

Lessons and Carols of the Birth of Jesus Christ

Joseph and His Dream

Reading of the Nativity Story Matthew 1:18-25 Rev. Ginny
Lighting of the Candle of Hope Rev. Ginny
Choral Anthem Sing We Now of Christmas Nouvelet, arr. K. Pederson

Taxes and Family

Reading of the Nativity Story Luke 2:1-7 Bill Beardall
Lighting the Candle of Peace Bill Beardall
Choral Anthem Lost Words Blessing/Adeste Fideles

Advent Carol O Come All Ye Faithful J.F. Wade
*1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold Him,
Born the King of angels!*

*3 Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
(Refrain)*

*Refrain: O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!*

*4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! (Refrain)*

*2 True God from true God,
Light from light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Ver-y God, begotten not created!
(Refrain)*

Mary's Pregnancy

Reading of the Nativity Story Luke 2:15-20 Rev. Ginny
Lighting of the Candle of Love Rev. Ginny
Choral Anthem Lo, How a Rose/The Rose Arr. C.H. Johnson

Shepherds and Strangers

Reading of the Nativity Story

Luke 2:8-14

Bill Beardall

Lighting of the Candle of Joy

Bill Beardall

***Carol**

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

Arr. T. Alonso

*1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”*

*offspring of the virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate deity,
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell,
Jesus, Our Emmanuel. (Refrain)*

*Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”*

*2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,*

*3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of
Peace!
Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth. (Refrain)*

Angels and Stars to Guide the Way

Reading of the Nativity Story

The God We Hardly Knew

Rev. Ginny

Archbishop Óscar Romero

No one can celebrate a genuine Christmas without being truly poor. The self-sufficient, the proud, those who, because they have everything, look down on others, those who have no need even of God—for them there will be no Christmas. Only the poor, the hungry, those who need someone to come on their behalf, will have that someone. That someone is God. Emmanuel. God-with-us. Without poverty of spirit there can be no abundance of God.

Advent Carol**It Came Upon a Midnight Clear**

E. Sears

*1 It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, good will to all,
Great news of joy we bring.”
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.*

*2 And you, beneath life’s crushing
load,
Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way,
With painful steps and slow,*

*Look now, for glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing;
O rest beside the weary road,
And hear the angels sing!*

*3 For lo, the days are hastening on,
By prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years
Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling,
And all the world set back the song
Which now the angels sing.*

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Ginny

Choral Anthem**When Stars Shone Down**

S. Aldredge

The Innkeeper, Animals, and Community of Jesus’ Birth**Reading of the Nativity Story****The Work of Christmas**

Bill Beardall

Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flocks, the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart.

Invitation to Generosity

Rev. Ginny

You are invited to financially give so that we can continue to serve our neighbors. Your generosity can be with cash, a check, or scanning the QR code to give online. Thank you for your generosity.

*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.*

***Benediction**

Rev. Ginny

*** Postlude**

Improvisation on Silent Night

Leading In Tonight's Service:

<i>Bill Beardall, Worship Leader</i>	<i>Amy Harris, Violin</i>
<i>Rev. Dr. Ginny Brown Daniel, Interim Pastor</i>	<i>Roberto Hernández, Usher and Deputy Deacon</i>
<i>Victor Cardenas, Custodian</i>	<i>Liz Lee, Cello</i>
<i>Jonathan Geer, Piano</i>	<i>Laura Martin, Director of Music</i>

The Congregational Church of Austin Choir

<i>Abi Archey, Soprano</i>	<i>Eric Horn, Tenor</i>
<i>Andres Ojeda, Bass</i>	<i>Lauren Horn, Alto</i>
<i>Nick Bennett, Bass</i>	<i>Ethel Morris, Alto</i>
<i>Jeannie Binder, Alto</i>	<i>Sarah Ross, Tenor</i>
<i>Barbara Burnham, Soprano</i>	<i>Michael Ross, Tenor</i>
<i>Lucy Erda, Soprano</i>	<i>Jeremy Selvidge, Tenor</i>
<i>Sarah Darter, Alto</i>	<i>Kenzie Slottow, Tenor and flautist</i>
<i>Amy Harris, Soprano</i>	<i>AV Villarreal, Alto</i>
<i>Roberto Hernández, Bass</i>	