

January 1, 2023

10:00 AM Worship

O Lord, let our New Year's resolution be to follow you more closely
and to trust in your loving guidance.



Welcome

Opening

Carol of the Bells

arr. Chip Davis

Amber Hitchcock and Michael Glasgow

Prayer Time & Lord's Prayer

Cathie Blakeslee

(To share your joys and concerns, please email them to prayerrequests@stjamesraleigh.org, where they will then be shared with our Prayer Chain.)

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, forever. Amen.

First Lesson

Genesis 3: 8-19

Sandra Horton

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."

To the woman he said, "I will make your pangs in childbirth exceedingly great; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

And to the man he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Carol

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.

Charles Wesley, Rowland Prichard; arr. Don Chapman. ©2004 Hearts to God CCLI# 1374588

Second Lesson**Genesis 22: 15-18**

DaVante McIver

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."

Carol***O Come, O Come Emmanuel***

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom thee, O Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by Thy advent here.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come Emmanuel. God with us, here to rule and reign.
O come Emmanuel. We stand before Your throne in need of grace.
O come Emmanuel. Cleanse our hearts. Fill our minds anew.
O come Emmanuel. We stand before Your throne and worship You. We worship You.

O come, desire of nations, bind all peoples in heart and mind.
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease. Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. Shall come to thee, O Israel.

arr. Brad Henderson © 2007 Hendersongs/PraiseCharts. CCLI# 1347588

Third Lesson**Isaiah 11: 1-9**

Cheryl Walfall-Flagg

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 for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed 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 will feed 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***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!

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n;
so God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend on us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Phillips Brooks, Lewis Redner, arr. Don Chapman. © 2005 Hearts to God Music. CCLI# 1374588

Fourth Lesson

Luke 1: 26-38

Linda Davenport

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.

Carol

The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, 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.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

The star drew nigh to the northwest, over Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

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, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

vv 1, 2, 4, 6; W. Sandy, arr. Don Chapman ©2006 Hearts to God Music. CCLI# 1374588

Fifth Lesson

Luke 2: 1-16

Julian Bridgers

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called

Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

Now in that same 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.

Carol

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 th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angles sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heav'n 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 men to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die.
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
With th'angleic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Charles Wesley, Felix Mendelssohn; arr. Don Chapman. ©2002 Hearts to God Music. CCLI# 1374588

Benediction

In lieu of nursery and discipleship time today, we invite children to grab a worship activity bag from the entrance table and join us in worship today!



What to know this week...

Calendar this week:

TODAY, 1/1/23 Happy New Year!
Youth Tik-Tok-n New Year's Party, 4PM in Montague Hall

Mon, 1/2 *Office Closed

Tues, 1/3 Staff Holiday Luncheon, 11:30AM offsite

Wed, 1/4 *Life Line Screening, 9AM-5PM in Carson Hall
Choir Rehearsal, 6PM in the Sanctuary

Thurs, 1/5 Continuing Strummers, 6PM in Music Room
Common Thread Band Rehearsal, 7PM in Carson Hall

Sat, 1/7 *Produce Assembly, 9AM in Carson Hall

***The church office will be closed Monday in honor of New Year's Day.** We'll be back to our regular office hours (9AM-2PM, Monday-Thursday) on Tuesday, January 3.

***Life Line Screening is coming Wednesday, 9AM-5PM:** Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings Wednesday, January 4th, 2023 at Saint James United Methodist Church of Raleigh. A package of five screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered for only \$159 and take 60-90 minutes to complete. If you register today, you will receive a \$10 member discount. Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6450, visit <https://lisa.social/HC> or text the word "circle" to 797979.

***Our first Produce Assembly of 2023 is Saturday, January 7 at 9AM.** Sign-ups for all January and February dates are available now at <https://tinyurl.com/Produce-Packing> or contact Martha Brown (919-876-5796; office@stjamesraleigh.org) for assistance.

The 2023 Altar Flowers Signup is Available! If you'd like to provide altar flowers for the sanctuary in 2023, please visit the online signup page at www.tinyurl.com/2023AltarFlowers or contact Martha Brown (919-876-5796; office@stjamesraleigh.org) for assistance.

2023 Calendar Reminder: Committee chairs and ministry/mission/program leaders: Please be sure to plan ahead and submit your 2023 Ministry Planning Sheets to get your events on the church calendar! Since there are several new faces on the Administrative Council this coming year, some meeting dates and times may change. Reserve your dates and spaces as soon as possible; all are first-come, first served. Planning sheets are available in the church office and on the Members page of the church website (stjumc.us).

Remember to volunteer to work concessions at PNC Arena! We still have open dates on our schedule for NCSU Basketball and Carolina Hurricanes hockey matches. To see the schedule and sign up, use the link <http://tinyurl.com/PNCVolunteers>.

Still collecting Military Ministry donations: We are still accepting books of Forever stamps and medium/large package envelopes. The collection box remains on the counter of the Welcome Center off the lobby. If you have updated names/ mailing addresses for military personnel, please email that info to theriqdas@yhao.com and voverton1@gmail.com.