

The Seventh Lesson     *John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*     John 1:1-14

Carol                                     *O Come, All Ye Faithful*                                     ADESTE FIDELES

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! O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal, lo, He shuns not the virgin's womb;  
Son of the Father, begotten, not created. O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning, Jesus to Thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Holy Communion (*Please come forward by the piano side aisle and return by the organ side aisle.*)

Passing the Light

Carol                                     *Silent Night, Holy Night*                                     STILLE NACHT

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon 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. Glory streams 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.

Benediction                                     *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (4<sup>th</sup> stanza)                                     ST. LOUIS

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today!  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Shining Our Light for the World to See

(*Please join us on the front steps as we sing Joy to the World, printed on insert.*)



**A CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF LESSONS,  
CAROLS, & COMMUNION**

**Murfreesboro Baptist Church  
Christmas Eve 2024**

Prelude		
Words of Welcome		Mark Gaskins
Lighting of the Advent Wreath (see insert)		
Hymn	<i>Once in Royal David's City</i>	IRBY
	Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her Baby in a manger for His bed: Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little Child.  He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all, and His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall: with the poor, and meek, and lowly lived on earth, our Savior holy.  And our eyes at last shall see Him thro' His own redeeming love; for that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above. And He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.	
The Bidding Prayer and the Lord's Prayer ( <i>trespasses</i> )		Mark Gaskins
Hymn	<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>	VENI EMMANUEL
	O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.  O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by Thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.  O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things, far and nigh; to us the path of knowledge show, and cause us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.  O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.	
The First Lesson	<i>God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head.</i>	Genesis 3:8-15
Carol	<i>Child in the Manger</i>	BUNESSAN
	Child in the manger, Infant of Mary; outcast and stranger, Lord of all; Child who inherits all our transgressions, all our demerits on Him fall.  Once the most holy Child of salvation, gently and lowly lived below; now as our glorious mighty Redeemer, see Him victorious o'er each foe.	

The Second Lesson	<i>The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.</i>	Isaiah 9:2, 6-7
Carol	<i>Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus</i>	HYFRYDOL
	Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.  Born Thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a King, born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring. By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by Thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.	
The Third Lesson	<i>The peace that Christ will bring us is foreshown.</i>	Isaiah 11:1-9
Carol	<i>It Came Upon the Midnight Clear</i>	CAROL
	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 men, from heaven's all-gracious King." The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.  For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold, when with the ever-circling years come round the age of gold; when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.	
The Fourth Lesson	<i>The angel Gabriel salutes the Virgin Mary.</i>	Luke 1:26-35, 38
Carol	<i>Of the Father's Love Begotten</i>	DIVINUM MYSTERIUM
	Mark Gaskins, baritone	
The Fifth Lesson	<i>Luke Tells of the Birth of Jesus.</i>	Luke 2:1-7
Carol	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	ST. LOUIS
	O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.	
The Sixth Lesson	<i>The shepherds go to the manger.</i>	Luke 2:8-20
Carol	<i>Angels, We Have Heard on High</i>	GLORIA
	Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains; and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!  Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song? Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!	

*We Wait in Hope: A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent*

Joel Raney

Theme Introduction

Choir

Litany

Advent is a time to proclaim.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

We proclaim a hope that is stronger than any trial.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

We proclaim a victory that is stronger than any defeat.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

We proclaim a peace that is stronger than any conflict.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

We proclaim a freedom that is stronger than any bondage.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

The First, Second, Third, and Fourth Candles

The Christ Candle

Refrain

*We Wait in Hope*

Congregation

Joel Raney

We praise with hope for the morning Light,  
for the love of Christ to illuminate the night.

We praise with joy for the Savior's birth;  
we praise with hope for peace on earth.

Prayer

Mark Gaskins

*We Wait in Hope: A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent*

Joel Raney

Theme Introduction

Choir

Litany

Advent is a time to proclaim.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

We proclaim a hope that is stronger than any trial.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

We proclaim a victory that is stronger than any defeat.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

We proclaim a peace that is stronger than any conflict.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

We proclaim a freedom that is stronger than any bondage.

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

The First, Second, Third, and Fourth Candles

The Christ Candle

Refrain

*We Wait in Hope*

Congregation

Joel Raney

We praise with hope for the morning Light,  
for the love of Christ to illuminate the night.

We praise with joy for the Savior's birth;  
we praise with hope for peace on earth.

Prayer

Mark Gaskins

## CAROL OF ANNOUNCEMENT

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, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, 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, 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 of his love.



## CAROL OF ANNOUNCEMENT

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, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, 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, 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 of his love.

