



Lakewood Presbyterian Church
Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
December 21, 2025 | Fourth Sunday in Advent

Throughout, the Congregation is invited to join in speaking/singing where there is bolded text.

Prelude

Joshua L. Mazur, Organist

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Choral Response *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*

Unison Prayer

God of steadfast love, as we hear again the story of our salvation, open our hearts to your promises. Draw near to us as you drew near in Christ. Let your love take root in our lives, that we may share it with a waiting world. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Responsive Call to Worship

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
And on those who lived in the land of deep shadow, the light has shined.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.
And we have beheld his glory, full of grace and truth.

Let us go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which has come to pass.
For unto us a Child is born. Unto us a Son is given. Christ the Lord.

Come, let us worship God.
The Lord is our light and our salvation. Thanks be to God.

Processional Hymn *Once In Royal David's City*

Greyson Wiley, Soloist

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.

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 meek and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

4) 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.



The Bidding Prayer & Christmas Collect

Pastor Joy Laughridge

Bidding Carol

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

**1) Good Christian friends, rejoice - with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

**3) Good Christian friends, rejoice - with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

+ THE NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS +

FIRST LESSON

The Reading - Genesis 3:8-15

The Carol *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

**1) Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

**2) Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.**

SECOND LESSON

The Reading - Genesis 22:15-18

The Carol *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

arr. Willcocks

1) O come, O come, Emmanuel! Redeem thy captive Israel,
That into exile drear is gone Far from the face of God's dear Son.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee O Israel.

2) O come, thou Branch of Jesse draw The quarry from the lion's claw;
From the dread caverns of the grave, from nether hell, thy people save.

Rejoice! Rejoice...



3) O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright! Pour on our souls thy healing light;
Dispel the long night's ling'ring gloom, and pierce the shadows of the tomb.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee O Israel.

4) O come, Thou Lord of David's Key! The royal door fling wide and free;
Safeguard for us the heav'nward road, And bar the way to death's abode.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee O Israel.

5) O come, O come, Adonai, Who in thy glorious majesty
From that high mountain clothed with awe gavest thy folk the elder law.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee O Israel.

THIRD LESSON

The Reading - Isaiah 9:2,6-7

The Carol

The Holly and the Ivy

Hannah Mazur, Soloist

1) The holly and the ivy, when they are both full grown,
of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown.
O, the rising of the sun, and the running of the deer,
the playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.

3) The holly bears a berry, as red as any blood,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, to do poor sinners good.
O, the rising of the sun, and the running of the deer,
the playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.

5) The holly bears a bark, as bitter as the gall,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, to redeem us all.
O, the rising of the sun, and the running of the deer,
the playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.

FOURTH LESSON

The Reading - Isaiah 11:1-9

The Carol

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Noah Cummings, Soloist

1) Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega; he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!

3) O, that birth forever blessed when the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race,
and the babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!



6) Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be.
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore! Amen.

FIFTH LESSON

The Reading - Luke 1:26–38

The Carol

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Laura Young, Soloist

1) Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung.
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.

2) Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright she bore for us a Savior,
when half spent was the night.

3) This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
Enfleshed, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us
and lightens every load.

SIXTH LESSON

The Reading - Matthew 1:18–23

The Carol

Ding Dong Merrily on High

arr. Michael Kravchuk

1) Ding dong, merrily on high! In heav'n the bells are ringing;
ding dong, verily the sky is riv'n with angel singing. Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

2) E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,
And io, io, io, by priest and people sung. Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

3) Pray ye dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers;
may ye beautifully rhyme your evetime song, ye singers. Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

SEVENTH LESSON

The Reading - Luke 2:8–16

The Carol

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

**1) Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"**



Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

**2) Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

**3) Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

EIGHTH LESSON

The Reading - Matthew 2:1-11

The Carol

As With Gladness Men of Old

1) As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we
evermore be led to thee.

**4 Holy Jesus, every day
keep us in the narrow way;
and when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds thy glory hide.**

NINTH LESSON

The Reading - John 1:1-14

The Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful

arr. Willcocks

1) O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him Born the King of Angels
O come, let us adore Him... Christ the Lord!

2) God of God, Light of Light
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb
Very God Begotten, not created
O come, let us adore Him... Christ the Lord!



**6) Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God All glory in the highest
O come, let us adore Him... Christ the Lord!**

**7) Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning
Jesus, to Thee be glory given
Word of the Father Now in flesh appearing
O come, let us adore Him... Christ the Lord!**

Offering

Offering Voluntary

Closing Hymn

Joy to the World

arr. John Rutter

1 Joy to the world! The Lord is come; Let earth receive her King!
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room!
And heav'n and nature, sing... And heav'n and nature, sing... And heav'n and nature, sing

2. Joy to the world! The Savior reigns; Let men their songs employ!
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
repeat the sounding joy... repeat the sounding joy... repeat, repeat, the sounding joy...

**3. He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of His love...**

Benediction

Postlude

Joshua Mazur, Organist

Guest Instrumentalists:	Rhonda Cassano, Flute Cliff Newton, Trumpet Glynda Newton, Violin Linda Minke, Cello
Soloists from the Choir:	Noah Cummings Hannah Mazur Laura Young Greyson Wiley
Duty Elders for December:	Lisa Wetzel Diana Balow Arnie Blevins
Senior Pastor:	Rev. Joy Laughridge
Director of Youth & Christian Education:	Brian Mitchell
Director of Music & Organist	Joshua L. Mazur
Parish Associate:	Rev. Vickie Bossuot
Attendance December 14, 2025	In Person: 91; 1 st Time Visitors: 1 ; Online: 19
The poinsettias in the chancel are given by LPC members to honor or remember their loved ones..	



Upcoming Events

December 21, Sunday

- 10:00 am – LPC Choir Christmas Cantata
- 11:00 am – Grace Patrol – Coleman Room

December 22, Monday

- 9:00 am – LPC Christmas VBS – Benz Hall
- 4:00 pm – Chair Yoga – Benz Hall

December 24, Wednesday, Christmas Eve

- 12:00 pm – LPC Office closing early
- 5:00 pm – Family Service – Sanctuary
- 7:00 pm – Traditional Service – Sanctuary

December 25, Thursday – Christmas Day

- Christmas Blessings to Everyone

December 26, Friday

- 10:00 am – Vintage Players - Youth Hut
- 6:00 pm – Women in Recovery – Youth Hut

December 28, Sunday

- 11:00 am – Grace Patrol – Coleman Room

December 31, Wednesday, New Year's Eve

- 12:00 pm – LPC Office closing early
- New Year's Blessings to Everyone

January 1, Thursday, New Year's Day

- Happy New Year!

Notice of Congregational Meeting

There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, January 4th to elect our final elder nominee, Diana Balow, for a one-year term.

Announcements, Next Page



UCOM Turkey Fund for the Holidays!

Each year, LPC's Outreach Ministry works with UCOM and a local grocery store to help provide **gifts cards** for deserving families in our community. Financial donations can be made through LPC by designating "Turkey Fund" on your check or envelope with your offering. In addition to gift cards, UCOM is seeking **food donations**.

Please donate: Instant mashed potatoes, stuffing, pie crust, cornbread, muffin, or biscuit mix, cans of yam, sweet potatoes, green beans, corn, apple pie filling, and gravy mix. The fund will operate now through December, as we celebrate Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Donations can be dropped off at UCOM, in the baskets in the Narthex, or in the church office. **Thank you for your generosity!**



Walking the Mourner's Path
Workshop
January 22nd to March 12th 2026
@ 6:30 pm
Register by January 1st
email info@lpcjax.org
phone 904.733.8055



Poinsettia Dedications

Jeff Arey

in memory of
Rosanna D Arey
Marvin & Reubena Arey
John & Evelyn Deal

in honor of
Vickie, Amy, & Keith
Wes, Austin, Ashley, AJ

Barbara Body

in memory of
Louis F. Body IV

Cathy Bosco

in memory of
Edmund Meade
Pat Varljen

in honor of
Jay Walsh

Jim & Gina Coarsey

in memory of
Andrew Williamson

in honor of
Loved Ones
Our Preschool

Jane Coleman

To the Glory of God
in memory of
Joanne Coleman
Buck Coleman

in honor of
Andrew Coleman

Bob & Pheenie Dahl

in memory of
Paula Southworth
Becky Southworth

Lynn Deloatch

in memory of
Billy Deloatch

Bunny George

To the Glory of God
in memory of
Julia & Kelly George, Jr.

Saundra Farhat

to the glory of God
in memory of
Eddie Farhat
in honor of
children & grandchildren

Dottie & Hardy Fletcher

in memory of
Betty & Bob Ketchum
Betty & Bill Fletcher

in honor of
Casey and Amanda

Don & Katherine Foster

in memory of
John, Frances, & Steve Foster
Gus & Deane Billingsley

Frances Hallett

in memory of
J.D. & Dorothy McLeod
Jack & Cheri McLeod

Carol Kalapp

in memory of
Janet Carlton
Mark Carlton

in honor of
Nancy Carlton

Bill & Jesse Killen

in memory of
Freddie Sherrill
Bill & Okie Killen
Jack and Fif Harkness

Chuck Martin

in memory of
Judy Martin

Joshua & Hannah Mazur

in memory of
Becky Mazur
Lee Mazur

Ellie Mentler

in memory of
Chung Kho

Brian & Sara Mitchell

in memory of
Patty Walt

in honor of
Cliff Rydel
Bet Ure

Becky Mercer

in honor of
My family - Bill, Matt,
Birgit, and Mackenzie



Poinsettia Dedications

Ted & Suzanne Mikalsen

in memory of
Anna Mae & Willis Allen
Margarita Francini and
Karsten Mikalsen

Tom Morcom

in honor of
Jesus

Isaac Ogunsan

in memory of
O. Glovers
J.I. Ogunsan

in honor of
Olaitan, Agbo-Ola, Atinuke
Ogunsan

Stan & Diane Pilinski

in memory of
Lou DuBose
Francis & Sarah Pilinski

in honor of
John and Judy DuBose
Henry, Audrey, and Ava DuBose

Diana Quinlan

in memory of
grandparents
LPC Members on whose
shoulders we stand

in honor of
LPC Music program
Cousins of the Babington Clan

Christine Ross

in memory of
David Ross

Jim & Vickie Robinson

in memory of
Dorothy & Monroe Robinson
Leon Owens

in honor of
Lillian Owens
Candace & Ben Robinson

Kathy Saig & Richie Saig

in memory of
Richard Saig, Sr

David & Meg Sheffield

in memory of
loved ones who have passed

in honor of
our 37th wedding anniversary
Lindsay and Nick's
upcoming Wedding in January

in honor of
Our preschool
Our LPC Staff
All our LPC Volunteers

Tom & Lynn Vermilya

in memory of
Joe & Carolyn Vermilya
J. Charlie Bergauer

Catie Wallace

in memory of
Dick Wallace

Doris York

in memory of
Alan York