



Sing, O daughter of Zion;
 Shout aloud, O Israel!
 Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,
 O Daughter of Jerusalem!
 The Lord has taken away your punishment,
 He has turned back your enemy.
 The Lord, the King of Israel, is with you;
 never again will you fear any harm.
 The Lord your God is with you,
 He is mighty to save.
 —Zeph. : , ,



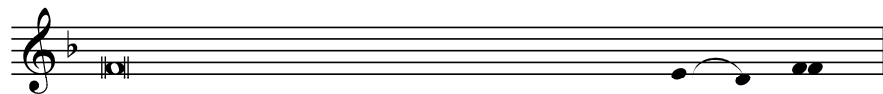
CHRISTMAS EVE

December ,
 LESSONS AND CAROLS

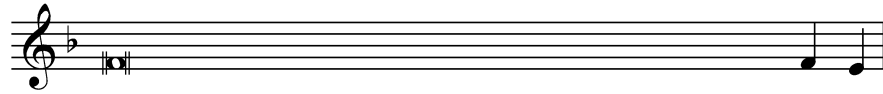
PRESERVICE MUSIC O Come, O Come, Emmanuel arr. C. Moglebust
 Lo, How a Rose

i SERVICE OF LIGHT

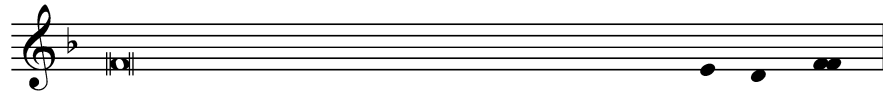
Is. : a; John : ; Is. : b;
 John : b; Is. : ; John : NIV



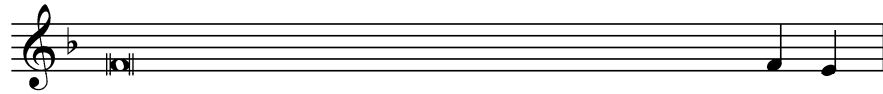
L. The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.



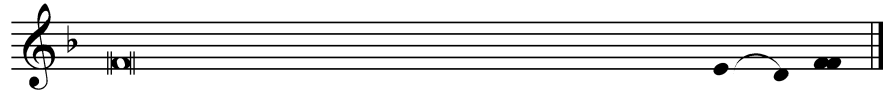
C. The light shines in the darkness,
 but the darkness has not understood it.



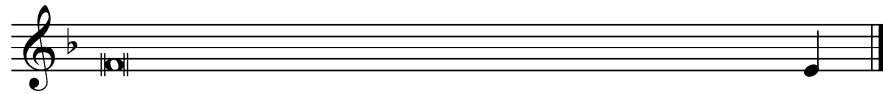
L. On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.



C. We have seen His glory, the glory of the
 one and only Son who came from the Fa - ther.



L. For to us a child is born, to us a Son is giv - en.



C. In Him was life, and that life was the light of men.

Joyous Light of Glory
(*Phos hilaron*) was sung by
rd Century Christians as
candles were lit to illumine
the catacombs in which
they were forced to wor-
ship.



Now, what is the kingdom
of God? The answer is:
... that God sent His Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord, into
the world to redeem and
deliver us from the devil's
power and to bring us to
Himself and reign over us
as king of righteousness, of
life and salvation, defend-
ing us from sin, death and
an evil conscience. And,
further, that God gave us
His Holy Spirit to teach
us, through His holy
Word, and by his power to
enlighten and strengthen
us in faith. We pray that
all this may be realized by
us, and that we may so
honor His name through
His holy Word and our
Christian life that we ...
may abide and daily grow
therein; that it may be
accepted and followed
among others and advance
in power throughout the
world; and that thus, led
by the Holy Spirit, many
may enter the kingdom of
grace and become partak-
ers of the blessings of
redemption, and thus we
may all remain together
forever in this one king-
dom which has now made
its appearance among us.

—M. Luther



L. Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



C. of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bles - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the



set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.



We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:



You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -



ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life; -



- the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

L. Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who led Your
people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.

A wonderful mystery is revealed today:
The two natures are renewed:
God has become man.
That which He was, He remained,
And that which He was not, He assumed:
Suffering neither mixture nor division.

—Ancient liturgical text



Gentle Mary laid her child
Lowly in a manger;
There He lay, the Unde-
filed,
To the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a
place,
Can He be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the
race
Who have found His
favor.

Gentle Mary laid her child
Lowly in a manger.
He is still the Unde-
filed
But no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble
birth,
Beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the
earth;
Hail the King of glory!

—J.S. Cook (-)



Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



C. A - men.

HYMN

Once in Royal David's City
Stanzas & : sung by the choir
Stanza - : sung by all

THE FIRST LESSON Genesis : -

L. O Lord, have mercy on us.

C. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

O Jesus, So Sweet

J. S. Bach

COLLECT

L. Almighty God, You most wonderfully created human nature and yet more wonderfully redeemed it. Grant that in Your mercy we may be conformed to the image of Him who came to share our humanity, Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C. Amen.

HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

✱ ✱ ✱

THE SECOND LESSON Isaiah : -

L. O Lord, have mercy on us.

C. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

See amid the Winter's Snow

Text: E. Caswell

Music: J. Goss

COLLECT

L. O God, our Maker and Redeemer, who wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature, grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C. Amen.



The wolf will live with
the lamb,
the leopard will lie
down with the goat,
the calf and the lion
and the yearling
together;
and a little child will
lead them.

— Isaiah :



We praise You, Jesus, at
Your birth,
Clothed in flesh You
came to earth.
The virgin bears a
sinless boy,
And all the angels sing
for joy!
Alleluia!

—M. Luther

HYMN

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

✻ ✻ ✻

THE THIRD LESSON Isaiah : -

L. O Lord, have mercy on us.
C. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Lift Up Your Heads

G. F. Handel

COLLECT

L. O God, because You once caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, grant that we who have known the mystery of that Light here on earth may come to the full measure of its joys in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C. **Amen.**

HYMN

What Child is This

✻ ✻ ✻

THE FOURTH LESSON Luke : -

L. O Lord, have mercy on us.
C. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Gabriel, You Brought to Mary Text: F. Samuel Janzow
Setting: P. Bouman, arr. K. Hildebrand

COLLECT

L. Most merciful God, You gave Your eternal Word to become incarnate of the pure Virgin. Grant Your people grace to put away fleshly lusts, that they may be ready for Your visitation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C. **Amen.**

HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem

✻ ✻ ✻

THE FIFTH LESSON Luke : -

L. O Lord, have mercy on us.
C. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Still, Still, Still

Arr. R. Wetzler



O Jesus Christ,
Thy manger is
My paradise at which my
soul reclineth.
For there, O Lord,
Doth lie the Word
Made flesh for us; herein
Thy grace forth
shineth.

He whom the sea
And wind obey
Doth come to serve the
sinner in great meek-
ness.

Thou, God's own Son,
With us art one,
Dost join us and our chil-
dren in our weak-
ness.

Thou Christian heart,
Whoe'er thou art,
Be of good cheer and let
no sorrow move
thee!

For God's own Child,
In mercy mild,
Joins thee to Him; how
greatly God must
love thee!

—P. Gerhardt
(-)



COLLECT

L. Grant, almighty God, that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in human flesh may set us free, who through sin are held in bondage; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C. **Amen.**

HYMN

Away in a Manger

✠ ✠ ✠

THE SIXTH LESSON

Luke : -

L. O Lord, have mercy on us.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

This Day is Such a Joyful Day

G. J. Werner

COLLECT

L. O God, who made Your only begotten Son the Savior of all people and gave Him the name Jesus, mercifully grant that we who worship His name on earth may joyfully behold Him in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C. **Amen.**

HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

✠ ✠ ✠

THE SEVENTH LESSON

John : -

L. O Lord, have mercy on us.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Stanza : sung by the choir

Stanzas & : sung by all

Stanza : sung by the choir

Stanza : sung by all

SERMON



OFFERING

The Glory of the Father

E. Hovland

Christ Is Born

A
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!



LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

The ushers will light the candles of the worshipers nearest to the aisle of each pew. Dip only the unlit candle when lighting your candle from your neighbor's.

HYMN

Silent Night

*After the hymn is introduced by the handbells and flute,
please join in singing as the handbells play.*

- C. 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;
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.

LORD'S PRAYER

- i C. 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.

COLLECT

- L. O God, as You make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of Your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, grant that we, who joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C. Amen.

O rejoice, ye Christians,
 loudly,
 For our joy has now
 begun;
 Wondrous things our
 God has done.
 Tell abroad His good-
 ness proudly,
 Who our race has hon-
 ored thus,
 That He deigns to dwell
 with us.

Lord, how shall I thank
 Thee rightly?
 I acknowledge that by
 Thee
 I am saved eternally.
 Let me not forget it
 lightly,
 But to Thee at all times
 cleave
 And my heart true
 peace receive.

Jesus, guard and guide
 Thy members,
 Fill them with Thy
 boundless grace,
 Hear their prayers in
 ev'ry place.
 Fan to flame faith's
 glowing embers;
 Grant all Christians, far
 and near,
 Holy peace, a glad new
 year!

Joy, O joy, beyond all
 gladness,
 Christ has done away
 with sadness!
 Hence, all sorrow and
 repining,
 For the Sun of Grace is
 shining!

—C. Keimann
 (-)



BENEDICTION

L. The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C. **Amen.**

The candles are extinguished.

POSTLUDE

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Arr. R. Callahan

✠ *Soli Deo Gloria!* ✠

SERVANTS OF THE WORD

Preacher
 Liturgist
 Lector
 Organist/Choir Director
 Choir
 Accompanist
 Soloists

Handbells

Trumpet

French Horn
 Euphonium
 Flute

Clarinet

Oboe
 Bassoon
 Strings

Elders

Rev. Charles P. St-Onge
 Rev. J. Bart Day
 Rev. Thomas Obersat
 Cantor Janet Muth
 MLC Adult Choir
 Marcheta Beasley
 James Swanson
 Jonah Day
 MLC Handbell Choir
 Hilary Murray, Tiffany Engler
 Joshua Saenz
 Anastasia Murray
 Nathan Hunt
 Philip Swanson
 Hilary Murray
 Rachael Hunt
 Mary Swanson
 Diane Garner
 Michael Staub
 Linda Steinbrueck
 Maryann Murray
 Charlotte Hunt
 Karl Swanson
 Divisi Strings

John Threet
 Brian Guske

The Service of Lessons and Carols

Our Festival of Lessons and Carols is patterned after a service first held at King's College Chapel on Christmas Eve . It was planned by Eric Milner-White, who at the age of thirty-four had just been appointed Dean of King's after experience as an army chaplain which had convinced him that the Church of England needed more imaginative worship. A revision of the Order of Service was made in , involving rearrangement of the lessons, and from that date the service has always begun with the hymn "Once in Royal David's City". The backbone of the service, the lessons and the prayers, has remained virtually unchanged.

The original service was, in fact, adapted from an Order drawn up by E.W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, for use at p.m. on Christmas Eve in the wooden shed which then served as his cathedral in Truro. A.C. Benson recalled: "My father arranged from ancient sources a little service for Christmas Eve – nine carols and nine tiny lessons, which were read by various officers of the Church, beginning with a chorister, and ending, through the different grades, with the Bishop." The suggestion had come from G.H.S. Walpole, later Bishop of Edinburgh.

Almost immediately other churches adapted the service for their own use. A wider frame began to grow when the service was first broadcast in and, with the exception of , it has been broadcast annually, even during the Second World War. In these and other ways the service has become public property. From time to time the College receives copies of services held, for example, in the West Indies or the Far East and these show how widely the tradition has spread.

Wherever the service is heard and however it is adapted, whether the music is provided by choir or congregation, the pattern and strength of the service, as Dean Milner-White pointed out, derive from the lessons and not the music. "The main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God ..." seen "through the windows and words of the Bible."

Adapted from *Nine Lessons and Carols: History of the Service*. King's College Chapel, Cambridge, England