

*Music at the Red Door presents a*  
**Candlelight Festival of Lessons and Carols**

The St. John's Youth and Adult Choirs

**Sunday, December 11, 2016, 3:00 p.m.**

*Please connect with the sacred by turning off your electronic device as soon as you are seated.  
You are cordially invited to a reception following the service in the church hall.*

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**VOLUNTARIES FOR ORGAN**

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Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland   *Savior of the nations, come  
Weihnachten  
Whence is that goodly fragrance flowing?*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)  
Max Reger (1873-1916)  
Dale Wood (1934-2003)

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**OPENING HYMN IN PROCESSION 102   All stand and sing**

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Once in royal David's city  
Stanzas 1 - 2 sung by the choir  
Stanzas 3 - 6 sung by all

IRBY  
Descant: Paul Halley (b. 1952)

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**GREETING**

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The Reverend Susan Pinkerton, Rector

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**THE BIDDING PRAYER**

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Beloved in Christ, in this Christmastide, let it be 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.

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; and let us make this church glad with our carols of praise. But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely

and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and 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 his pure and lowly Mother, and 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 this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

**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 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.**

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**INVITATORY CAROL**    *Be seated*

In the bleak mid-winter

Harold Darke (1888-1976)

Words: Christina Rosetti (1830-1894)

In the bleak mid-winter  
Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron,  
    Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
    Snow on snow,  
In the bleak mid-winter  
    Long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him

    Nor earth sustain;

Heaven and earth shall flee away

    When He comes to reign:

In the bleak mid-winter

    A stable-place sufficed

The Lord God Almighty,

    Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, whom cherubim

    Worship night and day,

A breastful of milk

    And a mangerful of hay;

Enough for Him, whom angels  
Fall down before,  
The ox and ass and camel  
Which adore. (*Nicholas Filippides, soloist*)

What can I give Him,  
Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd  
I would bring a lamb,  
If I were a wise man  
I would do my part,  
Yet what I can I give Him,  
Give my heart.

## FIRST LESSON

read by Tom Moore

*God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.*  
Genesis 3: 8-15; 17-19

**A**nd they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden. And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life: and I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken; for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

Jesus Christ the apple tree

Elizabeth Poston (1905-1987)

Words from Divine Hymns of Spiritual Songs, compiled Joshua Smith, 1784

The tree of life my soul hath seen  
Laden with fruit and always green  
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  
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  
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 a while  
I'm weary with my former toil  
Here I will sit and rest a while  
Under the shadow I will be  
Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit does make my soul to thrive  
It keeps my dying faith alive  
This fruit does 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.

## SECOND LESSON

read by Maria Foust

*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed.*  
Genesis 22: 15-18

**A**nd the angel of the Lord called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, and said, By myself have I sworn, saith the Lord, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: that in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

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Sussex Carol

English Carol, arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring -  
News of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.  
Then why should men on earth be so sad, since our Redeemer made us glad?  
When from our sin he set us free, all for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before his grace, then life and health come in its place,  
Angels and mortals with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King.  
All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night:  
"Glory to God and peace on earth, now and forevermore. Amen."

## THIRD LESSON

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read by Cleveland Williams

*The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.*

Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

**T**he people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

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The blessed son of God, from *Hodie*

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Words: Miles Coverdale, after Martin Luther

The blessed Son of God only in a crib full poor did lie;  
With our poor flesh and our poor blood was clothed that everlasting good. Kyrie eleison.  
The Lord Christ Jesu, God's son dear, was a guest and a stranger here;  
Us for to bring from misery, that we might live eternally. Kyrie eleison.  
All this did he for us freely, for to declare his great mercy;  
All Christendom be merry therefore, and give him thanks for evermore. Kyrie eleison.

## FOURTH LESSON

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read by Judith Wawro

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*

Isaiah 11: 1-3a; 4a; 6-9

**A**nd 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 shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for 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.

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.

And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.

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.

Thanks be to God.

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## CAROL

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Lo, how a rose e'er blooming

Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)  
Hugo Distler (1908-1942)

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 floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,  
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;  
Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.  
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,  
When half spent was the night.

This Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,  
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere;  
True man, yet very God, from sin and death He saves us,  
And lightens every load.

## FIFTH LESSON

read by Ann Hutchinson

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

Luke 1: 26-35, 38

**A**nd in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

Ave Maria (Angelus Domini)

Franz Biebl (1906-2001)

*Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariae et concepit de Spiritu sancto.*

The angel of God visited Maria and she conceived of the Holy Spirit. (John Nowacki, soloist)

*Maria dixit: Ecce ancilla Domini. Fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum.*

Maria said: See the servant of the Lord. May it happen to me according to your word. (Doug Engwall, soloist)

*Et Verbum caro factum est et habitavit in nobis.*

And the Word became flesh and lived among us. (Lynn Brooks, soloist)

*Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum.*

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

*Benedicta tu in mulieribus,*

Blessed art thou among women,

*et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Iesus.*

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

*Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,  
pray for us sinners,  
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.  
now and in the hour of our death. Amen.*

## SIXTH LESSON

read by Chris Byrd

St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

Luke 2: 1; 3-7

**A**nd it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

No sad thought his soul affright, from *Hodie*

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Words: Anonymous, second stanza by Ursula Vaughn Williams (1911-2007)

No sad thought his soul affright,  
Sleep it is that maketh night;  
Let no murmur nor rude wind  
To his slumbers prove unkind:  
But a quire of angels make  
His dreams of heaven, and let him wake  
To as many joys as can  
In this world befall a man. (*quartet: Anne Harney, Mary Beth Lamlein, Paul Smith, John Church*)

Promise fills the sky with light,  
Stars and angels dance in flight;  
Joy of heaven shall now unbind  
Chains of evil from mankind,  
Love and joy their power shall break,  
And for a new born prince's sake;  
Never since the world began  
Such a light such dark did span.

## SEVENTH LESSON

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read by Jan Hickcox

*The shepherds go to the manger.*  
Luke 2: 8-16

**A**nd there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

Thanks be to God.

## CAROL

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The shepherd's carol

Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)  
Words: Clive Sansom (1910-1981)

We stood on the hills, Lady,  
Our day's work done,  
Watching the frosted meadows  
That winter had won.

The evening was calm, Lady,  
The air so still,  
Silence more lovely than music  
Folded the hill.

There was a star, Lady,  
Shone in the night,  
Larger than Venus it was  
And bright, so bright.

Oh, a voice from the sky, Lady,  
It seemed to us then  
Telling of God being born  
In the world of men.

And so we have come, Lady,  
Our day's work done,  
Our love, our hopes, ourselves,  
We give to your son.

## EIGHTH LESSON

read by Jeff Verney

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

Matthew 2: 1-12

**N**ow when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judæa in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judæa: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed; and lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts, gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

Thanks be to God.

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## HYMN 109    All stand and sing, the choir singing stanza 3 alone

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The first Nowell the angel did say

THE FIRST NOWELL  
Descant: David Willcocks (1919-2015)

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## NINTH LESSON    Remain standing

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read by the Reverend Susan Pinkerton

*St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

John 1: 1-14

**I**n the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that light, but was sent to bear witness of that light. That was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own

received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only-begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Thanks be to God.

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**CAROL**    *Be seated*

The Lamb

John Tavener (1944-2013)  
Words: William Blake (1757-1827)

Little Lamb who made thee  
Dost thou know who made thee  
Gave thee life & bid thee feed.  
By the stream & o'er the mead;  
Gave thee clothing of delight,  
Softest clothing wooly bright;  
Gave thee such a tender voice,  
Making all the vales rejoice!

Little Lamb who made thee  
Dost thou know who made thee

Little Lamb I'll tell thee,  
Little Lamb I'll tell thee!  
He is called by thy name,  
For he calls himself a Lamb:  
He is meek & he is mild,  
He became a little child:  
I a child & thou a lamb,  
We are called by his name.

Little Lamb God bless thee.  
Little Lamb God bless thee.

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**COLLECT AND BLESSING**    *All stand*

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Let us pray. God, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only son, Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our redeemer, so we may with sure confidence behold him, when he shall come to be our judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, grant you the fullness of inward peace and goodwill, and make you partakers of the divine nature; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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**CLOSING HYMN IN PROCESSION 83** *All remain standing and sing*

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O come, all ye faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

Descant: David Willcocks (1919-2015)

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**ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

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Carillon-Sortie

Henri Mulet (1878-1967)

*The closing voluntary is a part of worship, extending the beauty of holiness so that the congregation can remember and give thanks for God's Word as it has been experienced this day. All are invited to say Amen at the end of the Postlude as a conclusion to our worship.*