



Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols  
December 24, 2025



**University Presbyterian Church**

3240 Dalrymple Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

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Pastor: Mamie Broadhurst

Choir Director: Ross Cawthon

Organist: Christopher Cunningham

Ministers: The people of this church

Audio/Visual: Tom Shelton/Ignace Agbadan

# Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols

## December 24, 2025

*Everyone is invited to join in speaking or singing aloud the **bold** portions of the liturgy in the bulletin. \*The asterisk indicates parts of the worship when members of the congregation are invited to rise in body or spirit as able.*

PRELUDE

*Silent Night*

J William Greene

Lorenz Corporation, 2020

WELCOME

Mamie Broadhurst

INTROIT

*Christ Is Born In Bethlehem*

Arr. Patrick Liebergen

©Candelaworks Music, 2014

*Christ is born in Bethlehem, Alleluia.*

*The joy of all Jerusalem, Alleluia.*

*Christ is born: adore Him and sing a new song with your voice.*

*A Child is born in Bethlehem, Alleluia.*

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

In those days, Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem.

He was to be registered, and she was expecting a child.

The time came for Mary to give birth

so she delivered her child, wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger.

**And the angels sang:**

**“Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth, peace to all whom God favors.”**

Let us worship God.

CAROL No. 133

***O Come, All Ye Faithful***

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Kaitlyn and Lucy Blanchard

\*HYMN No. 82 v 1 and 2

**Come Thou Long Expected Jesus**

*Come thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.*

*Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.*

*By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.*

CALL TO CONFSSION

Erin Tolar

PRAYER OF CONFSSION (*unison*)

**Merciful God,**  
**always with us, always coming:**  
**We confess that even as Advent is ending,**  
**we are not yet prepared for your arrival.**  
**We have forgotten how to hope in miracles**  
**We have ignored the promise of your kingdom.**  
**We have been distracted by the busyness of this season.**  
**Forgive us.**

A TIME OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFSSION

**Grant us the patient faith of Mary and Joseph,  
the simple wonder of the shepherds,  
the abundant joy of the angels,  
that we may journey to Bethlehem this night  
and find the good news of a child born for us and for all. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (*responsive*)

Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:  
Your cries have been heard. You are forgiven, and you are loved.  
**Glory to God in the highest heaven! Alleluia! Amen.**

\*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

*Hymn 112 v. 3*

*On Christmas Night All Christians Sing*

**When sin departs before his grace,  
then life and health come in its place; (2x)  
heaven and earth with joy may sing,  
all for to see the newborn King.**

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE ANNUNCIATION

Connor Strain

Luke 1:26-38

Carol No. 88 vv. 1,5,6,7

**O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

THE RESPONSE

Gabi Perry

Luke 1:46-55

Carol No. 108 vv. 1,2,3

**Of the Father's Love Begotten**

THE ENROLLMENT

Jane Snyder

Luke 2:1-5

Carol No. 140

**Once in Royal David's City**

THE BIRTH

Morgan Patty

Luke 2:6-7

Carol No. 129

**Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming**

THE ANGELS

Elisabeth Davis

Luke 2:8-14

Carol No. 110

**Love Has Come**

THE SHEPHERDS

Nicholas Patty

Luke 2:15-20

Carol No. 113

**Angels We Have Heard on High**

WE RESPOND WITH DEDICATION

*The invitation to give is not one that is intended to increase our weariness. Instead it is an opportunity to feel the deep satisfaction and joy that giving of our time, our talents, and our treasure can provide. With hopeful hearts, you are invited to give generously, as you are able.*

## OFFERING OF GIFTS

### INVITATION

#### ANTHEM

*The First Noel*  
Arr. Dan Forrest  
© Beckenhorst Press, 2009

*The first Noel, the angels did say,  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay,  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep,  
Noel! 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.*

*Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,  
And with His blood mankind hath bought.*

*Noel! Born is the King, Noel!*

#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Gracious God,**

**Your story is one that invites us to see the world as it could be. We present these gifts to you and ask that you accept them so that earth might begin to look a bit more like heaven.**

**On this night of marvelous gifts we ask,  
“What more can I give to Jesus?”**

**Help us to bring the gift of ourselves -  
offering all that we are and all that we have  
to your people and your world.**

**With hope, peace, joy, and love we pray. Amen.**

### PASSING THE LIGHT

*During the singing of Silent Night, the light from the Christ candle will be passed.*

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,  
'Round yon virgin mother and child!  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing: "Alleluia:  
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!"**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing  
Alleluia to our King:  
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.**

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*First Coming  
Madeleine L'Engle*

He did not wait till the world was ready,  
till men and nations were at peace.  
He came when the Heavens were unsteady,  
and prisoners cried out for release.

He did not wait for the perfect time.  
He came when the need was deep and great.  
He dined with sinners in all their grime,  
turned water into wine.

He did not wait till hearts were pure.  
In joy he came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.  
To a world like ours, of anguished shame  
he came, and his Light would not go out.

He came to a world which did not mesh,  
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.  
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh  
the Maker of the stars was born.

**We cannot wait till the world is sane  
to raise our songs with joyful voice,  
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,  
He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!**

CAROL No. 134 vv. 1,3,4

***Joy to the World***

***Joy to the word, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;  
Let every heart, prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing, x3***

***Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy, x3***

***He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love, x3***

POSTLUDE

***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing***  
J. William Greene  
Lorenz Corporation, 2020

*Many thanks to Tom Shelton and Ignace Agbadan  
for their work live-streaming the service this evening.*

*Please join us for these upcoming opportunities  
for worship and prayer during the  
Christmas Season:*

*1st Sunday After Christmas Hymn Service  
11:00 a.m. Sunday, December 28*

*Epiphany with Communion  
11:00 a.m. Sunday, January 4*



**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE.  
ASK THE USHER IF YOU NEED A COPY.**

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The prayer of confession was adapted from the Worship Sourcebook! The benediction includes the poem "First Coming" by Madeline L'Engle. Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license no. A-705298 unless otherwise noted. All rights reserved.

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