffee hour to thank Fr. Terry and Mary on Sunday, Jan. 7. Fr. Terry will preach that morning.

RECTOR'S VACATION: Fr. Eric Turner, Rector, will be on vacation Jan 13 through Jan 20. The Rev. Susan Davidson will preach and celebrate on Sunday, Jan. 14.

MILITARY MEMBERS: Help keep our military personnel up-to-date on the Prayers of the People. Let us know before the end of the year if a member now on the list is still active, or if you have a new one to add. There is a form available in this bulletin for you to do that. You can put the form in the offering plate, or hand it to one of the ushers. **We will remove** all others starting in January.

ST. JOHN'S CHAT is a great way to keep up with St. John's news and information! If you are not subscribed to this list, please email office@stjohnsmlb.org. Note that this is separate from the weekly "**St. John's eNews**" which

comes out every Thursday at 4 p.m. You may request a subscription to that list as well!

DAILY BREAD: If you can help serve please contact the office or Jackie Bond. The next service day is Jan 4.

PRAYER IS AVAILABLE at the altar rail immediately following the service.

A PRAYER REQUEST BOX is now available from the St. John's Order of the Daughters of the King in the Sanctuary beside the votive candles. We have taken a vow to pray for others and we take this vow seriously. In lieu of access to the prayer box, please give prayer requests directly to any Daughter listed on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

MUSIC AT ST. JOHN'S: Let Dr. D know that you'd like to be a part of the music in the parish. Singers and instrumentalists are welcome. There are no auditions; all that is necessary is an ability to read music and a willingness to be faithful.

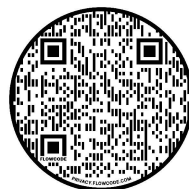
LOANING OF CHURCH ITEMS: If you would like to borrow tables, chairs, cribs, linens, etc. please speak with Fr. Eric or Deborah Miller-Caldwell, Jr.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Genesis 1:1-5, Acts 19:1-7, Mark 1:4-11, Psalm 29
To find all the lessons visit the webpage: lectionarypage.net and click on the date.

Warden. Please contact Deborah at farxpert@gmail.com, Fr. Eric at eric@stjohnsmlb.org, or call the church office at 321-254-3365.

ST. JOHN'S OUTREACH FOCUS for December is designated for the Diocesan Missions. **Rev. Steven and Mary Dass** serve in Sao Paulo, Brazil ministering among homeless children and adults in the 'red light district' of Sao Paulo. You can learn more on their blog at spmercymistry.com. **Rev. Loren and Linda Fox** serve in support of other missionaries. They live in northern Thailand, working in various parts of Asia. You may email ReachUs@EngagingTheAdventure.org. Anything in the blue envelopes, or clearly marked for outreach in the month of December will go to the Diocesan Missions.

DONATE TO ST. JOHN'S ONLINE!
You can now make a safe and convenient donation to St. John's via PayPal. Scan the QR code at right or visit stjohnsmlb.org and click on Donate Now!



You are personally invited to join a community of women who believe in the power of prayer, service to others, and the sharing of the gospel to expand the Kingdom of God. You can find out more about the DOK St John's Chapter by contacting Mary Highland at 321-831-2796 or mhighland7@gmail.com.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

- Sun (12/31) Lessons & Carols, Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10 a.m., also Live Streamed.
AA, 3 p.m., Parish Hall.
- Mon (1/1) AA, 7 p.m., Parish Hall.
- Tue (1/2) Seaside Stitchers, 9 a.m., Parish Hall.
Scouts, 5:30 p.m., Parish Hall.
- Wed (1/3) AA, 5:30 p.m., Parish Hall
Choir Rehearsal, 7 p.m. Choir Loft.
- Thurs (1/4) Staff Meeting, 9 a.m., Rector's Office
Daily Bread, 10:30 a.m.
Evening Prayer, 6 p.m., Sanctuary
- Fri (1/5) TGIF, Men's Bible Study, 8 a.m. La Loma Coney Island Restaurant, 1180 Aurora.
- Sun (1/7) Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 10 a.m., also Live Streamed.

All Zoom and Livestream links are available by visiting stjohnsmlb.org > Parish Life > Calendar, then clicking on the event. Or you may email office@stjohnsmlb.org and we will send you the link.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*... is a worshiping community, guided by scripture,
growing as servants of Christ, and sharing His love in word and deed.*

610 Young Street ✕ Melbourne, FL 32935 ✕ 321-254-3365 ✕ www.stjohnsmlb.org
Parish Office email: office@stjohnsmlb.org



The Rev. Eric W. Turner, Rector

Pastoral Emergency: 321-615-0205
eric@stjohnsmlb.org

The Rev. Terry Highland, Priest Associate

Pastoral Emergency: 321-831-2587
redemcec@aol.com

Dr. Jerry Davidson, Organist/Choirmaster
jfd112@gmail.com

Dallas Gambrel, II, Organ Scholar

Jackie Bond, Office Assistant
office@stjohnsmlb.org

Carole Taylor, Bookkeeper
ctaylor9797@yahoo.com

The Vestry of St. John's Church

Kathy Oas, Sr. Warden
Deborah Miller-Caldwell, Jr. Warden
Elizabeth Chludzinski, Treasurer
Susan Badgio, Assistant Treasurer
Katie Wilson, Secretary

Serving thru 1/2024

Skip Alcorn, Susan Badgio,
Deborah Miller-Caldwell

Serving thru 1/2025

Jackie Bond, Jamie Hamilton, Kathy Oas

Serving thru 1/2026

Jack Kenworthy, Amy Lacy