

# LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE

## December 2020

### CHRISTMAS DIALOG

L1 We give thanks to you God, for the body of a tiny baby, life and breath in a tiny ribcage.

**L2 Immanuel, God with us, a promise of salvation.**

L1 We give thanks for loving parents, for the light of a star, for the radiance of angels, for the running feet of shepherds, for all the joy of that first Christmas.

**L2 We thank you for today, that you have given our bodies life and breath this Christmas, that we are here, now, gathered with these people, joined in one accord in prayer to you.**

L1 Let the light of Jesus shine in our hearts as we come together for worship.

### OPENING PRAYER

**L2 The Lord be with you.**

L1 And also with you.

**L2 Let us pray. Loving, God, the celebration of Christmas continues. We have gone through the gift giving and receiving, have feasted with family and friends, and now we come again to worship as we celebrate the gift of God in flesh--Jesus with us. You, O Loving God, have wrapped the gift of your Son Jesus Christ around our lives.**

L1 The light of your love through him is shining brightly. It is not a harsh light, but a multitude of bright colors that remind us of the wondrous ways you love us. Open our hearts and spirits as we hear the words of your Holy Scripture and the beautiful music.

**L2 Bring us great joy as we hear of your love come down and are called to share this love with others. Amen.**

## LESSONS AND CAROLS

First Reading: Isaiah 9:3-7

*“Angels from the Realms of Glory”*

Second Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

Third Reading: Luke 1:26-35, 38

*“What Child Is This”*

Fourth Reading: Luke 2:1-7

*“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”*

Fifth Reading: Luke 2:8-16

*“Infant Lowly, Infant Holy”*

Sixth Reading: Luke 2:21-35

*“O Lord, Now Let Your Servant”*

Seventh Reading: Matthew 2:13-18

*“The First Noel”*

Eighth Reading: Matthew 2:13-18

*“Silent Night, Holy Night”*

Ninth Reading: John 1:1-14

*“Joy to the World”*

## CLOSING PRAYER

L1 Let us pray. Glory to God in the highest,

**L2 And peace to God’s people on earth.**

L1 Blessed are you, Prince of Peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

**L2 Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**

L1 Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

**L2 Have mercy on the sick, the dying and all who suffer this day.**

L1 Blessed are you, Son of God, You dwell among us as the word made flesh.

**L2 Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world. Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who are 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, forever and ever. Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

L1 Let us bless the Lord.

**L2 Thanks be to God.**

L1 May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherd, the determination of the magi and the peace of the Christ Child.

**L2 Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless us now and forever. Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

L1 Go in peace. Your light has come.

**L2 Thanks be to God.**

**SENDING SONG**    *“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”*