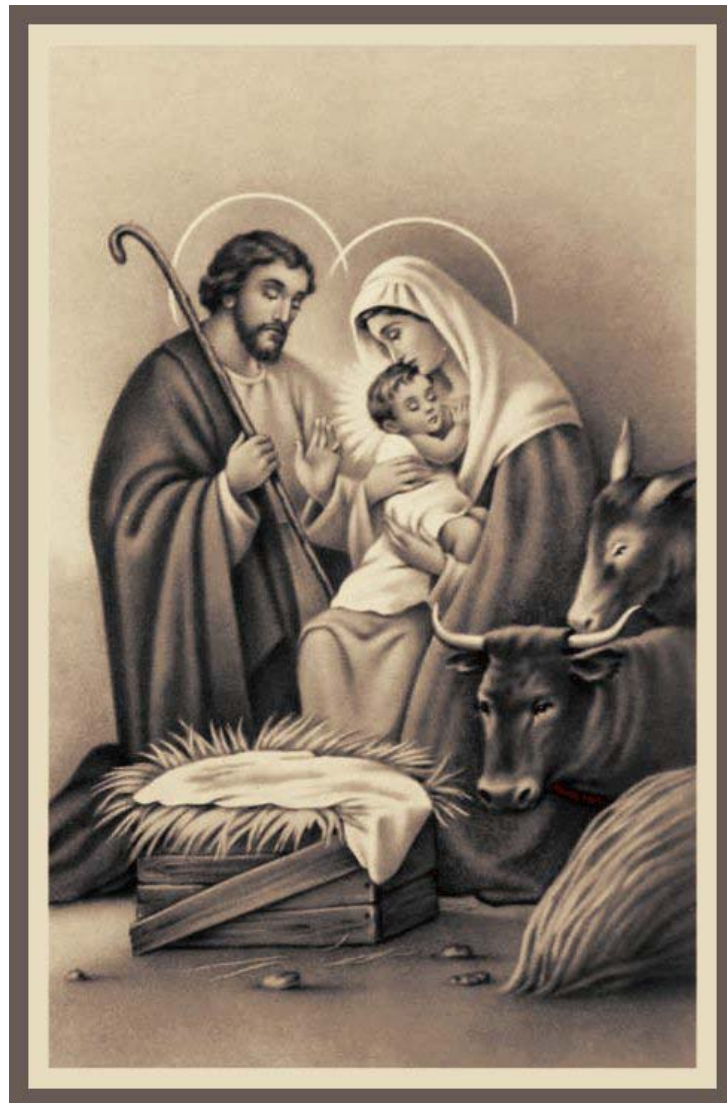


# **The Worship of God**

**Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church  
Christmas Eve  
Saturday, December 24, 2011  
5:00 P.M.**



**A Service of Lessons, Carols, and Communion**

## A Service of Lessons, Carols, and Communion

Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

“We Wait in Hope”

Kenny Lamm

PASTOR: Advent is a time to proclaim.

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

PASTOR: We proclaim a hope that is stronger than any trial.

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

PASTOR: We proclaim a victory that is stronger than any defeat.

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

PASTOR: We proclaim a peace that is stronger than any conflict.

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

PASTOR: We proclaim a freedom that is stronger than any bondage.

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

Lighting the Candles

Refrain

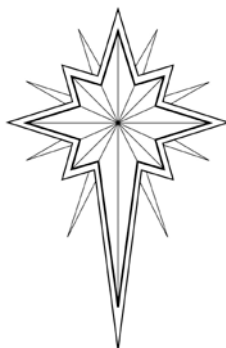
“We Wait in Hope”

We proclaim with hope for the morning Light,  
For the love of Christ to illuminate the night.  
We proclaim with joy for the Savior’s birth;  
We proclaim with hope for peace on earth,  
Peace on earth.

CCLI #429477

Prayer

Mark Gaskins



Hymn

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Congregation

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, 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 Bidding Prayer  
The Lord's Prayer

Mark Gaskins

The First Lesson

Genesis 3:8-15

Mark Gaskins

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

Carol

“Child in the Manger”

Congregation

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

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

JoAnn Gaskins

*The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.*

Carol

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Congregation

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.

The Third Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-9

Mark Gaskins

*The peace that Christ will bring us is foreshown.*

Carol

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

Congregation

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 heav’n’s all-gracious King!”  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

For lo, the days are hast’ning 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 send back the song  
Which now the angels sing.



The Fourth Lesson

Luke 1:26-35, 38

JoAnn Gaskins

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Virgin Mary.*

Carol

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

Congregation

Gentle Mary laid her Child  
Lowly in a manger;  
There He lay, the undefiled,  
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 undefiled,  
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!

The Fifth Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Mark Gaskins

*Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

Carol

“Silent Night! Holy Night!”

Congregation

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,  
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.

The Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:8-20

JoAnn Gaskins

*The shepherds go to the manger.*

Carol

“The First Noel”

Congregation

The first Noel, the angel did say,  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heav’nly Lord,  
That hath made heav’n and earth of naught,  
And with His blood mankind hath bought.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.

The Seventh Lesson

John 1:1-14

Mark Gaskins

*John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

Carol

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Congregation

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!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv’n:  
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

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Words of Institution

The Bread and the Cup

Carol

“Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come”

Congregation

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

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, and wonders of His love.

The Benediction

Mark Gaskins

Congregational Response

“O Holy Child”

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 Immanuel!

Postlude



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## **Historical Note**

The Service of Lessons and Carols used this evening is an adaptation of the famous Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols held at Kings College Chapel in Cambridge, England, each Christmas Eve since 1918. The original service was adapted, in turn, from an Order of Worship devised in 1880 by Bishop E. W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury. Since 1928, the Kings College Festival has been broadcast and may be heard live on Christmas Eve via the BBC and National Public Radio.

## **Worship Leaders**

Dr. Mark E. Gaskins  
Rev. Richard Wood  
Rev. Kenny Lamm  
Mrs. JoAnn Gaskins  
Mrs. Kimberly Davidson

