

**Christmas Lessons and Carols**

**Processional Hymn:**    *Once in royal David's city (vss. 1, 2, 4 & 6)*

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.

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.

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.

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.

**Acclamation**

*Celebrant:        For unto us a child is born.*

*People:            To us a Son is given.*

**A Bidding Prayer**

**First Lesson** - Genesis 2: 4b-9, 15-25

**Hymn** - *O little town of Bethlehem*

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go  
by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee  
tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of  
wondering love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth! and praises sing to God the King, and  
peace to men on earth.

**Second Lesson** - Genesis 3: 1-15

**Hymn** - *Hark! the herald angels sing*

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!

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

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 Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity. Pleased as man with man to dwell;  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

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

**Third Lesson** - Isaiah 35: 1-10

**Hymn** - *It came upon the midnight clear*

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 heaven's all-gracious King." The world in solemn  
stillness lay to hear the angels sing. (cont.)

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled, and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world; above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing, and ever o'er its Babel-sounds the blessed angels sing.

#### **Fourth Lesson** - Luke 1: 26-59

##### **Hymn** - *While shepherds watched their flocks*

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

“Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind; “Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind.

“To you, in David’s town, this day is born of David’s line the Savior, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:

“The heavenly Babe you there shall find to human view displayed, all meanly wrapped in swathing bands, and in a manger laid.”

Thus spake the seraph, and forth with appeared a shining throng of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song:

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

#### **Fifth Lesson** - Luke 2: 1-20

##### **Hymn** - *Angels we have heard on high*

Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night, and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight. *Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer? What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear? *Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

#### **Sixth Lesson** - Luke 2: 21-36

##### **Hymn** - *Away in a manger*

Away in a manger, no crib for his 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.

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

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me for ever, and love me I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

#### **Seventh Lesson** - Hebrews 1: 1-12

##### **Hymn** - *The first Nowell*

The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter’s night that was so deep.

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.*

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.*

## **Eighth Lesson - John 1: 1-18**

### **Announcements and Offertory**

#### **Doxology**

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Our fathers' God, to Thee,  
Author of liberty, to thee we sing;  
long may our land be bright  
with freedom's holy light;  
protect us by thy might,  
great God, our King.

#### **Collects**

#### **Blessing**

#### **Closing Hymn**    *God rest you merry, gentlemen*

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.

*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy!*

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.

*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy!*

"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."

*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy!*

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.

*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy!*

#### **Dismissal**

*Celebrant:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People:*     Thanks be to God.

## Announcements

**Holy Eucharist** - Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at 11:30 am.

**Epiphany party** - Sunday, January 6, 2019.

**St. Francis' Prayer Team** - Next meeting will be January 7, 2019.

### ST. FRANCIS WOMEN'S MINISTRY

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!

**LADIES' DINNER AND A MOVIE** – back by popular demand!

**Monday, January 14, 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall**

**Monday, February 11, 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall**

**January 14:** "Mr. Holland's Opus." The story of a frustrated composer who finds fulfillment in what he thought would be a temporary job as a high school music teacher. A light meal will be provided, with an early screening of the movie to allow time for discussion afterwards. Feel free to invite girlfriends, relatives and neighbors! Sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

#### CULINARY KNIFE SKILLS CLASS

**Saturday, January 26, 2-3 pm**

**St. Francis Fellowship Hall**

Do your slicing and dicing skills need an upgrade? Come and learn from a pro! Roland Frechette will offer a one-hour seminar with opportunities for hands-on practice. *This class is open to guys as well as women!* Sign up on the women's bulletin board.

## St. Francis Anglican Parish Prayer List

For the concerns weighing on the hearts and minds of members of this congregation:

Lesley Adams	Jennifer	Tommy Keith Davis
*Susan Johns	*Mackenzie Stinson	*Betty Pittman
*Helen Frechette	Phil & Jo Maddox	Rebecca
*Paul Dempster	Ricky Parker	John Blasius
John Burrus	Jimmy Coleman	Murray Ingerham
Kris	Aiden Hague	Jack Burrus
Mary Gillam	Madeleine Click	*Harriett Tice
Ray Holland	Marcia Swanson	*Charles Wick
David Dyson	David Ward	Marjorie J
Lisa Anne Callis	Sylvia Spell	Joann Duke
James Cox	Bob Weber	Felicia Horvath
Derek Hill	Bill McDonald	Tommy McDonald
Bonnie Hopkins	Jim Tatum	

\*Member of St. Francis

If you need to add or remove a name from the prayer list contact Sue Comstock at 919-498-9154 or email her at [suectrace@gmail.com](mailto:suectrace@gmail.com). Names will be removed after three weeks unless you contact Sue to extend the time.

**Pray for strength and divine guidance:** Pat Fein.

**Pray for those serving all over the world in our military:** Matthew Pate, Ben Hodsdon, William Puckett, Katherine Campbell, Brian Gille, George Walter, Jim Makepeace, Rick Smith, Jody Gordon, Raymond DeSantos, Eliza, Josh Pratt, Greg, Ben Gumpton, Jeremy, Lucas Rees, Daniel Hardin, Jared Oldham, Noah Gibson, Nick Stavlund, Jason Williams, Fortune Egbulefu, Stephen and Patrick Hart.

**Pray for the departed:** Gerhard Hettler, Noah Sadler, Don Kowell, Hilda Slack, Mervyn Smith, Sadie Robards.

**Altar Flowers** - The altar flowers are given by Norma Jean Bill to the Glory of God and in loving memory of her parents.

**Those serving today:**

Ushers: Oliver Crawley and Ron Hewett  
Chalice Bearers: No Communion  
Lectors: Isabel Lawrence, Johnnie Gordon, Ron Hewett, Linda Bruce, Judith Edmonds and Lew Andersen  
Acolytes: Hunter and Harris Wilkinson  
Coffee Hour: Marty and Linda Pate  
Music Director: Leslie Hanna  
Organist: Rosemary Parten  
Altar Guild: Tammy Bennetts, Mari Hann, Beth Puckett and Carolyn Washburn.

### Vestry

Through 2019: Ron Brown, Senior Warden, Sue Comstock, Jean Dabbs, Clerk

Through 2020: Scott Bruce, Susan Lewis, Marty Pate

Through 2021: Bruce Ledford, Tom Reese, Jimmy Washburn, Junior Warden

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