

Christmas Eve - Lessons and Carols via Zoom

Dec. 24, 2020 4pm

Welcome & Opening prayer- Rebekah and Morley

Rebekah and Morley: Lighting of the Advent Wreath (*words in bold are for the response of participants, please join in while muted*)

Rebekah: First we light the candle of HOPE

Morley: Because Jesus is our hope.

Rebekah: Second, we light the candle of PEACE

Morley: Because Jesus is our peace.

Rebekah: Third we light the candle of JOY

Morley: Because Jesus brings joy.

Rebekah: Fourth, we light the candle of LOVE

Morley: Because Jesus is love.

Rebekah: Finally we light the centre candle. This is the CHRIST candle

Morley: Jesus is born. Jesus has come. Jesus is our salvation.

Susan Chopp - And you will name him Jesus Luke 1:26-32

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you."

But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.

Hymn Hope is a star B of P #122 (all verses)

1. Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.

2. Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth.

Refrain:
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be
strong,
and none shall be afraid.

3. Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Saviour is born.

4. Love is a flame that burns in our heart.
Jesus has come and will never depart.

Kathy Twynam - And she laid him in a manger Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Hymn Away in a manger B of P #149 (v. 1 & 2)

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Lynne Bishop - I am bringing you good news of great joy Luke 2:8-12

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

Hymn *While shepherds watched* B of P #138 (v. 1 - 4)

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by
night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.

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:

2. 'Fear not,' said he, for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind;
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you, all human kind.

4. 'The heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid.'

Margaret Munene - Glory to God in the highest heaven Luke 2:13-14

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,
"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!"

Hymn *Hark! the herald angels sing* B of P #139 (all verses)

1. Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn 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.'

Refrain:

Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King.

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,

late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail the incarnate deity!
Pleased on earth with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

3. Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace!
Hail the sun of righteous ness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild, he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise the lost of earth,
born to give us second birth.

Janet Ottewell - They were overwhelmed with joy

Matthew 2:1-2, 5b, 9b - 10

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea."

They set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

Hymn Joy to the world B of P #153 (all verses)

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
let earth receive its King;
let every heart prepare him room
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

2. Joy to the earth! the Saviour reigns:
let us our songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

4. 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, wonders of his love.

Errol Baldeo - They saw the child with Mary Matthew 2:11

On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Hymn *What child is this B of P#161 (v. 1 & 3)*

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high;
the virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary.

Jean Fox - The prince of peace Isaiah 9:6

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Hymn *Silent night B o P #154 (all verses)*

1. 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.

2. Silent night! holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight:
glories stream from heaven afar,

heavenly hosts sing 'Hallelujah,
Christ, the Saviour is born!
Christ, the Saviour is born!'

3. 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.

Morley: Final prayer

Rebekah: Benediction