



St James Cathedral

CHICAGO

Forged in Fire: From Age to Age



St. James Cathedral Bell Tower on a Snowy Day

A Festival of
Nine Lessons & Carols
December 21, 2025 at 4 p.m.



ST. JAMES MEALS

Neighbors and volunteers of St. James gather twice per month to shop, cook, and open our dining room for guests to enjoy the hospitality of a sit-down meal. Much more than a feeding program, this ministry focuses on lifting up the dignity of our fellow human beings.

MEALS AMONG US

Every Sunday, volunteers make sandwiches and pack lunches, which are then delivered to multiple sites to feed people in need. On the third Sundays of the month, our Sunday School children participate in this feeding ministry as part of their Christian formation.

TASKFORCE

As part of our ministry partnership with St. Martin's in the Austin neighborhood of Chicago, St. James provides funding, meals, clothing, and more to TaskForce Prevention & Community Services, supporting LGBTQ+ youth in need of housing, healthcare, and other essential services.

SUMMER IN THE CITY

For over 25 years, St. James has organized a summer enrichment camp, with fun and educational activities for children in the city. This is provided free-of-charge so that any child can have access to a life-changing camp experience and forge lasting bonds.

REVIVE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Joining the ReVive Center for Housing and Healing, St. James coordinates shopping for families-in-need for Christmas. From single homebound individuals to families of 10, everyone sponsored receives a Christmas dinner and a gift from their wish list.

BOMBAS SOCKS

As the only Bombas Socks distributor in River North, St. James not only supplies clean, warm socks to people in need but also handles the logistics of sharing socks with ministry partners and other social service organizations throughout the city.

Get involved by contacting the Rev. Canon Steven Balke and **make your donation using the QR Code.**



Welcome to St. James Cathedral!

It is a joy to welcome you to the Cathedral for our first celebration of Christmas this season. The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is one of the most beloved Anglican services, made famous by its annual broadcast from King's College, Cambridge. The service opens with the voice of a chorister singing the first verse of "Once in Royal David's City." Through lessons from the Bible, carols sung by the choir, and beloved Christmas hymns, we recount the story of salvation, from the fall of humanity in the Garden of Eden, to the prophecy of Hebrew Scripture, and finally to the birth of Jesus in a lowly stable in Bethlehem. In the poetic and dramatic final lesson, Saint John proclaims that the Word became flesh and lived among us so that we could be fully reborn as children of God. The nine readers represent communities within the life of the St. James family and the city of Chicago.

For millions across the world, attending a service of Lessons and Carols marks the start of Christmas. This liturgy has become universally popular because its magic transcends denomination and creed, speaking to people of all faiths or none at all. Whoever you are or whatever you believe, whether you come to church regularly or this is your first time, at St. James Cathedral, you are not just welcome - you belong. Have a Merry Christmas, and we hope to see you again soon at your Cathedral!

Merry Christmas!



The Very Rev. Lisa Hackney-James,
Dean of the Cathedral



THIS WEEK'S ENEWS

Christmas at the Cathedral

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY EUCHARIST WITH CHILDREN'S PAGEANT on Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 4 p.m. Children from the cathedral community and neighborhood are invited to present an interactive Christmas story during this family-friendly Christmas Eve celebration. Festive carols are led by the Cathedral Choristers and members of the Cathedral Choir. Children are invited to participate in every aspect of this service.

LESSONS & CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE on Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. We recount the story of the Nativity through words of scripture, beautiful choral music sung by the Cathedral Choir and Choristers, and beloved Christmas Carols sung by the entire congregation. This service does not include a sermon or Eucharist.

SOLEMN EUCHARIST on Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 10 p.m. The Cathedral Choir leads the music of the service. Organ prelude begins at 9:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY on Thursday, Dec. 25 at 10 a.m. A smaller, quieter celebration of the Nativity with music led by members of the Cathedral Choir.

Music at St. James Cathedral

St. James has long been recognized for excellence and leadership in sacred music. The Cathedral Choir sings Sundays at 11 a.m., for major feast days and other special services, and at Choral Evensong, a service of song, stillness, and scripture on the first Sunday of the month (October through June) at 4 p.m. The Cathedral Choristers sing on Sunday mornings at the 9 a.m. Family Eucharist and for an abbreviated form of Choral Evensong every Wednesday at 5:45 p.m. during the school year.

To learn more about our music program and to receive updates on upcoming events, please visit our webpage and sign up for the music e-news: www.saintjamescathedral.org/music.

The Choir School

The Choir School at St. James Cathedral offers a free, world-class musical education to children in 3rd through 10th grade. The choristers sing together on Wednesdays and Sundays every week. Additionally, each chorister receives a free weekly voice lesson and a scholarship toward instrumental lessons taught by the Music Institute of Chicago at St. James. The Choir School is open to families of all faith backgrounds, and we provide a free supper for the whole family after rehearsal. This unique educational experience empowers choristers with musicianship, confidence, and leadership skills to last a lifetime!

Prospective chorister families should write to Canon Director of Music Stephen Buzard at sbuzard@saintjamescathedral.org.

Organ Music for Advent & Christmas

Pastorale

Charles Wesley
(1707-1788)

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Noël Écossais

Alexandre Guilmant
(1837-1911)

Kommst du nun, Jesu, vom Himmel herunter, BWV 650

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ, BuxWV 188

Dietrich Buxtehude
(1637-1707)

Quand Jesus Naquit à Noël

Claude Balbastre
(1724-1799)



The Dean welcomes the people to the service.

VOLUNTARY

In dulci jubilo, BuxWV 197

Buxtehude

A chorister sings the first verse, the choir sings the second, and all join in the third.

HYMN

Choir Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a low-ly cat - tle shed,
Choir He came down to earth from hea - ven who is God and Lord of all,
All And through all his won - drous child-hood he would hon - or and o - bey,
4. For he is our child-hood's pat - tern, day by day like us he grew,
5. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem-ing love,

1. where a mo - ther laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
2. and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
3. love and watch the low - ly maid - en, in whose gen - tle arms he lay:
4. he was lit - tle, weak, and help - less, tears and smiles like us he knew:
5. for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;

1. Ma - ry_ was that mo - ther mild, Je - sus_ Christ her lit - tle child._
2. with the_ poor and mean and low - ly lived on_ earth_our Sa - vior ho - ly.
3. Christ ian_ chil - dren all must be_ mild, o - be - dant, good as he._
4. and he_ feel - eth for our sad - ness, and he_ shar - eth in our glad - ness.
5. and he_ leads his chil - dren 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;
where like stars his children crowned
all in white shall wait around.

The Bishop leads

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, be it this Christmastide our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and 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.

Therefore 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.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all his people; for unity and brotherhood within the Church he came to build, and especially in this city and diocese of Chicago.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those 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 one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are for ever one.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us, saying,

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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Bishop bids God's blessing, saying

May 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 be seated.

CAROL

Simon Preston (1938–2022)

I saw three ships come sailing in on Christmas Day in the morning.
And what was in those ships all three on Christmas Day in the morning?
Our Savior Christ and His lady on Christmas Day in the morning.
Pray, wither sailed those ships all three on Christmas Day in the morning.
O, they sailed into Bethlehem on Christmas Day in the morning.
And all the bells on Earth shall ring on Christmas Day in the morning.
And all the angels in Heaven shall sing on Christmas Day in the morning.
And all the souls on earth shall sing on Christmas Day in the morning.
Then let us all rejoice amain on Christmas Day in the morning.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8–15

Reader God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” He said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.” He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.” Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent tricked me, and I ate.” The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”

Reader Thanks be to God.

*Read by Ashwin Munge,
A Cathedral Chorister*

CAROL

Boris Ord (1897–1961)

Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond; four thousand winter thought he not too long. And all was for an apple, an apple that he took, as clerkes finden written in their book. Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been, ne had never Our Lady a-been heavene queen. Blessed be the time that apple taken was. Therefore we moun singen, “Deo gracias!”

– anon. 15th cent. carol

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

Reader God promises faithful Abraham that in his offspring shall the nations of the earth be blessed.

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

Reader Thanks be to God.

*Read by Mr. Álvaro de Salas Giménez de Azcárate,
Consul General of Spain in Chicago*

CAROL

Otto Goldschmidt (1829-1907)

A tender shoot has started up from a root of grace,
as ancient seers imparted from Jesse's holy race:
It blooms without a blight, blooms in the cold bleak winter,
turning our darkness into light.
This shoot Isaiah taught us, from Jesse's root should spring;
The Virgin Mary brought us the branch of which we sing;
Our God of endless might gave her this child to save us,
Thus turning darkness into light.

– William Bartholomew (1793-1867)

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

Reader Christ's birth and kingdom are 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. 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.

Reader Thanks be to God.

*Read by Ms. Shalisa Kline Ugaz,
President & CEO, Music Institute of Chicago*

CAROL

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston (1905–1987)

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green:
The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ, the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel: By faith I know, but ne'er can tell
the glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ, the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought;
I missed of all, but now I see, 'tis found in Christ, the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile:
Under the shadow I will be of Jesus Christ, the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ, the apple tree.

- anon. from Collection of Joshua Smith, 1784

The people stand and sing. The choir sings the third verse.

HYMN

Hymnal 78

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
Choir How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
Choir So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
Choir No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
Choir where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835–1893)

Music: *Forest Green*, English melody; adapt. and harm. Vaughan Williams; arr. Willcocks

The people are seated.

FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1–3a, 4a, 6–9

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

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.
 With righteousness he shall judge the poor,
 and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
 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.

Reader Thanks be to God.

*Read by Ms. Lisa Key,
Executive Director, The Richard H. Driehaus Museum*

CAROL A Song of Peace Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

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 he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes,
neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

And with righteousness shall he judge the poor,
and reprove with equity the meek of the earth:
and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins,
and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

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.

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.

And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse,
which shall stand for an ensign unto the people;
and his rest shall be glorious.

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26–38

Reader The angel Gabriel greets the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In the sixth month 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, favored 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 favor 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 the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Reader Thanks be to God.

*Read by the Hon. Brandon Johnson
Mayor of the City of Chicago*

CAROL

Jan Sandström (b. 1954)

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
As men of old have sung.
It came, a flower bright,
Amid the cold of winter
When half spent was the night.

SIXTH LESSON

Matthew 1:18-23

Reader Saint Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.”

Reader Thanks be to God.

*Read by Mr. Stephen Buzard,
Canon Director of Music*

CAROL

Francis Poulenc (1899–1963)

*Hodie Christus natus est:
Hodie Salvator apparuit:
Hodie in terra canunt Angeli,
laetantur Archangeli
Hodie exsultant justi, dicentes:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Alleluia.*

Today Christ is born:
Today the Savior appeared:
Today on Earth the Angels sing,
Archangels rejoice:
Today the righteous rejoice, saying:
Glory to God in the highest.
Alleluia.



The people stand and sing

HYMN

Hymnal 105



1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle-men, let noth - ing you dis - may;
2 From God our heaven - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came
3 "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you af - fright;
4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,



re - mem - ber Christ our Sa - vior was born on Christ - mas Day,
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:
this day is born a Sa - vior of a pure vir - gin bright,
and with true love and char - i - ty each o - ther now em - brace;



to save us all from Sa - tan's power when we were gone a - stray.
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.
to free all those who trust in him from Sa - tan's power and might."
this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas doth bring re - deem - ing grace.



O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and



joy; O tid - ings of com - fort and joy!

Words: London carol, 18th cent.

Music: *God Rest You Merry*, melody from *Little Book of Christmas Carols*, ca. 1850; arr. Willcocks

SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

Reader The shepherds go to the manger.

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 Savior, 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.” 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 favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Reader Thanks be to God.

*Read by the Rev. Eileen Shanley-Roberts, D.Min.,
Director of Formation and Contextual Learning & Assistant Professor of the Practice of Ministry,
Bexley Seabury Seminary*

CAROL This Little Babe, from *A Ceremony of Carols* Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

This little babe so few days old is come to rifle Satan's fold;
All hell doth at his presence quake though he himself for cold do shake;
For in this week unarmèd wise the gates of hell he will surprise.
With tears he fights and wins the field. His naked breast stands for a shield
His battering shot are babish cries, his arrows looks of weeping eyes;
His martial ensigns Cold and Need and feeble flesh his warrior's steed.
His camp is pitchèd in a stall, his bulwark but a broken wall;
The crib his trench, haystalks his stakes, of shepherds he his muster makes.
And thus as sure his foe to wound the angels' trumps alarum sound.
My soul with Christ join thou in fight; stick to the tents that he hath pight
Within his crib is surest ward; this little Babe will by thy guard.
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy, then flit not from this Heavenly boy!

EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-11

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

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." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, 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. 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.

Reader Thanks be to God.

*Read by the Rev. James Clark III,
Managing Director of Mission Real Estate Development, Trinity Church Wall Street, NYC*

CAROL "The Infant King" Trad. Basque Carol, arr. Edgar Pettman (1866-1943)

Sing lullaby. Lullaby baby, now reclining, sing lullaby. Hush, do not wake the infant King. Angels are watching, stars are shining over the place where He is lying: sing lullaby.

Sing lullaby. Lullaby baby, now a-sleeping, sing lullaby. Hush, do not wake the infant King. Soon will come sorrow with the morning, soon will come bitter grief and weeping: sing lullaby.

Sing lullaby. Lullaby baby, now a-doing, sing lullaby. Hush, do not wake the infant King. Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing, then in the grave at last reposing: sing lullaby.

Sing lullaby. Lullaby, is the babe awaking? Sing lullaby. Hush, do not stir the infant King.

Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning. Conquering death, its bondage breaking: sing lullaby.

Please stand.

NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

Reader *Saint 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. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Reader Thanks be to God.

*Read by the Very Rev. Lisa Hackney-James,
Dean of the Cathedral*

HYMN

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2. God of God, Light of Light,
3. See how the shep - herds, sum-moned to his crad - le,
4. Lo! star - led chief - tains, ma - gi, Christ a - dor - ing,
5. Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1. come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
2. lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
3. leav - ing their flocks draw nigh with ho - ly fear;
4. of - fer him in - cense, gold and myrrh;
5. fain we em - brace thee, with awe and love;

1. come and be - hold him born the King of An - gels:
 2. ve - ry God, be - got - ten, not cre - a - ted:
 3. we too will thi - ther bend our joy - ful foot - steps:
 4. we to the Christ Child bring our hearts' ob - la - tions:
 5. who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O

come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

6. Sing, choirs of angels,
 sing in exultation,
 sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;
 glory to God
 in the highest:

Refrain

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880)

Music: *Adeste fideles*, melody Wade; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906; arr. Willcocks

COLLECT & BLESSING

Please remain standing as the Bishop prays, saying

Almighty God, you make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as we joyfully receive him as our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come to be our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Bishop prays for God's blessing on the gathered people, saying

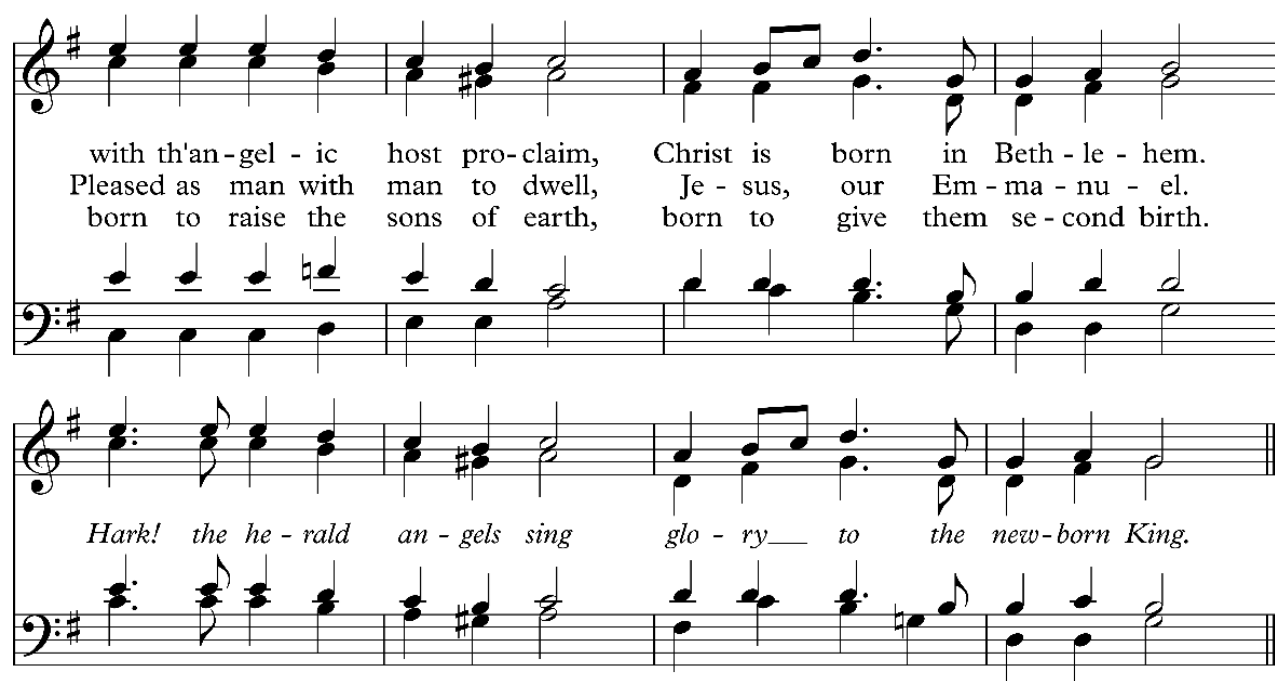
May he, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, grant you the fullness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN

1. Hark! the he - rald an - gels sing — glo - ry to the new-born King;
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the e - ver - last - ing Lord,
3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!

peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners re - con - ciled:
late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir - gin's womb:
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings;

joy - ful all ye na - tions rise, — join the tri - umph of the skies, —
veiled in flesh the God-head see, — hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty! —
mild he lays his glo - ry by, — born that man no more may die, —



with th'an-gel - ic host pro-claim, Christ is born in Beth - le - hem.
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - ma - nu - el.
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them se - cond birth.

Hark! the he - rald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) and George Whitefield (1714-1770)

Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1809-1847); descant by Philip Ledger (1937-2012)

VOLUNTARY

Prelude & Fugue in G major, BWV 541

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please join us for a festive Christmas reception in Kyle's Place.

As you leave the cathedral, there will be a collection to support the Cathedral's outreach ministries.

For more information, please see page two of this bulletin.





CHRISTMAS

AT THE CATHEDRAL

NINE LESSONS & CAROLS

Sunday, Dec. 21 at 4 p.m.

Patterned after the famous carol service from King's College in Cambridge, this service recounts the story of Christ's Nativity in scripture and music led by the Cathedral Choir and Choristers.

FAMILY EUCHARIST & CHILDREN'S PAGEANT

Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 4 p.m.

Children from the St. James community and neighborhood present the Christmas story during this family-friendly service.

LESSONS & CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m.

We recount the story of the Nativity through scripture, choral music sung by the Cathedral Choir and Choristers, and beloved Christmas Carols sung by the entire congregation.

SOLEMN EUCHARIST

Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 10 p.m.

Our principal celebration of Christmas with festive Christmas music led by the Cathedral Choir. The organ prelude begins at 9:30 p.m. Incense is used at this service.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Thursday, Dec. 25 at 10 a.m.

A smaller, quieter celebration of the Nativity with music led by members of the Cathedral Choir.

SaintJamesCathedral.org/Christmas

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

OFFICIATING

The Rt. Rev. Paula E. Clark,
XIII Bishop of Chicago
The Very Rev. Lisa Hackney-James
Dean of the Cathedral

ASSISTING

The Rev. Canon Steven Balke
The Rev. Canon Christopher Griffin
The Rev. Rick Incorvati

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS	8 a.m.	Holy Eucharist (<i>Spoken</i>)	Chapel
	9 a.m.	Holy Eucharist (<i>Family</i>)	Cathedral
	11 a.m.	Holy Eucharist (<i>Choral</i>)	Cathedral
		Live-Stream Service (<i>see enews, website, or YouTube</i>)	
FIRST SUNDAYS	4 p.m.	Choral Evensong (<i>Oct–June</i>)	Cathedral
WEEKDAYS	9 a.m.	Morning Prayer (<i>see enews, or website</i>)	Zoom
	12:10 p.m.	Holy Eucharist	Cathedral
	5:45 p.m.	Choral Evensong (<i>Wednesdays, Sept–June</i>)	Cathedral

CLERGY & STAFF

The Very Rev. Lisa Hackney-James, <i>Dean</i>	lhj@saintjamescathedral.org
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CATHEDRAL CHAPTER

Susan Fickling, *Senior Warden*, Allen Moye, *Junior Warden*, Erin Maus, *Chancellor*, Paul Thompson, *Treasurer*, Elizabeth Wakefield-Connell, *Secretary*, Lisa Ahmad, The Rev. Maurice Charles, Phil Debush, John Fischer, Greg Gerber, Ryan Middlebrook, Michelle Mitchell, Maria Price, Keith Schmidt, The Rev. Eileen Shanley-Roberts, and Eric Weddle



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