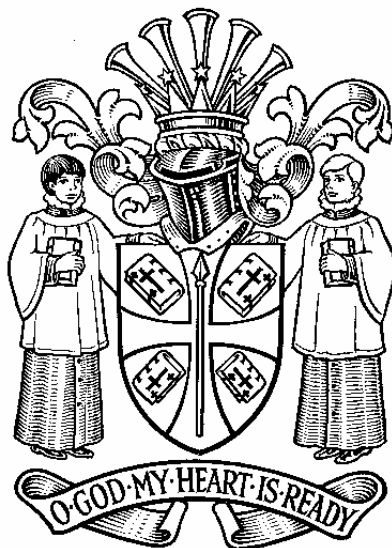


A FESTIVAL
OF
NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS



SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
THE REVEREND CARL F. TURNER, *RECTOR*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2019
AND
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2019
AT 4 P.M.



SAINT THOMAS CHURCH FIFTH AVENUE
in the
CITY OF NEW YORK

The Reverend Canon Carl F. Turner, *Rector*
Dr. Jeremy Filsell, *Organist and Director of Music*
The Reverend Charles F. Wallace, *Headmaster*

Welcome to Saint Thomas Church, a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New York.
Our mission is to worship, love and serve Our Lord Jesus Christ
through the Anglican tradition and our unique choral heritage.

Please switch off all cellular telephones. Unauthorized recordings and the taking of photographs during worship at Saint Thomas Church are prohibited.
To contact us, email welcome@SaintThomasChurch.org

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday, December 22, 2019 — 4 p.m.
and
Tuesday, December 24, 2019 — 4 p.m.

PRELUDE	Canonic Variations on ‘Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her’, BWV 769	<i>Johann Sebastian Bach</i> (1685-1750)
	Weinachten, Op. 145, no. 3	<i>Max Reger</i> (1873-1916)
	Variations sur un Noël, Op. 20	<i>Marcel Dupré</i> (1886-1971)
	Pastorale über ‘Josef lieber, Josef mein’ und ‘Stille nacht’	<i>Carl Sattler</i> (1877-1966)

THE GREETINGS

The Holy Boy *John Ireland*
(1879-1962)

HYMN Once in royal David’s city *Please stand.* IRBY

Choir Only:

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.

Choir Only:

2. 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 mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

All:

3. And, through all his wondrous childhood,
He would honor and obey,
Love, and watch the lowly maiden,
In whose gentle arms he lay;
Christian children all must be
mild, obedient, good as he.

4. For he is our childhood’s pattern,
Day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.

5. And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

6. Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven,
Set at God’s right hand on high;
When like stars his children crowned,
all in white shall wait around.

THE BIDDING

Beloved in Christ, at this Christmastide, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all his people; for unity and brotherhood within the Church he came to build, and especially in this city and diocese of New York.

And because this would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no man can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are for ever one.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the Throne of Heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,
All

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life, and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. *Amen.*

Please be seated at the conclusion of the prayers.

C'EST la Noël!
Sur la minuit tous les bergers sortent du lit.
S'en vont tout droit vers leurs agneaux
Endormis bien au chaud.
"Pasteurs le ciel vous garde,"
Leur dit l'ange du ciel.

Ainsi cet ange leur parla,
"Les belles choses que voilà!
Le Seigneur vient de naître tout près de Bethléem.
Il faut quitter vos âtres
Et venir voir Noël."

Ils y sont tous ensemble allés.
Ils se sont tous agenouillés.
Alors un grand éclair soudain illumina l'Enfant
Et la Vierge sa mère,
Reine de tous les Saints.

Pasteurs il faut prier notre Dieu
Car il nous sauve dans les cieus
Afin que sur la terre
Sa sainte volonté
Apaïse toutes guerres.
Croyons en sa bonté.

*It is Christmas!
At midnight the shepherds all rise from their beds.
They head straight to their lambs
Asleep nice and warm.
"Heaven protects you, Shepherds,"
The heavenly angel said to them.*

*Thus this angel spoke to them saying,
"Beautiful things are here!
The Lord is born near Bethlehem.
You must leave your hearths
And come to see Noel."*

*They went all together.
They all knelt down.
And suddenly a great light illuminated the Child
And the Virgin his mother,
Queen of all the Saints.*

*Shepherds we must pray to our God
Because he saves us in the heavens
So that on earth
His holy will
May pacify all wars.
Let us believe in his goodness.*

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15

God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

Reader: A Chorister

CAROL This is the truth sent from above

arranged by *Christopher Robinson*
(b. 1936)

THIS is the truth sent from above, the truth of God, the God of love,
Therefore don't turn me from your door, but hearken all both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate is that God did man create;
The next thing which to you I'll tell, woman was made with man to dwell.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes, till God the Lord did interpose;
And so a promise soon did run that he would redeem us by his Son.

And at the season of the year our blest Redeemer did appear;
He here did live, and here did preach, and many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved, to show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way, be pleas'd to hear what he did say.

Traditional English Carol

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed.

Reader: A Member of the Sunday School

Please stand.

HYMN Of the Father's heart begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Of the Father's heart begotten,
Ere the worlds from chaos rose,
He is Alpha: from the Fountain,
All that is and hath been flows;
He is Omega, of all things
Yet to come the mystic Close,
Evermore and evermore!

2. He assumed this mortal body,
Frail and feeble, doomed to die,
That the race from dust created
Might not perish utterly,
Which the dreadful Law had sentenced
In the depths of hell to lie,
Evermore and evermore!

3. This is he, whom seer and sybil
Sang in ages long gone by;
This is he of old revealed
In the page of prophecy;
Lo! he comes, the promised Saviour;
Let the world his praises cry!
evermore and evermore!

4. Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;
Angels and Archangels, sing!
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,
Let your joyous anthems ring,
Every tongue his name confessing,
Countless voices answering,
Evermore and evermore!

Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius

Please be seated.

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

Reader: A Gentleman of the Choir

CAROL King Jesus hath a garden

Dutch Melody
arranged by *John Scott*
(1956-2015)

KING Jesus hath a garden, full of divers flow'rs,
Where I go culling posies gay, all times and hours.
*There naught is heard but Paradise bird,
Harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal trump and tymbal,
And the tender soothing flute.*

The Lily, white in blossom there, is Chastity,
The Violet, with sweet perfume, Humility.
*There naught is heard but Paradise bird,
Harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal trump and tymbal,
And the tender soothing flute.*

The bonny Damaskrose is known as Patience:
The blithe and thrifty Marygold, Obedience.
*There naught is heard but Paradise bird,
Harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal trump and tymbal,
And the tender soothing flute.*

The Crown Imperial bloometh too in yonder place,
'Tis Charity, of stock divine, the flower of grace.
*There naught is heard but Paradise bird,
Harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal trump and tymbal,
And the tender soothing flute.*

Yet, 'mid the brave, the bravest prize of all may claim
The star of Bethlehem, Jesus, blessed be his Name!

*There naught is heard but Paradise bird,
Harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal trump and tymbal,
And the tender soothing flute.*

Ah! Jesu Lord, my heal and weal, my bliss complete,
Make thou my heart thy garden plot, fair, trim and neat.

*That I may hear this musick clear:
Harp, dulcimer, lute,
With cymbal, trump and tymbal,
And the tender soothing flute.*

George Radcliffe Woodward

FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-9

The Peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

Reader: The Organist and Director of Music

CAROL There is no rose

Anonymous
(c. 1420)

*There is no rose of such virtue,
As is the rose that bare Jesu.*

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu.
Alleluia.

For in this rose contained was heaven and earth in little space;
Res miranda. (A marvelous thing).

And by that rose we may well see that he is God in persons three,
Pari forma. (Equal in form).

The angels sungen the shepherds to: Gloria in excelsis Deo:
Gaudeamus. (Let us rejoice).

Then leave we all this wordly mirth, and follow we this joyful birth;
Transeamus. (Let us follow).

Fifteenth Century English Carol

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Reader: A Member of the Choir School Community

CAROL What Songs were Sung

John Jacob Niles
(1892-1980)
arranged by *Nathaniel Adams*
(b. 1986)

WE cannot tell, we do not know what stars shone down so long ago,
When Mary birthed her own sweet son, and peace and love became as one.
The son of God, as scriptures said, was virgin born in a tiny shed where simple shepherds stood hard by,
and heavenly sound filled up the sky.
Now let us stand, uncovered all, before the crèche in lowly stall
Where king and angels dignify his son in humility.
What starlight fell
Or why the holy mystery stands for so many years and so many lands
We cannot tell, we do not know, what stars shone down so long ago.
When Mary birthed her own sweet son, and peace and love became as one.

Traditional Folk Song

SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

Saint Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

Reader: A Member of the Congregation

Please stand.

HYMN O little town of Bethlehem

FOREST GREEN

All:

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.

All:

2. O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth;
For Christ is born of Mary;
And, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.

Choir Only:

3. How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

All:

4. 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.

Phillips Brooks

Please be seated.

SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds go to the manger.

Reader: A Warden of the Parish

AT THE OFFERING, CAROL Infant Holy, Infant lowly

Traditional Polish Carol
arranged by *Gerre Hancock*
(1934-2012)

INFANT Holy, Infant lowly,
For his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
Nowells ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story,
Tidings of a Gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
Praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the Babe was born for you.

Please stand.

HYMN While shepherds watched

WINCHESTER OLD

- W**HILE shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.
2. 'Fear not,' said he, for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind;
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind.
3. To you, in David's town, this day
Is born of David's line
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
And this shall be the sign:
4. 'The heavenly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid.'
5. Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song:
6. 'All glory be to God on high,
And on the earth be peace;
Good will henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease.'

Nabum Tate

Please be seated.

EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

The Wise Men are led by the star to Jesus.

Reader: A Priest of the Parish

CAROL Epiphany

Judith Bingham
(b. 1952)

DEEP midwinter, the dark centre of the year,
Wake, O earth, awake,
Out on the hills, a star appears.

Here lies the way for pilgrim kings,
Three magi on an ancient path,
Black hours begin their journeyings.
Their star has risen in our hearts,
Empty thrones, abandoned fears,
Out on the hills, their journey starts,
In dazzling darkness God appears.

Judith Bingham

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Please stand.

NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

Saint John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

Reader: The Rector

Please be seated.

CAROL Tomorrow shall be my dancing day

Jeremy Filzell
(b. 1964)

TOMORROW shall be my dancing day, I would my true love did so chance to see the legend of my play,
To call my true love to my dance.

Sing O my love, my love, my love, this have I done for my true love.

Then was I born of a Virgin pure, I took fleshly substance, thus was I knit to man's nature,
To call my true love to my dance.

Sing O my love, my love, my love, this have I done for my true love.

In a manger laid and wrapped I was, so very poor this was my chance, betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass,
To call my true love to my dance.

Sing O my love, my love, my love, this have I done for my true love.

Then afterwards baptized I was, the Holy Ghost on me did chance, my Father's voice heard from above,
To call my true love to my dance.

Sing O my love, my love, my love, this have I done for my true love.

Traditional English Carol

Please stand.

HYMN 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!

2. God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

3. See how the shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

4. Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God
In the highest:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Eighteenth Century Latin

Please remain standing for the final prayer, the blessing and the hymn.

THE CHRISTMAS COLLECT

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People And with thy spirit.
Officiant Let us pray.

O GOD who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only son, Jesus Christ:
Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold
him, when he shall come to be our judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one
God, world without end. *Amen.*

THE BLESSING

CHRIST, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, grant you the fullness of inward peace and goodwill, and make you partakers of the divine nature; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. *Amen.*

HYMN Hark! the herald-angels sing

MENDELSSOHN

HARK! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies,
With the angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.
*Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of the Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
*Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

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 man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
*Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

Charles Wesley

VOLUNTARY

'Dieu parmi nous', from 'La Nativité du Seigneur'

Olivier Messiaen
(1908-1992)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 – CHRISTMAS EVE
10:15 P.M. CHRISTMAS MUSIC FOR ORGAN AND BRASS
(Doors open at 10 p.m.)
Benjamin Sheen and Nicholas Quardokus, *organ*

11 P.M. THE SOLEMN EUCHARIST OF THE NATIVITY
(MIDNIGHT MASS)
Music of *Prendergast, Castagnet, Filsell, Hough, Wachner, Philips, Litaize, Hancock* and *Scott*
sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys with Brass
Sermon by the Rector

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 – CHRISTMAS DAY
11 A.M. SOLEMN EUCHARIST
Music of *Prendergast, Victoria, Scott, Dupré, Adams, Hancock* and *Britten*
sung by the Saint Thomas Choir of Men and Boys
Sermon by the Rector

PARISH NOTICES

If you are a visitor this morning, **we welcome you to Saint Thomas Church** and hope that you are with us again soon. We encourage you to complete a Welcome Card which you can find in the narthex at the front of the church.

Saint Thomas Celebrates Burns Night on Friday, January 24, at 7 p.m. in beautiful Bonnell Hall at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. Save the date because this is an evening you will not want to miss (in black tie or Scottish themed-dress). After a reception, we will have a traditional Scottish dinner accompanied by great music and dancing. You can purchase a single ticket for \$75, and we will seat you or you can reserve a table for 10 people for \$700. You can reserve online or leave a check at reception. Please include your phone number. It is to your advantage to reserve in December, as this event will be offered to a few groups outside of the parish in January. All reservations and cancellations must be made by 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 21.

Charitable Distributions from IRAs: When you are doing your year-end tax planning, please remember that if you are 70 ½ or older, you may qualify to make a tax-free gift to Saint Thomas from your IRA account of up to \$100,000. If you are considering such a gift, we suggest that you talk with your tax advisor before finalizing your decision.

Year-end contributions to Saint Thomas Church and Choir School. As the New Year approaches and you consider your year-end gifts, please remember Saint Thomas Church and Choir School. December 31 is the deadline for the following items to be received in order to qualify as a deduction for 2019 tax purposes: checks by mail must be postmarked by that date, or dropped off in person; cash and credit card instructions need to be received at the Finance office by Noon; gifts can be made online until 11:59 p.m. EST; gifts of stock must be received in the Church's investment account by December 31. For stock transfer instructions or other questions, please contact Ann Hall Kaplan at AKaplan@SaintThomasChurch.org or 212-757-7013 Ext 421. This is also a gentle reminder to pay all pledges to the 2019 Annual Appeal by December 31. (If your circumstances have changed and you are not able to pay off your remaining pledge balance or wish to increase your pledge, please contact Ann Hall Kaplan.)

The Bookstore and Gift Shop is located on the first floor of the Parish House. **For your holiday shopping convenience, it will be open today following this service.** Currently in stock: *Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity in Modern English*, by Richard Hooker; *The Art of Advent: A Painting a Day from Advent to Epiphany*, by Jane Williams; *Ancient Christian Devotional: A Year of Weekly Readings, Lectionary Cycle A*, edited by Thomas C. Oden and Cindy Crosby; and *Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs & Practices*, by Scott Gunn and Melody Wilson Shobe; 2020 Christian Pocket Diary, Books on Advent and Christmas, as well as Advent Calendars. Major credit cards accepted. Contact: Bookstore@SaintThomasChurch.org.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Pilgrims' Course 2020. Newcomers to Saint Thomas Church and those not yet members of the church are invited to our "**Pilgrims' Course**," which is a comprehensive introduction to the Christian faith, as received and understood by the Episcopal Church. The first session will be on Tuesday, January 14, at 6:30 p.m. Each session will begin with a simple meal at 6:30 p.m., and the class itself will run from 7 to 8 p.m. The sessions continue on most Tuesday evenings through May 19. Bishop Allen Shin will visit on Sunday, May 17, at 11 a.m., to confirm and receive candidates. Although the course is specifically designed for **adults who are considering baptism, confirmation, or reception** into the Episcopal Church, it is fitting for anyone who wishes to explore Christianity or to deepen his or her faith. Please email Father Cheng at PCheng@SaintThomasChurch.org if you would like to attend the class. A handy postcard is available in the narthex.

For regular email updates on the life of the parish and notices from the Rector, please contact Fr. Moretz at MMoretz@SaintThomasChurch.org, or text STC5THAVE to 22828. For more information about the parish's Adult Christian Education program, please contact Fr. Cheng, Theologian in Residence, at PCheng@SaintThomasChurch.org. For regular email updates on Adult Christian Education, please text THEOLOGY to 22828.

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