



## MESSIAH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Lessons & Carols

December 28th, 2025 11 am  
Holy Communion, Rite Two

Messiah's Lessons and Carols Liturgy is patterned after Truro Cathedral's Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols in Truro England. The readings recount salvation history. We abbreviate the number of readings to five (traditionally nine), so we can also include communion, since it's our primary Sunday worship. Each reading is followed by a Christmas carol, hymn or choir anthem. Many folks look forward to this service, delighting in the opportunity to continue singing Christmas carols at a time when many in the culture around us have moved on.



*An Episcopal Church in the Anglican Communion*

# Prelude

You could've come like a mighty storm  
With all the strength of a hurricane  
You could've come like a forest fire  
With the power of Heaven in Your flame

(Chorus) But You came like a winter snow  
Quiet and soft and slow  
Falling from the sky in the night  
To the earth below

You could've swept in like a tidal wave  
Or an ocean to ravish our hearts  
You could have come through like a roaring flood  
To wipe away the things we've scarred (Chorus)

(Bridge) Ooh no, Your voice wasn't in a bush burning  
No, Your voice wasn't in a rushing wind  
It was still, it was small, it was hidden

Oh You came like a winter snow  
Quiet and soft and slow  
Falling from the sky in the night  
To the earth below

Oh, yeah, You came falling  
From the sky in the night to the earth below

Words and music: Audrey Assad  
2009 River Oaks Music Company CCLI Song #5492031 – CCLI License # 167557

*Please stand.*

## Once In Royal David's City

## Hymnal #102

<p>၁. လောကဝတ်းဘဝရုံဘမ္ပနနံ၊ ထင်္ဂါမံးဘလင်္ဂါတပု၊ မိတဂါဘိနိဘိတမိနံ၊ ပဒ်လောကီမံးဆင်ကရိုးပု၊ ဘိတမံးပုဒ်နိမံးရံ၊ မိသင်မုနိယုနိရံရံ၊ ၂. ပာလိသလောမုနိထူးနံ၊ မုနိယုဒ်ကိတမုနိရံ၊ ဘိနိလောကီမံးအလင်္ဂါပုနံ၊ မံလောကီမံးဆင်ကရိုးပု၊ ဘိနိသကိးပုဒ်နိယနိမိ၊ မုနိယုနိရံကိတမုနိရံ၊</p>	<p>၃. မိဘနိမံးမံးအခါနံ၊ ဒိကနိယုယိနိဘမိနံ၊ ဘိနိသံးကရိတမိနံ၊ ပုဒ်ကရိတမိနံ၊ မိပမံးမိနိထွေအံ၊ ဘိနိယုယိနိမိပမံးကရိ၊</p>	<p>၅. မိသးဘိယုနိရံကိတမုနိ၊ မုနိကိတမုနိရံ၊ ဘိနိသကိးကိတမုနိ၊ ဆာပုဆုအလင်္ဂါလောကီ၊ လဲလောကီကိတမုနိ၊ ဆာပုဆုအဘိနိဘလင်္ဂါ၊</p>
<p>၄. နိပဝနံဘိတမုနိ၊ ယုနိရံကိတမုနိရံ၊ မိဒ်ပုကိတမုနိ၊ ဘိနိသကိးကိတမုနိ၊ သးအုပုဒ်ပုဒ်သးအု၊ သးအုပုဒ်ပုဒ်သးအု၊</p>	<p>၆. ပကထာနိဘိတမုနိ၊ ဘိနိသကိးကိတမုနိ၊ ဆာပုဆုအဘိနိဘလင်္ဂါ၊ သးအုပုဒ်ပုဒ်သးအု၊ သးအုပုဒ်ပုဒ်သးအု၊</p>	<p>၇. ပကထာနိဘိတမုနိ၊ ဘိနိသကိးကိတမုနိ၊ ဆာပုဆုအဘိနိဘလင်္ဂါ၊ သးအုပုဒ်ပုဒ်သးအု၊ သးအုပုဒ်ပုဒ်သးအု၊</p>

*Please kneel as you are able.*

Leader Beloved in Christ, be it this Christmastide 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 Lordship, glad with our songs and carols of praise.

But first let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and health over all the earth; for unity and goodwill within the Church he came to build, and especially in this city of St. Paul, and in the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota. 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:

**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.  
**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 stand.*

## Of The Father's Love Begotten

**Hymnal #82**

## FIRST READING

A Reading from Genesis 3:1-15 found in the Old Testament on page 2.

After the reading:

Reader The word of the Lord.

**All** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand.*

## Beautiful Things

*Verses*

1. All this pain. — I won-der if I'll ev - er find my way; —  
2. All this earth. Could all that is lost ev - er be found; —  
3. All a - round hope is spring-ing up from this old ground.

4 — I won-der if my life could real-ly change at all. — *To V. 2*  
— could a gar-den come up from the ground at all? — *To Chorus*  
— Out of cha-os, life is be-ing found in You. — *To Chorus*

*Chorus*

9 You make beau-ti-ful things, You make beau-ti-ful things out of the dust. —

13 You make beau-ti-ful things, You make beau-ti-ful things out of us. — *2. To Chorus II 1. To V. 3*

19 You make beau-ti-ful things, You make beau-ti-ful things out of the dust. — *2. Chorus II*

23 You make beau-ti-ful things, You make beau-ti-ful things out of us. — *Fine*

27 *Instrumental*

31 *Bridge* You make me new, You are mak - ing me new. — *Repeat Bridge, then D.S. (Chorus II) al Fine*

Words & Music: Lisa & Michael Gungor; ©2009 Used by Permission CCLI #167557



## SECOND READING

A Reading from Isaiah 35:1-10 found in the Old Testament on page 663.

After the reading:

Reader The word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

*Lo, How A Rose E're Blooming*

**Hymnal #81**

## THIRD READING

A Reading from Isaiah 7:10-15 found in the Old Testament on page 636.

After the reading:

Reader The word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

*God With Us (Our Deliverer)*

1. Oh, You've come to bring peace, to be Love,  
2. Oh, You've come to be Hope to this world,

to be near - er to us. You've come to bring life,  
for Your hon - or and name. And You've come to take sin,

to be Light, to shine bright - er in us. Oh, Em -  
to bear shame, and to con - quer the grave.

man - u - - el, God with us.

*Chorus*  
Our De - liv - er - er, You are Sav - ior. In Your pres - ence we  
find our strength o - ver ev - 'ry - thing, our Re - demp - tion,  
God with us, You are God with us.

*Bridge*  
You are here. You are ho - ly. We are stand - ing in Your glo - ry.  
in Your glo - ry, Lord.

1 (To V. 2)  
2 D.S. (Chorus)

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Please stand.

## Emmanuel (Hallowed Manger Ground)

1. What hope we hold this star-lit night: A King is born in  
2. What fear we felt in the si-lent age, four-hun-dred years can

Beth-le - hem. Our jour-ney long, we seek the light that  
He be found? But bro-ken by a ba - by's cry; Re -

leads to the hal - low-ed man - ger ground.  
joice in the hal - low-ed man - ger ground.

*Chorus*

Em-man - u - el, Em-man - u - el, God in - car - nate  
here to dwell. Em-man - u - el, Em-man - u - el,  
Praise His name Em - man - u - el.

3. The Son of God, here, born to bleed; a crown of thorns would  
pierce His brow. And we be-held this of-fer-ing, ex - alt-ed now, the  
King of kings, Praise God for the hal - low-ed man - ger ground.  
Praise His name Em - man - u - el.

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## FOURTH READING

A Reading from Hebrews 1:1-12 found in the New Testament on page 218.

After the reading:

Reader The word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

## Joy To The World

Hymnal #100

All stand.

THE HOLY GOSPEL (Luke 2:15-21)

Bible NT p. 58

Please turn in your pew Bible to NT p. # 58.

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to ...

**All Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the reading:

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## Away In A Manger

A - way in a man - ger, no crib for His bed, the lit - tle Lord  
Lord Je - sus grew up like a plant strong and tall; And He walked a -  
Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay close by me for -

Je - sus laid down His sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where He  
- lone to a cross for us all. While He made no cry - ing, mine own sin He  
- ev - er and love me I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in they ten - der



(Words: Traditional carol, stanza 2; S.Drontle b.1975; Music: melody J. Murray, 1841-1905)

## THE NICENE CREED

BCP p. 358

*Please turn in the Book of Common Prayer, p. #358, as we profess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.*

**All We believe in one God...**  
**... and the life of the world to come. Amen**

## THE PEACE

BCP p. 360

*Leader* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*Maw Ywa, ata ghu ta poe, oh taw thu da kay.*

**All And also with you.**  
**Maw oh taw, na thar da kay.**

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### THE OFFERTORY

*Leader* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

*The bread and wine are brought forward and the offering is received.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

### *All The Poor And Powerless*

All the poor and powerless,  
and all the lost and lonely,  
and all the thieves will come confess  
and know that You are holy,  
and know that You are holy.

And all will sing out, "Hallelujah!"  
And we will cry out "Hallelujah!"

All the hearts who are content,  
and all who feel unworthy,  
and all who hurt with nothing left  
will know that You are holy.

And all will sing out, "Hallelujah!"  
And we will cry out "Hallelujah!"  
And all will sing out, "Hallelujah!"  
And we will cry out "Hallelujah!"

Shout it.  
Go on scream it from the mountains,  
go on and tell it to the masses  
that He is God. (Repeat twice)

Shout it.  
Go on scream it from the mountains,  
go on and tell it to the masses  
that He is God. Yeah.

We will sing out, "Hallelujah!"  
And we will cry out "Hallelujah!"

Shout it.  
Go on scream it from the mountains,  
go on and tell it to the masses  
that He is God. (Repeat)

from All Sons and Daughters album "Brokenness Aside"  
[www.praisecharts.com/20798](http://www.praisecharts.com/20798)

All stand as offering is brought forward.

Leader All things come from you, O God.

All And from your own have we given you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C    BCP p. 369

Please turn in the Book of Common Prayer to p. # 369

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And al - so with you.

Celebrant

Lift up your hearts.

People

We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Leader God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy...  
... proclaim with them your glory, in their enduring hymn.

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, God of power and might,\_\_\_\_

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of power and might\_\_\_\_

hea - ven and earth are full,\_\_\_\_ full\_\_\_\_ of your glo - ry

Ho - san - na in the high - est Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes\_\_\_\_ in the name of the Lord.\_\_\_\_

Ho - san - na in the high - est Ho san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr: Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Please kneel as you are able.

Leader And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and...  
...Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice  
of thanksgiving.

All We celebrate his death and resurrection,  
as we await the day of his coming.

Leader Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and...  
... gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN**



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Musical score for 'The Lord's Prayer' with lyrics: Our Fa - ther, Our Fa - ther, in hea - ven, hal - lowed be, hal - lowed be your Name, your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we for - give, for - give those, those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - - - men.

Music: Senzeni na (What have we done?), South African; set to words of Mass by Betty C. Pulkingham (Freedom Mass); Used by permission.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

BCP p. 364-366

Please turn in the Book of Common Prayer to p. #364.

Leader Alleluia, Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Leader The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance ... and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are invited to kneel in prayer at the Communion. The ushers will release you, one pew at a time, to kneel at the Altar Rail to receive Holy Communion. All baptized believers in Jesus are welcome to receive the Eucharist. A special note to visitors: If you are accustomed to receiving Holy Communion in your home Church, no matter what its denomination, you are also welcome to receive Holy Communion. After receiving the bread, one is free to receive the chalice. If you would prefer to receive the bread only, simply cross your arms in front of you. And, if you would prefer to receive a blessing only, please also signify by crossing your arms. Thank you.

Healing team members are available for prayer during communion.

COMMUNION MUSIC

It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

Hymnal #89

Four columns of Burmese lyrics for the hymn 'It Came Upon A Midnight Clear'.

In The Bleak Mid-Winter

Hymnal #112



## *Build My Life*

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing  
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring  
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name  
Jesus the only one who could ever save  
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You  
We live for You

Holy there is no one like You  
There is none beside You  
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are  
And fill me with Your heart  
And lead me in Your love to those around me

I will build my life upon Your love  
It is a firm foundation  
I will put my trust in You alone  
And I will not be shaken

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*All stand.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**BCP p. 365**

*Please turn in the Book of Common Prayer to p. #365.*

*Leader* Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members  
... with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord.

**All    Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

BCP p. 366

*The Celebrant offers a blessing to the people in the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*

*All stand.*

## CLOSING HYMN

*Go Tell It On The Mountain*

**Hymnal #99**

## THE DISMISSAL

BCP p. 366

*Please turn in the Book of Common Prayer to p. #366.*

*Leader* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**All    Thanks be to God.**

Postlude



*An Episcopal Church in the Anglican Communion*