

Christmas Eve  
Service of Lessons and Carols

<b>PRELUDE</b>	“Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella”	Robert Lau
<b>*CAROL</b>	“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (Vs. 1, 2, 3, 6)	No. 234
<b>WELCOME</b>		
<b>CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER</b>		
<p>Gracious God, your angels broke into the midnight of a sleeping world to sing the news that Christ was born in Bethlehem. Break into the midnight of our dark world and stir our hearts to hear again the message of your love. O God, on this night of joyful and expectant wonder, we look forward to the coming of the child whose birth was foretold by prophets, acclaimed by angels, and greeted by shepherds. Open our eyes to see in him your loving purposes, and arouse within us the spirit of adoring praise. Loving God, in the stillness of this evening hour, touch our minds with your Holy Spirit, that we may know again in true reality the wonder of your love in Jesus Christ; and though there was no room for him in Bethlehem’s inn, help us to make room for him in our lives, responding to his love and receiving his peace. In the holy name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.</p>		
<b>FIRST LESSON</b>	Genesis 3:8-15	Janet Sattel
God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent’s head.		
<b>SECOND LESSON</b>	Genesis 22:15-18	Janet Sattel
God promises Abraham that by his descendants all the nations of the earth shall be blessed.		
<b>*CAROL</b>	“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (Vs. 1, 5, 6, 7)	No. 211
<b>THIRD LESSON</b>	Isaiah 9:2, 6-7	Glen Esler
The prophet announces the birth of a King to a people in darkness.		
<b>CAROL</b>	“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”	No. 218
<b>FOURTH LESSON</b>	Micah 5:2-5a	Mike Stauffer
The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem		
<b>CELEBRATION CHOIR</b>	“The First Noel / Pachelbel’s Canon”	Arr: M. Clawson

<b>FIFTH LESSON</b>	Luke 1:26-35, 38	Connor Felty
The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give birth to God's promised Son whose kingdom shall never end.		

<b>CAROL</b>	“Infant Holy”	No. 229
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<b>SIXTH LESSON</b>	Luke 2:1-7	Taryn Blydenburgh
Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.		

**OUR CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS – Unison Prayer**

Most gracious God, thank you for sending Jesus to be the Savior of the world. You fulfilled your promises in astounding ways! He is your greatest gift to humankind. People around the world see Christmas decorations and wonder about the significance of Jesus. Let our congregation serve as faithful witnesses of your love through our words and actions. Use our gifts and offerings to bring the light of Christ to people who long for your grace. We pray in the beautiful name of Jesus. Amen.

<b>OFFERTORY</b>	“Once in David’s Royal City”	Wilbur Held
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<b>CAROL</b>	“Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow”	No. 2096
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<b>SEVENTH LESSON</b>	Luke 2:8-20	Bruce Conrad
The shepherds go to see the Savior of the world, lying in a manger.		

<b>*CAROL</b>	“Angels We Have Heard on High”	No. 238
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<b>EIGHTH LESSON</b>	Matthew 2:1-11	Joan Sowers
The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.		

<b>CAROL</b>	“What Child Is This”	No. 219
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<b>NINTH LESSON</b>	John 1:1-5, 9-14	Janet Sattel
John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.		

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**CAROL** "Silent Night, Holy Night" No. 239

**MOMENT OF PRAYERFUL SILENCE**

**\*CAROL** "Joy to the World" No. 246

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*ORGAN POSTLUDE** Joy to the World Phil Lehenbauer

**\* INDICATES CONGREGATION STANDING**  
**Please stand as you are able**

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

The ushers will light the candle of the person at the end of each pew.  
Please pass the light to the person next to you.  
Do not tip the lighted candle.

The person with the unlit candle will tilt their candle to the flame of the lit candle.

Remain seated during the singing of Silent Night as the light is passed.  
After a moment of silence, the organ will strike a chord.  
Please rise and join in singing Joy to the World,  
keeping your candles lit as symbolic of the  
light of Christ coming into the darkness of our world.

**Please extinguish your candle once the postlude has begun.**  
**Deposit your candles in the baskets in the baskets as you exit.**



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**December 24, 2022**  
**10:00 p.m.**

**Church of the Good Shepherd**  
**1500 Quentin Road**  
**Lebanon, PA 17042**