

# Service of Lessons & Carols

December 21, 2003

Rev. Jeff & Jill Bennett, Narrators

## PRELUDE

*“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*

## LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

*Larry & Cheryl Bradford*

Narrator: O God, we are assured of your presence with us.

**People: Help us to trade our doubts for your assurance;**

Narrator: Help us to trust your plan for our lives;

**People: We celebrate Emmanuel - God with us. Amen.**

## \*PROCESSIONAL

220

*“Angels From the Realms of Glory”*

## LESSON ONE

*Christ's Coming Foretold By Isaiah*

*Isaiah 11:1-3, 9:6-7, 40:5*

## NARRATOR

## HYMN

216

*“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”*

Narrator: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**People: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given.**

Narrator: And the government will be upon his shoulder, and his name will be called

**People: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Ever-lasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Narrator: Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end.

## MUSIC

*“How Majestic Is Your Name”*

## LESSON TWO

*Christ Will Come From Bethlehem*

*Micah 5:2*

Narrator: Then from Micah the word was given, “But you, Bethlehem, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.

**People: And He will be their peace.**

## HYMN

250

*“Once In Royal David's City”*

*“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”*

211

## LESSON THREE

*The Angel Gabriel Comes to Mary*

*Luke 1:26-33*

Narrator: **A faithful few heard the voice of God...**

Narrator: The angel Gabriel was sent from God to the town of Nazareth in Galilee with a message for a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to Joseph from the family of King David. The angel greeted Mary and said,

**People: “You are truly blessed! The Lord is with you.”**

Narrator: Mary was confused by the angel's words and wondered what they meant. Then the angel told Mary.

**People: “Don't be afraid! God is pleased with you, and you will have a son. His name will be Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of God Most High.”**

Narrator: The Lord God will make him king and he will rule the people of Israel forever, and his kingdom will never end.

## HYMN

240

*“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

## LESSON FOUR

*The Christ Child Is Born*

*Luke 2:1-7*

Narrator: About that time Emperor Augustus gave orders for the names of all the people to be listed in record books. These were made when Quirinius was governor of Syria. Everyone had to go to their own home town to be listed. So Joseph had to leave Nazareth in Galilee and go to Bethlehem in Judea. Long ago Bethlehem had been King David's hometown, and Joseph went here because he was from David's family. Mary traveled with him to Bethlehem and was soon going to have a baby. While they were there, she gave birth to her first-born son.

**People: She wrapped him in cloths and laid him in a manger on a bed of hay, because there was no room for them in the inn.**

## HYMN

237

*“Sing We Now of Christmas”*

*“Away in a Manger”*

217

## OFFERTORY

## \*HYMN

219

*“What Child Is This?”*

## LESSON FIVE

*The Shepherds Go to the Manger*

*Luke 2:8-16*

Narrator: That night in the fields near Bethlehem some shepherds were guarding their sheep. All at once an angel came down to them from the Lord, and the brightness of the Lord's glory flashed around them. The shepherds were frightened. But the angel said,

People: "Don't be afraid! I have good news for you, which will make everyone happy. This day in King David's hometown a Savior was born for you. He is Christ the Lord.

Narrator: You will know who he is because you will find him dressed in cloths and lying on a bed of hay." Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of angels praising God and saying,

People: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased!

HYMN 238  
"Angels We Have Heard on High"

## LESSON SIX

*Jesus Fulfills The Prophecy*  
Luke 4:16-21

Narrator: When Jesus began to preach, he was about thirty years old. He went to the meeting place on the Sabbath. When he stood up to read from the Scriptures, he was given the book of Isaiah the prophet. He opened it and read,

People: "The Lord's Spirit has come to me, because he has chosen me to tell the good news to the poor. The Lord has sent me to announce freedom for prisoners, to give sight to the blind, to free everyone who suffers, and to say, This is the year the Lord has chosen."

Narrator: Jesus closed the book and sat down. Everyone in the meeting place looked straight at Jesus. Then Jesus said to them, "What you have just heard me read has come true today."

MUSIC Carol Zur  
"Mary, Did You Know?"

## LESSON SEVEN

*We Are Called To Live the Message*  
Ephesians 4:23-24, 5:1-2

Narrator: Be constantly renewed in the spirit of your mind – having a fresh mental and spiritual attitude; and put on the new nature created in God's image, in true righteousness and holiness.

People: Therefore, be imitators of God ~ copy Him and follow His example ~ and walk in love, esteeming and delighting in one another, as Christ loves us.

NARRATOR

MUSIC

"Jesus, name Above All Names"  
(See Insert)

"Emmanuel" 204

NARRATOR

\*HYMN

"O Magnify the Lord"  
(See Insert)

"Joy To The World" 246

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Jeff Bennett

\*POSTLUDE



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### CHURCH STAFF

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*A Service of  
Lessons & Carols  
December 21, 2003*

## *O Magnify the Lord*

○ magnify, ○ magnify the Lord with me,  
And let us exalt His name together.  
○ magnify the Lord, ○ magnify the Lord,  
And may His name be lifted high forever.

○ worship Him, ○ worship Christ the Lord with me,  
And let us exalt His name together.  
○ worship Christ, the Lord, ○ worship Christ the King  
And may His name be lifted high forever.

King of Kings and Lord of Lords  
May His name be lifted high forever!

○ magnify, ○ magnify the Lord with me,  
And let us exalt His name together  
○ magnify the Lord, ○ magnify the Lord  
And may His name be lifted high forever.

## *Jesus, Name Above All Names*

**Jesus, name above all names,  
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord  
Emmanuel, God is with us,  
Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.**

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And let us exalt His name together.  
○ worship Christ, the Lord, ○ worship Christ the King  
And may His name be lifted high forever.

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May His name be lifted high forever!

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May His name be lifted high forever!

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And let us exalt His name together  
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