



St. Andrew's Episcopal  
Church  
Tampa, FL

A Festival  
Service of Nine

*Lessons and Carols*

Louise Lykes Ferguson Memorial Choir  
Sunday, December 22, 2024, 5p.m.

# A SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Organ Voluntary: Silent Night

*Norman Warren (b. 1934)*

TOWER BELL

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *stand*

*Irby/ arr. David Willcocks (1919–2015)*

*Stanzas 1 and 2 are sung by the choir alone, the people joining at stanza 3.*

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.

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, and mean, and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

3. And through all his wondrous childhood  
He would honor and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly maiden,  
In whose gentle arms he lay;  
Christian children all must be  
Mild, obedient, good as he.

4. For he is our childhood's pattern,  
Day by day like us he grew,  
He was little, weak and helpless,  
Tears and smiles like us he knew;  
And he feeleth for our sadness,  
And he shareth in our gladness.

5. And our eyes at last shall see him,  
Through his own redeeming love,  
For that child so dear and gentle is  
our Lord in heav'n above;  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he is gone.

6. Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see him; but in heaven, set  
at God's right hand on high;  
When like stars his children crowned  
All in white shall wait around.

*Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818–1895)*

THE BIDDING PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Officiant:* 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.

*People:* Amen.

*The Congregation sits and remains seated for the first eight lessons and the choir carols and anthems, standing for the hymns.*

INVITATORY CAROL

*J.S. Bach (1685–1750)*

O little one sweet, O little one mild, Thy Father's purpose thou hast fulfilled;  
Thou camest from heaven 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 heaven'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.

*Old German carol, trans Percy Dearmer (1867–1936)*

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-19

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

And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden. And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Reader: A Member of the Congregation

In the bleak midwinter Frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron Water like a stone;  
 Snow had fallen Snow on snow on snow, In the bleak midwinter Long, long ago.  
 Our God, Heaven cannot hold him No earth sustain; Heaven and earth shall flee away  
 When he comes to reign: In the bleak midwinter A stable place sufficed The Lord God  
 Almighty Jesus Christ. Enough for him, who cherubim Worship night and day, A breastful  
 of milk And a mangerful of hay; Enough for him, whom angels Fall down before, The ox  
 and ass and camel Which adore. What can I give him, Poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I  
 would give a lamb, If I were a wise man I would do my part, Yet what I can I give him,  
 Give him my heart.

*Christina Rossetti (1830–1894)*

## THE SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

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

And the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, and said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou has done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Reader: A Member of the Daughters of the King

HYMN 84 (*Sung by all, standing*)

*Garton*

1 Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine;  
 love was born at Christmas: star and angels gave the sign.  
 2 Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, love divine;  
 worship we our Jesus, but wherewith for sacred sign?  
 3 Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine;  
 love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.

## THE THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

*The prophet Isaiah foretells the coming of the Savior.*

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Reader: An Acolyte

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*

THE FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-3a; 4a; 6-9

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*

There shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; and shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord: With righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

Reader: A Member of the Louise Lykes Ferguson Memorial Choir

CAROL

*Andrew Carter (b. 1939)*

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing: Of Mary the mother of Jesus our King. Ave Maria. How blessed is the birth of her heavenly child, Who came to redeem us in Mary so mild. Ave Maria. The Archangel Gabriel foretold by his call The Lord of creation, and Savior of all. Ave Maria. Three Kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare, And marveled in awe at the babe in her care. Ave Maria. Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray; Sing praise to the Savior, sing endless 'Ave.' Ave Maria.

*Words paraphrased from The Venerable Bede*

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

Reader: A Verger

CAROL

*Healey Willan (1880–1968)*

What is this lovely fragrance wafting Like to the scents of flowers in spring! Shepherds, O tell us, whence such beauty, Hear you not heavenly caroling? What is this lovely fragrance wafting Like the scents of flowers in spring. What is this light so fair, so tender Breaking upon our wondering eyes? Never the Morning Star so radiant Followed his course o'er eastern skies. What is this light so fair, so tender, Breaking upon our wondering eyes? Shepherds, O haste with eager footsteps Seek the Savior, born today. Low at His feet we lay our treasure, Heart's adoration, love for aye. Shepherds, O haste with eager footsteps Seek the Savior, born today.

*Traditional French Carol*

THE SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:1, 3–7

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

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Reader: The Director of Music

1. 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!*

2. "For know 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!*

3. 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!*

4. 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!*

## THE SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

*The Shepherds Go to the Manger.*

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

Reader: A Member of the Vestry

HYMN 94 (*Sung by all, standing*)*Winchester Old*

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

2. "Fear not," said he for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind  
"glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to you and all mankind.

3. "To you, in David's town, this day  
is born of David's line  
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord;  
and this shall be the sign:

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

5. Thus spoke the seraph, and forthwith  
appeared a shining throng of angels  
praising God, who thus addressed their  
joyful song:

6. "All glory be to God on high,  
and to the earth be peace;  
good will henceforth from heaven to men  
begin and never cease."

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

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judea: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Judah: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.

Reader: The Assisting Priest

CAROL

*Dale Grotenhuis (1931–2012)*

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 so 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, 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 "Glory to God and peace to men, now and for evermore, amen!"

*Traditional*



*The people stand for the Ninth Lesson.*

THE NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Reader: The Rector

HYMN 83 stanzas 1-3, 6 (*Sung by all*)

*Adeste fideles*

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*

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.*

## 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 Ghost, 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 Ghost, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## HYMN 87 (*Sung by all*)

*Mendelssohn*

1. Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the new-born 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 new-born King!

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord; late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the incarnate Deity. Pleased as man with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain.*

3. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Risen with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings, hail, the Sun of Righteousness! Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! *Refrain.*

## Organ Voluntary: Carillon on a Ukrainian Bell Carol

*Gerald Near (b. 1942)*

*The People are seated during the organ voluntary, then stand as the choir and ministers depart.*

*All are invited to the parish hall following the service for the parish Christmas party.*

*Donations for today's concert will go to the continued support of the music ministry at St.*

*Andrew's. Alms basins are in the rear of the church.*

*To give electronically, scan here. Fund: "Friends of Music"*



## **PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE**

The Rev. John Reese, *Officiant*

Richard Ferlita, *Verger*

Thomas Adams, *Crucifer*

Pam Billings, *Usher*

Readers:

Jennifer Richardson

Paula Stewart

Thomas Adams

Barbara Brotherton

Richard Ferlita

Ryan Hebert

Brad Hall

The Rev. Ralph M. Campbell II

The Rev. John Reese

### **The Louise Lykes Ferguson Memorial Choir**

Ryan Hebert, *Director of Music and Organist*

Coleman Flentge, *Associate Director of Music*

## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

### **December 24**

5:30 p.m.: Holy Eucharist (Rite II) with Blessing of the Crèche

9:00 p.m.: Festal Eucharist of the Nativity (Rite I, with incense)

*Prelude for choir, organ and strings begins one-half hour before each service.*

### **December 25**

10:30 a.m.: Holy Eucharist (Rite I) with congregational carols

# SAINT ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

509 East Twiggs Street  
Tampa, Florida 33602  
Telephone 813.221.2035

Emergency Number 813.451.5521  
Electronic Mail: [secretary@saintandrewstampa.org](mailto:secretary@saintandrewstampa.org)  
Web Site: [www.saintandrewstampa.org](http://www.saintandrewstampa.org)

Parish Office Hours: Monday through Thursday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Wednesday Healing Service: 12:10 p.m.  
Sunday Service Schedule: Holy Eucharist at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Douglas Scharf, *VI Bishop of Southwest Florida*  
The Rev. John Reese, *Rector*  
The Rev. Ralph M. Campbell II, *Assisting Priest*  
The Rev. Canon Jerold R. Stadel, *Priest Associate*  
Ryan Hebert, *Director of Music, Organist*  
Coleman Flentge, *Associate Director of Music*  
Pamela Frost, *Parish Administrator*  
Lauri Harder, *Administrative Assistant*  
Alicia Schmid, *Director of Children's and Youth Ministries*  
Anguel Dimitrov, *Sexton*

The Music Ministry at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church is a dynamic and important multigenerational component of the life of our parish. Grounded in the unique Anglican heritage of the Episcopal Church, the central mission of our music at St. Andrew's is to support the liturgy and enhance meaningful worship. The music repertoire consists of traditional hymns, canticles, psalms, and anthems. From chant and Renaissance polyphony, to Herbert Howells and other modern compositions, the music program at St. Andrew's always strives for excellence in music selection and presentation.

The music at St. Andrew's reflects the traditional scope of our liturgies while maintaining a close connection to our spiritual history and growth. From our regular Sunday morning service to occasional Evensongs, concerts, and special services, it is our hope that the music at St. Andrew's will find special meaning to all who worship with us.