

# A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols



December 23 2018, 11:00 AM,  
Historic Sanctuary

St. Helena's Episcopal Church and School  
410 N. Main Street  
Boerne, TX. 78006  
[www.sthelenas.net](http://www.sthelenas.net)

# Welcome to St. Helena's Episcopal Church & School

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. If you are a visitor with us, we warmly welcome you to this worship service and to the vibrant life of St. Helena's community. We invite you to fill out a Guest Card found in the pew bookrack and drop it in the offering plate when it comes by. We want you to know that all baptized Christians - regardless of your denomination, tradition, age, or background - are invited and welcome to receive Holy Communion during worship. Also, pick up a blue bag as you leave today. It contains our latest newsletter and other information about St. Helena's.

## CHILD CARE

Children of all ages are always welcome in our worship services. Children's sermons are part of our worship during 9:00am and 11:00am worship services. Should you desire it, child care for children ages infants through 4 years is available during all worship services and most parish activities. The parish nurseries are located downstairs in the Parish Hall Wing. (Signs are posted)

## QUESTIONS?

For more information regarding St. Helena's Early Enrichment Program, Children & Youth Ministries, music, Bible Studies, senior ministries, baptisms, weddings, and more, please feel free to contact our clergy or staff members. More information may be found on our website at [www.sthelenas.net](http://www.sthelenas.net).

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Sunday

7:45 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite I  
9:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite II  
11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist Rite II  
10:10 A.M. Sunday School for all ages:  
Preschool - 2<sup>nd</sup> Room C Wendler Hall  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> - The Rock Room  
Middle and High School - Youth House  
Adults - Parish Hall

### Wednesday

10:00 A.M. Service of Public Healing  
and Holy Eucharist

**Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols  
for Christmas**

**Officiant**

The Rev. David G. Read

**St. Helena's Bells**

Directed by

Dr. Susan Matteson

**The St. Helena's Chancel Choir**

Directed by

Whit Matteson

**SHOCK**

**St. Helena's Outstanding Choir Kids**

Directed by

Lynne Boyers

**Organist**

Dr. Susan Matteson

*A worship service in celebration of the birth of  
our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*

**Prelude:**

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| ❖ O Sing a Song of Bethlehem<br>St. Helena''''s'' Bells  | Vaughan Williams/ Eithun |
| ❖ Ding, Dong, Merrily on High<br>St. Helena''''s'' Bells | French Carol             |
| ❖ Veni, Emmanuel<br>St. Helena''''s'' Bells              | Margaret Cowen           |

*The bell in the tower tolls.*



Opening Carol

*Once in Royal David's City*

Hymnal 102

**SHOCK:** 1. 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:** 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, the scorned, the lowly,  
lived on earth our Savior holy.

**All:** 3. We, like Mary, rest confounded  
that a stable should display  
heaven's Word, the world's creator,  
cradled there on Christmas Day,  
yet this child, our Lord and brother,  
brought us love for one another.

**All:** 4. For he is our lifelong pattern;  
daily, when on earth he grew,  
he was tempted, scorned, rejected,  
tears and smiles like us he knew.  
Thus he feels for all our sadness,  
and he shares in all our gladness.

**All:** 5. And our eyes at last shall see him,  
through his own redeeming love;  
for that child who seemed so helpless  
is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on  
to the place where he is gone.

**All:** 6. Not in that poor lowly stable,  
with the oxen standing round,  
we shall see him; but in heaven,  
where his saints his throne surround:  
Christ, revealed to faithful eye,  
set at God's right hand on high.

Tune: Irby

*Officiant*

Let us pray.

BELOVED IN CHRIST, be it this season our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels; 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.

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; and let us make this Church, dedicated to his servant, St. Helena, glad with our carols of praise:

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

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; all 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 this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

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

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.

### *Lessons and Carols*

**First Lesson:** Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

*God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise  
the serpent's head.*

**Choir Anthem:** *The Truth From Above*

arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

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.

Then after this 'twas God's own choice  
To place them both in paradise,  
There to remain from evil free  
Except they ate of such a tree.

But they did eat, which was a sin,  
And thus their ruin did begin;  
Ruined themselves, both you and me,  
And all of their posterity.

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.



**Second Lesson:** Genesis 22:15-18

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

**Carol:** *Angels from the realms*

Hymnal 93

- 1 Angels, from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye, who sang creation's story,  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

*Refrain*

*Come and worship,  
come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.*

- 2 Shepherds in the field abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with you is now residing;  
yonder shines the infant Light:

*Refrain*

- 3 Sages, leave your contemplations;  
brighter visions beam afar:  
seek the great Desire of nations;  
ye have seen his natal star:

*Refrain*

- 4 Saints before the altar bending,  
watching long in hope and fear,  
suddenly the Lord, descending,  
in his temple shall appear:

*Refrain*

Tune: Regent Square

**Third Lesson:** Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

*The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.*

**Carol:** *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

Hymnal 89

- 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 men, from heaven's all-gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.
- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o'er its Babel-sounds the blessed angels sing.
- 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;  
beneath the heavenly hymn have rolled two thousand years of wrong;  
and warring humankind hears not the tidings which they bring;  
O hush the noise and cease your strife and hear the angels sing!
- 4 For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,  
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
and the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

Tune: Carol



**Fourth Lesson:** Isaiah 11:1-4, 6-9

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*

**Choir Anthem:** *A Spotless Rose*

Ethan McGrath

A spotless Rose is blowing,  
Sprung from a tender root,  
Of ancient seers' foreshowing,  
Of Jesse promised fruit;  
Its fairest bud unfolds to light  
Amid the cold, cold winter,  
And in the dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing,  
Whereof Isaiah said,  
Is from its sweet root springing  
In Mary, purest Maid;  
For through our God's great love and might  
The blessed Babe she bare us  
In a cold winter's night. Alleluia.

**Fifth Lesson:** Luke 1:26-35, 38

*The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

**Choir Anthem:** *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*

arr. Anthony Prower

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
"All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,  
Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

"For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,  
All generations laud and honor thee,  
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold.  
Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,  
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,  
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name."  
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born  
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,  
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:  
"Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

**Sixth Lesson:** Luke 2:1, 3-7

*St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

**Choir Anthem:**            *O Little one sweet*

J. S. Bach

O little one sweet, O little one mild,  
Thy Father's purpose thou hast fulfilled;  
Thou cam'st from heav'n to mortal ken,  
Equal to be with us poor men,  
O little one sweet, O little one mild.

O little one sweet, O little one mild,  
With joy thou hast the whole world filled;  
Thou camest here from heav'n's domain,  
To bring men comfort in their pain,  
O little one sweet, O little one mild.

O little one sweet, O little one mild,  
In thee love's beauties are all distilled;  
Then light in us thy love's bright flame,  
That we may give thee back the same,  
O little one sweet, O little one mild.

O little one sweet, O little one mild,  
Help us to do as thou hast willed,  
Lo, all we have belongs to thee!  
Ah, keep us in our fealty!  
O little one sweet, O little one mild.

Choir Anthem: *Fum, Fum, Fum*  
SHOCK

ed. Jay Althouse

On December five and twenty, fum, fum, fum.  
Veinticinco de diciembre, fum, fum, fum.  
In the town of Bethlehem there came a baby meek and mild.  
In a manger bed so lowly was a tiny King so holy, fum, fum, fum.

Tiny birds from in the woods sing fum, fum, fum.  
Pajaritos de los bosques, fum, fum, fum.  
And they left their nests and came to see the Son of God so dear,  
Where they found the baby sleeping  
while the shepherds watch are keeping, fum, fum, fum.

Tiny stars up in the sky sing fum, fum, fum.  
Estrellitas de los cielos, fum, fum, fum.  
They will lead the way for wise men on a journey from afar.  
And instead of glowing lightly ev'ry star will shine so brightly, fum, fum, fum.



**Seventh Lesson:** Luke 2:8-16

*The shepherds go to the manger.*

**Carol:** *God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen*

Hymnal 105

1 God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
let nothing you dismay;  
remember Christ our Savior  
was born on Christmas Day,  
to save us all from Satan's power  
when we were gone astray.

*Refrain: O tidings of comfort and joy,  
comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy.*

2 From God our heavenly Father  
a blessed angel came  
and unto certain shepherds  
brought tidings of the same:  
how that in Bethlehem was born  
the Son of God by name.

*Refrain*

3 "Fear not, then," said the angel,  
"Let nothing you affright;  
this day is born a Savior  
of a pure virgin bright,  
to free all those who trust in him  
from Satan's power and might."

*Refrain*

4 Now to the Lord sing praises,  
all you within this place,  
and with true love and charity  
each other now embrace;  
this holy tide of Christmas  
doth bring redeeming grace.

*Refrain*

Tune: God Rest You Merry

Alleluia.

See, amid the winter's snow,  
Born for us on earth below,  
See the tender Lamb appears,  
Promised from eternal years.

*Refrain*

*Hail, thou ever-blessed morn,  
Hail redemption's happy dawn,  
Sing through all Jerusalem:  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."  
Alleluia.*

Lo, within a manger lies  
He who built the lofty skies,  
He, who, throned in light sublime,  
Sits amid the cherubim.

*Refrain*

Sacred infant, all divine,  
What a tender love was Thine,  
Thus to come from highest bliss,  
Down to such a world as this.

*Refrain*

**Eighth Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12**

*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.*

**Carol:**                    *We Three Kings Of Orient Are*

Hymnal 128

1 We three kings of Orient are,  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.

*Refrain:*

*O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright;  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light!*

2 Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again,  
King for ever, ceasing never  
over us all to reign.

*Refrain*

3 Frankincense to offer have I:  
incense owns a Deity nigh;  
prayer and praising, gladly raising,  
worship him, God Most High.

*Refrain*

4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

*Refrain*

5 Glorious now behold him arise,  
King and God and Sacrifice;  
heaven sings alleluia:  
alleluia the earth replies.

*Refrain*

Tune: Three Kings of Orient

**Choir Anthem: *Sussex Carol***  
Chancel Choir and SHOCK

Elaine Hagenberg

On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring;  
On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring;  
News of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad;  
Then why should men on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad;  
When from our sin he set us free, all for to gain our liberty.

When sin departs before his grace, then life and health come in its place.  
When sin departs before his grace, then life and health come in its place;  
Angels and men with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night;  
Then out of darkness we have light which made the angels sing this night:  
"Glory to God in highest heav'n, Now and for evermore," Amen!



*The congregation shall stand for the ninth lesson.*

*Ninth Lesson: John 1:1-14*

*The Rev. David G. Read*

*St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

*People* *And with thy spirit.*

*Then all shall kneel.*

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*The Collect*

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.**

**Carol:** *O Come All Ye Faithful*

Hymnal 83

- 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;

*Refrain:*

*O come, let us adore him,*

*O come, let us adore him,*

*O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.*

2 God from God, Light from Light eternal,  
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
only-begotten Son of the Father;

*Refrain*

3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God, glory in the highest;

*Refrain*

4 See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps;

*Refrain*

5 Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,  
we would embrace thee, with love and awe;  
who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?

*Refrain*

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

*Refrain*

Tune: Adeste fideles

### *The Dismissal*

*Officiant* Let us go forth in the name of Christ!

*People* ***Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!***

**Postlude:** *Greensleeves*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

The Voices of the St. Helena's Episcopal Church Chancel Choir

Lynne Boyers  
Ellen Connelly  
Christopher Giles  
Ann Kiecke  
Judy McGrew

Victoria McMillion  
Millie McVey  
Chris Ortiz  
Richard Watts

The Voices of SHOCK

Paige Ammann  
Lily Hart  
Ainsley Purcell

Audrey Tidwell  
Cameron Walker

The Ringers of St.Helen's Bells

Ann Kiecke  
Whit Matteson  
Susan Matteson, Director

Judy McGrew  
Gail Simpler  
Richard Watts

Chancel Choir Director  
Whit Matteson

Organist  
Dr. Susan Matteson

Acolytes

Will Keith

Amelia Keith

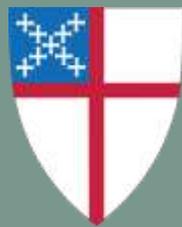
Ushers

Ron Frishmuth

Bob Vincent

A Hymn for Christmas Day  
John Byrom

In David's city, Shepherds, ye shall find  
The Long foretold Redeemer of mankind;  
Wrapped up in swaddling clothes, the Babe divine  
Lies in a manger; this shall be your sign.  
He spake, and straightway the celestial choir  
In hymns of joy, unknown before, conspire.  
The praises of redeeming love they sung,  
And Heaven's whole orb with Hallelujahs rung.  
God's highest glory was their anthem still;  
Peace upon earth and mutual good will.  
To Bethlehem straight the enlightened shepherds ran,  
To see the wonder God had wrought for man;  
And found, with Joseph and the blessed Maid,  
Her Son, the Saviour, in a manger laid.  
Amazed, the wondrous story they proclaim,  
The first apostles of His infant fame.  
While Mary keeps, and ponders in her heart  
The Heavenly vision, which the swains impart,  
They to their flocks, still praising God, return,  
And their glad hearts within their bosoms burn.  
Let us, like these good shepherds then, employ  
Our grateful voices to proclaim the joy:  
Like Mary, let us ponder in our mind  
God's wondrous love in saving lost mankind.



**ST. HELENA'S CHURCH AND SCHOOL**  
P.O. Box 1765 | 410 N. Main St. | Boerne, Texas 78006  
Phone: 830-249-3228 | [www.sthelenas.net](http://www.sthelenas.net)  
The Rev. David G. Read, *Rector*