



LESSONS & CAROLS

*The Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2024 at 4 o'clock*

ST PETER'S CHURCH IN ESSEX FELLS

A PARISH OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NEWARK

271 Roseland Avenue, Essex Fells, NJ 07102

973.226.6500 • stpetersef.org



Welcome to St. Peter's Church

We are glad you are here, and we invite you to enter fully into worship today. No matter where you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. We are a church rooted in Christian tradition, and open to new ideas, committed to service in community and world as part of the world-wide Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Diocese of Newark. The work of worship is shared by all, and we invite you to participate in the said and spoken responses as you are able.

Lessons and Carols

Advent means “coming” or “arrival.” This four-week preparation for Christmas is an anticipation of the feast of Jesus’ birth and a reminder that Christ will come again in great power and glory to judge both the living and the dead.

The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols was developed by Dean Eric Milner-White for King’s College, Cambridge, England at the end of the First World War. As Dean Milner-White has written, “The main theme of the service is the development of the loving purposes of God ... as seen through the windows and the words of the Bible.”

We invite you to enter into the music and prayers this afternoon, allow them to transform you, and to give thanks for the blessing and joy of worshipping together in this holiday season.

Join us for Worship

Sundays, 8 am, 10 am, 4 pm

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LESSONS & CAROLS

VOLUNTARY

St. Peter's Handbell Choir

All stand as the procession begins

CAROL

VENI EMMANUEL

Text: before the 9th century, tr. John Mason Neale and others

Tune: French Processional, Mode I

The choir sings the first stanza alone

Choir

*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.*

All join in singing the remaining stanzas

- 2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,
Who orders all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 3 O come, O Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by your drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 4 O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
O bid our sad divisions cease,
And be for us the Prince of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Officiant

Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to gather all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

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.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Officiant

May Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all.

People

Amen.

Please be seated

THE LESSONS

FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 36:24-28
read by an Acolyte

Reader

'I will give you a new heart'

I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

CAROL

Melissa Dunphy

*I will give you a new heart
and put a new spirit within you.
I will take away your heart of stone.
I will give you a heart of flesh.*

—Ezekiel 36:26

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7
read by a member of St. Peter's Youth

Reader

The birth of the Savior is foretold

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it

with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

CAROL

L. Stanley Glarum

*I saw a stranger yest'reen,
I put food in the eating place,
I put drink in the drinking place,
There was music in the listening place,
And in the sacred name of the Triune
He blessed myself and my house,
My cattle and my dear ones.
And the lark said in her song:
'Often, often, often goes the Christ
In the stranger's guise.'*

—*Old Gaelic Rune*

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

read by a member of the Parish Choir

Reader

God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Please stand and sing

CAROL

Hymnal 1982, 67

Text: Johannes Olearius, 1671, trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.

Tune: Genevan Psalter, 1551

- 1 Comfort, comfort ye my people,
 Speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
Comfort those who sit in darkness
 Mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem
 Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover,
 And her warfare now is over.
- 2 Hark! the voice of one that crieth
 In the desert far and near,
Calling us to new repentance
 Since the kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey!
 Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet him
 And the hills bow down to greet him.
- 3 Make ye straight what long was crooked
 Make the rougher places plain;
Let your hearts be true and humble,
 As befits his holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
 Now on earth is spread abroad;
And all flesh shall see the token
 That the word is never broken.

Please be seated

FOURTH LESSON

Micah 5:2-4

read by the Director of Music

Reader

The one who is to rule Israel will be born in the village of Bethlehem
You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is
from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall

return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

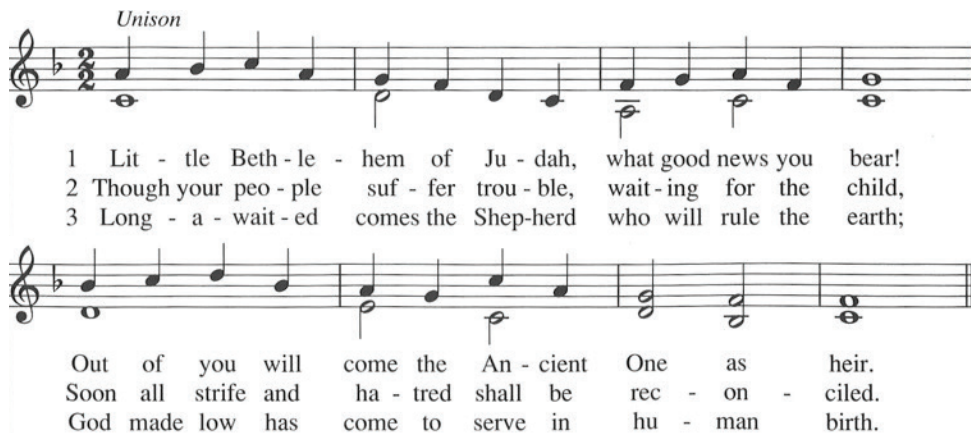
Please stand and sing

CAROL

WESTRIDGE

Text: Calvin Seerveld, 1986; Tune: Martin Shaw, 1929

Unison



1 Lit - tle Beth - le - hem of Ju - dah, what good news you bear!
2 Though your peo - ple suf - fer trou - ble, wait - ing for the child,
3 Long - a - wait - ed comes the Shep - herd who will rule the earth;

Out of you will come the An - cient One as heir.
Soon all strife and ha - tred shall be rec - on - ciled.
God made low has come to serve in hu - man birth.

Please be seated

FIFTH LESSON

Zechariah 9:9-10, 16-17
read by a member of the Altar Guild

Reader

Rejoice greatly for your king comes to you

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.... On that day the LORD their God will save them for they are the flock of his people; for like the jewels of a crown they shall shine on his land. For what goodness and beauty are his! Grain shall make the young men flourish, and new wine the young women.

VOLUNTARY

Prelude in C

Richard Proulx
St. Peter's Handbell Choir

Reader

The Spirit of the Lord will rest on the Holy One

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

CAROL

Spanish, ca. 1558, arr. Noah Greenberg

*Ríu, ríu chíu, la guarda ribera:
Dios guardo el lobo de nuestra cordera.*

*El lobo rabioso la quiso morder
mas Dios poderoso la supo defender
quiso la hazer que no pudiese pecar,
ni aun original esta Virgen no tu viera.*

*Este qu'es nacido es el gran monarca,
Christo patriarca de carne vestido;
hanos redimido con se hazer chiquito,
aun qu'era infinito, finito se hiziera.*

*Muchas profecías lo han profetizado
y aun en nuestros días lo hemos alcançado.
A Dios humanado vemos en el suelo
y al hombre nel cielo porqu'el le quisiera.*

*['Ríu, ríu chiu,' guard us upon this shore:
God has kept the wolf from our lamb.*

*The vicious wolf wanted to bite the lamb
but our powerful God knew how to defend her;
God wanted to make her so she could not sin,
so she could not even have original sin.*

*The One here born is the great monarch,
Christ the patriarch dressed in flesh;
He has redeemed us by making himself humble;
even though he was infinite, mortal he became.*

*Many prophecies have foretold him
and even in our own day we have reached him.
We see God made human on earth
and man in the heavens
because God has come to our aid.]*

—Villancicos de diversos Autores, 1558

SEVENTH LESSON

Mark 1:1-8

read by a member of the Vestry

Reader

Prepare the way of the Lord

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’ ” John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Please stand and sing

CAROL

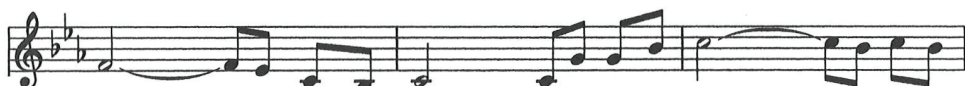
Traditional, adapt. arr. Horace Boyer, 1992



1. I'm just a poor way-far - ing stran - ger, I'm trav' - ling through this world be -
2. I know dark clouds will gath - er o'er me, I know my path - way's rough and
3. I want to sing sal - va - tions sto - ry, In con - cert with the blood - washed
4. I'll soon be free from ev - ery tri - al, This form will rest be - neath the



1. low; There is no sick - ness, toil, nor dan - ger, In that bright
2. steep; But gold - en fields lie out be - fore me, Where wea - ry
3. band; I want to wear a crown of glo - ry, When I get
4. sod; I'll drop the cross of self - de - ni - al, And en - ter



1. world to which I go. I'm go - ing there to see my
2. eyes no more shall weep. I'm go - ing there to see my
3. home to that good land. I'm go - ing there to see my
4. in my home with God. I'm go - ing there to see my



1. fa - ther, I'm go - ing there no more to roam;
2. mo - ther, She said she'd meet me when I come; I'm just a
3. bro - thers, They passed be - fore me one by one;
4. Sav - iour, Who shed for me His pre - cious blood;



go - ing o - ver Jor - dan, I'm just a go - ing o - ver home.

Please be seated

EIGHTH LESSON

*Luke 1:39-46
read by a Lay Reader*

Reader

The Virgin Mary is greeted by Elizabeth and exclaims her joy

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry,

"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And

why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

CAROL

Simon Lindley

*Ave Maria gratia plena Dominus tecum.
Benedicta tu in mulieribus
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.
Sancta Maria, mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.*

*[Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with you.
Blessed are you among women
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and in the hour of our death. Amen.]*

—based on Luke 1:28

NINTH LESSON

*Matthew 24:36-44
read by the Rector*

Reader

Even so, Lord Jesus, quickly come

[Jesus said] “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

CAROL

Spiritual, arr. André J. Thomas

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning:
Children, don't get weary til your work is done!
Christian journey will be over: the time is drawing nigh.*

—African American Spiritual

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*During the offering, please feel free to make a gift and offering in thanksgiving to God. To take advantage of our electronic giving options, please follow the QR code with your electronic device. This afternoon's offerings will be given to the **Music Fund** to support the music ministry of St. Peter's Church.*



CAROL

Hymnal 1982, 65

Text: Frans Mickael Franzen, 1812; adapted Charles Price, 1980

Tune: Den svenska psalmboken, 1697

- 1 Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.
- 2 He brings God's rule, O Zion, he comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.
- 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

COLLECT

Officiant
People
Officiant

God be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray. O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People

Amen.

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Officiant

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin.

People

Amen.

Officiant May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love.

People **Amen.**

Officiant May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life.

People **Amen.**

Officiant And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People **Amen.**

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL

WATCHMAN

Text: John Bowring, 1825; Tune: Lowell Mason, 1830

With movement

1 Watch-man, tell us of the night, What its signs of promise are.
2 Watch-man, tell us of the night; High-er yet that star as-cends.

Trav-'ler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, See that glo-ry-beam-ing star.
Trav-'ler, bless-ed-ness and light, Peace and truth its course por-tends.

Watch-man, does its beau-teous ray Aught of joy or hope fore-tell?
Watch-man, will its beams a-lone Gild the spot that gave them birth?

Trav - 'ler, yes; it brings the day, Prom - ised day of Is - ra - el.
 Trav - 'ler, a - ges are its own; See, it bursts o'er all the earth.

3 Watchman, tell us of the night,
 For the morning seems to dawn,
 Trav'ler, darkness takes its flight,
 Doubt and terror are withdrawn.
 Watchman, let thy wand'rings cease;
 Hie thee to thy quiet home.
 Trav'ler, lo! the Prince of Peace,
 Lo! the Son of God is come!

PROCESSIONAL

Prelude, 'Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland'

J.S. Bach



Please join us in the Upper Room for a Dessert Reception following the service.



MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

<i>Altar Guild</i>	Nancy Connor, Karen Mosher, Diane Waitts
<i>Acolytes</i>	Joseph Wohltmann, Colin Carr
<i>Usher</i>	Chris Shearin
<i>Readers</i>	Joseph Wohltmann, Kayla Felix, Diane Kazimir, Mark Trautman, Candace Carr, Dana Leach, Mary Shearin, Nancy Connor, Father Darville
<i>Director of Music</i>	Mark Trautman
<i>Officiant</i>	The Reverend Nathaniel Darville

ST. PETER'S PARISH CHOIR

Michael Barretti, Diane Kazimir, Michelle Ann Labetti, Joan Loiacano,
 Carl Sturcke, Giulia Utz, Steve Zimmermann

ST. PETER'S HANDBELL CHOIR

Candace Carr, Colin Carr, Margot Dockrell, Karen Mosher

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

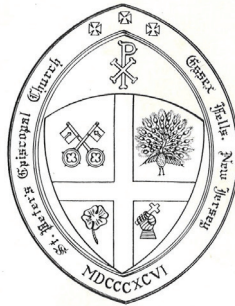
December 24, Nativity Pageant and Eucharist, 4 pm

December 24, Festal Choral Eucharist at 10 pm

December 25, Christmas Day Eucharist at 10 am

December 29, First Sunday after Christmas, 10 am (*only one service this day*)

January 5, 2025, Second Sunday after Christmas, 8 am, 10 am, 4 pm



THE VESTRY OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH

Mary Shearin and Wayne Copeland, *Wardens*

Valerie Felix, Jim Irwin, Christine Albano, Eloise Monzillo Hiris,

David Cowell, Kurt Vonderahe, *Vestry Members*

STAFF

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darville@stpetersef.org

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trautman@stpetersef.org

Dana Leach, *Care and Connect*

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