



Worship Servants

Worship Assistant	Deacon Brigitte McKenzie
Readers	Anita Walper
	Andrew Macauley
	Barb Smart
	Shari Yore
Greeters	Andrew & Cathy Macauley
Counters	Barb Henriksen
Altar Care	Barb Smart
	Anita Walper
Musician	Simi Luttrell

Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church, ELCIC A Reconciling In Christ Congregation

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**You are CREATED by God, LOVED just as you are and
we WELCOME you**

**We are delighted you are here today to share in worship!
Please sign our guestbook if you are a visitor.**

*We acknowledge and thank the Lkwungen and WSÁNEĆ Peoples,
also known as the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations communities,
for allowing us to live, worship, work and play on their ancestral lands*

1st SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS - DECEMBER 29, 2024 SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS Pastor Linda Douglas



Prelude

Announcements

BACKGROUND

In 1880 the Anglican bishop of Truro, crafted a festival service of nine lessons and carols for worship on Christmas Eve. Nearly forty years later, the dean of King's College Chapel, Cambridge, adapted that worship order for use at King's on Christmas Eve 1918. Radio broadcasts of the King's service began in the 1930s and were first transmitted to North America in the 1970s.

But the liturgy itself reached North America earlier than that. Clergy, musicians, and worship leaders began adapting it for use in their own churches, cathedrals, and chapels. The service begins and ends in prayer. Nine scripture readings retell the Christmas story and locate it within the broader context of God's saving acts, beginning with Genesis and culminating with the prologue to John's gospel. Carols respond to the readings. We welcome you to worship on this First Sunday of Christmas.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord, all the earth, from the highest heights to the deepest depths!

Let everything sing and shout praise to the Creator!

Praise the Lord, all the heavens and starry host!

All throughout the universe may praise to God abound!

Come, let us joyfully praise God!

Let us live our praise in deeds of loving kindness.

GREETING and OPENING PRAYER

The Babe of Bethlehem be with you.

And also with you.

Let us prayGlory of Israel, the coming of your son, Jesus, broke open the heavens and prepared a way for all of your children to come home to you. Give us eyes to see your miraculous spirit moving in this church and in this world.

Teach us to be proclaimers of your love to the nations, for the sake of the one whose name is redemption for the peoples, Jesus Christ our salvation. Amen.

OPENING CAROL

I am So Glad Each Christmas Eve

271

First Lesson Genesis 3:8–15, 17–19

Adam and Eve lose life in paradise through their sin, as their relationship with God and each other is broken.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Cold December Flies Away

299

Second Lesson Genesis 22:15–18 **(Andrew)**

God promises to Abraham that because he was faithful, his offspring shall be the Lord's people, numerous as the stars in the sky.

CLOSING CAROL

O Holy Night

O, Ho-ly Night, — the stars are bright-ly shining;

It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth —

Long lay the world — in sin and sorrow pining, —

Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth. —

A thrill of hope the weary soul rejoices,

For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

Fall — on your knees — O hear — the angel voices!

O night — divine — O night — when Christ was born!—

O night — divine — O night.— O — night divine!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, go in joy, go in love to meet God's people in the world and greet them with the good news.

Thanks be to the God of peace and love.

Postlude



BENEDICTION

A new year is coming and God is with us; In loving, in caring,
in hoping and expecting, God is with us and never lets us go.
God live in us, God live with us, God live through us.

God keep us faithful through the days of the New Year that lie
ahead; God keep us caring as we see the pain that fills your
world; God keep us serving as we seek to do your will.
God live in us, God live with us, God live through us.

God keep us loving toward neighbours near and far; God
keep us trusting through the uncertainties of life; God keep us
sharing from your generous abundance.
**God live in us, God live with us, God live through us.
Amen.**



The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (Vs. 1,2,4)

272

Third Lesson Isaiah 9:2–7

*Jesus' reign of justice and peace is prophesied centuries
before his birth.*

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

The Bells of Christmas (Vs. 1,2,3,4)

298

Fourth Lesson Isaiah 11:1–9

*Jesus will sit upon the throne of David, and usher in the
coming kingdom of God.*

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

All My Heart Again Rejoices (Vs. 1,2,3)

273

A shoot will grow
FROM THE stump of Jesse,
AND A branch FROM HIS roots
> WILL bear fruit <
THE Spirit OF THE Lord
WILL rest ON HIM.
ISAIAH 11:1-2



Fifth Lesson Luke 1:26–35, 38

The angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will conceive Jesus, the Son of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

270

Sixth Lesson Luke 2:1–7

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus. In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

The Holly and the Ivy

See Insert

Seventh Lesson Luke 2:8–17

The angels bring humble shepherds joyful news—the Saviour of the world has been born.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

See Insert

Eighth Lesson Matthew 2:1–12

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus, and avoid the schemes of King Herod.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

The First Noel (Vs. 1,2,3)

300

Ninth Lesson John 1:1–14

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation—Jesus is the eternal Word of God, who was, is, and is to come.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

Away in the Manager

278

CLOSING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you made your holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence, and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

