

*St. Paul's Episcopal Church*  
6249 Canal Boulevard · New Orleans, LA 70124

# *Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols*

*December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008 10:00 a.m.*

**Pre-service Music:**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
- Gordon Young

*Ding Dong Merrily*  
- arr. Charles Wood

O Come, All Ye Faithful  
- Gordon Young

The Cherry Tree Carol  
- arr. David Willcocks

St. Paul's Handbells

Past Three O'Clock  
- arr. Charles Wood



*The Adoration of the Magi* by Fra Filippo Lippi - Florentine 1406-69

**Organ Prelude:** *"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night"*

arr. Gordon Young

**The Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**The ? Family**

Leader: Our Savior is born a baby!

**People: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Leader: Jesus Christ became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood.

**People: Shout to the Lord, all the earth. Alleluia!**

Leader: Jesus is both a mirror to humanity and a window to divinity.

**People: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

Leader: Christmas reminds us that God is with us, here and now. Infant Jesus calls out the best in us.

What is our response to the Beloved?

**People: We will give him our hearts.**

Leader: We light the Christ Candle. Let us pray.

**ALL: O Gracious God, Creator of the Shining Stars, we wish to travel with haste to Bethlehem and greet Jesus. We desire to take in all that you have made known to us in his wondrous birth. Bless us with your grace as we reach out and welcome Christ Jesus into our lives. Amen. \***

## Opening Hymn # 102

Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

Verse II – Choir only

1. Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ, her little child.

3. And through all his wondrous  
childhood  
He would honour and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly maiden,  
In whose gentle arms he lay:  
Christian children all must be  
Mild, obedient, good as he.

5. And our eyes at last shall see him,  
Through his own redeeming love,  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in Heaven above;  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he is gone.

2. He came down to earth from Heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable,  
And his cradle was a stall.  
With the poor and mean and lowly  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

4. For he is our childhood's pattern,  
Day by day like us he grew,  
He was little, weak, and helpless,  
Tears and smiles like us he knew:  
And he feeleth for our sadness,  
And he shareth in our gladness.

6. Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see him; but in Heaven,  
Set at God's right hand on high;  
Where like stars his children crowned  
All in white shall wait around.

## Greeting

### The Bidding Prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**Congregational Carol #83** "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

*ADESTE FIDELES*

**First Lesson:** Genesis 3:8-15

Lector 1

*"God tells Adam he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head."*

**Congregational Carol # 105** "God Rest You Merry Gentlemen"

*GOD REST YOU MERRY*

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

Lector 2

*"God promises to Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed."*

**Carol:** "A Bethlehem Carol"

Lewis Redner, Ralph Vaughan-Williams

**Third Lesson:** Isaiah 9:2,6-7

Lector 3

*"The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour."*

**Carol:** Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston

**Fourth Lesson:** Micah 5:2-4

Lector 4

*"The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown."*

**Carol:** *Myn Lyking*

**Fifth Lesson:** Luke 1:26-35, 38

Caroline Carson

*"The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary."*

**Congregational Carol: # 96** "Angels We Have Heard on High"

*GLORIA*

**Sixth Lesson:** Matthew 1:18-21

Lector 6

*"St Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus."*

**Carol:** The Infant King

Basque carol, arr. Sabine Baring-Gould

**Seventh Lesson:** Luke 2: 8-20

Lector 7

*“The shepherds go to the manger.”*

**St. Paul’s Handbells** “Away in a manger”  
“Selection”

**Eighth Lesson:** Matthew 2:1-11

Lector 8

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

**Carol:** *Star Child*

Brian Wren

**Ninth Lesson:** John 1:1-14

The Rev. Hill Riddle

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

**Carol:** In the Bleak Midwinter

Harold Darke

**Prayer of the Light**

Please light your candle by dipping it toward your neighbor’s lighted candle. After all candles are lit we will sing  
“Silent Night”

**Carol of the Holy Night # 111**

“Silent Night”

*STILLE NACHT*

**Words of Peace**

**Closing Hymn # 87**

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

*MENDELSSOHN*

**Organ Postlude:** “Joy to the World!”

Gordon Young



*The Nativity* by Sandro Botticelli (Alessandro di Mariano Filipepi) 1444-1510

This Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols has been adapted from the traditional "Service of Lessons & Carols" held at King's College, Cambridge University. This service, itself an adaptation of a service instituted by Archbishop Benson at Truro Cathedral, was first presented on Christmas Eve, 1919, in King's College Chapel, and continues as a much celebrated annual tradition in many denominations across the world.

The Bidding Prayer reminds us that the purpose of this service is to tell the story of our redemption as it is set forth in Holy Scripture. The prayers and the carols are offerings of praise to God as we move from darkness and waiting into light and hope.

*Participating in this morning's service:*

The Rev. Hill Riddle, Interim Rector  
Caroline Carson, Director of Music  
Natalie True, Organist

List lector in alpha order....

Crucifer: Robby Slichio  
Torchbearer/Epistle Server: Andrew Holdiness  
Torchbearer/Gospel Server: David Dobie

December 21, 2008

**Readers** - Waiting for the names

**LEMS** - Don Pritchard and David Russell

**Vestry Person** - Jim Kepper

Oblations Carriers - Bob and Norriss Williams

**Acolytes** - David Dobie, Andrew Holdiness, Robby Slichio

**Altar Guild Team 2:** Monday, December 22 thru Sunday, December 28

Natalie James, Brenda Higgins, Irene Klinger, JoNelle Kepper, and Carla Rainey

**Sunday School Leader** - Stacey Hayden