



## **St. James, Caledon East Lessons & Carols Service**

YouTube Premiere: Sunday 20 December 2020, 10:30am

You can also call in to the service by phone:

Canada: +1 (647) 497-9373

Access Code: 719-975-557

### **Bidding Prayers & Introductions**

In the Name of God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and made a place for us in the kingdom of his beloved Son, we welcome you: grace to you and peace.

As we meet to celebrate anew the coming of God's kingdom, we hear revealed the mystery of God's loving purpose for us – how that when we were far off, he met us in his Son and brought us home; how he humbled himself to take our human nature, that we might share his divine glory.

Let us then so celebrate his coming with our carols and hymns of praise, that our lives may be filled with his life; that we may bear witness to his glory and so bring light to those who sit in darkness. So first we pray for those among whom the Christ was born: the poor and helpless, the aged and young children; the cold, the hungry and the homeless; the victims of poverty, injustice and oppression, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and the unloved; those in despair or in the shadow of death. *Silence.*

Then, as we hear again the message of peace on earth and goodwill among all his people, we pray for the leaders of the nations, that all may be inspired to work together for the establishment of justice, freedom and peace the world over. *Silence.*

And that we may bear true witness to this hope in a divided world, we pray for the peace and unity of Christ's Body, the Church universal, that the whole earth may live to praise his name. *Silence.*

Finally, as we rejoice with the saints in heaven and on earth, we remember all who have gone before us with the sign of faith, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Silence.*

We offer up our prayers for the coming of Christ's kingdom, in the words he himself has taught us, saying: *Our Father...*

May the Lord when he comes find us watching and waiting, now and at all times. *Amen.*

## **First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-5**

*Read by Diane Allengame*

"Comfort, comfort my people," says your God. "Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins."

A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made

low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” (ESV)

## **First Carol - On Jordan's Bank the Baptist Cries**

**CP #103**

*By Joanne Redhead, Mary Judge & Sharon Mulder*

1. On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Awake, and hearken, for he brings  
Glad tidings of the King of kings!
2. Then cleansed be every breast from sin;  
make straight the way for God within.  
Prepare we in our hearts a home  
where such a mighty guest may come.
3. For Thou art our Salvation, Lord,  
our Refuge, and our great Reward.  
Without Thy grace we waste away,  
like flowers that wither and decay.
4. All praise, eternal Son, to Thee  
whose advent sets Thy people free,  
whom, with the Father, we adore,  
and Holy Ghost, forevermore.

Text: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. John Chandler (1806-1876), alt.  
Music: Melody *Musicalisches Hand-Buch*, Hamburg, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1899), alt.

## **Second Lesson: Haggai 2:4–9**

*Read by Stan & Debbie Cameron*

For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory, says the Lord of hosts. The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine, says the Lord of hosts. The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts. And in this place I will give peace, says the Lord of hosts. (NKJV)

## **Second Carol – People, Look East!**

**CP #91**

*By Joanne Redhead*

1. People, look east! The time is near  
of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able,  
trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the guest, is on the way.
  
2. Birds, though you long have ceased to build,  
guard the nest that must be filled.  
Even the hour when wings are frozen  
God for fledging time has chosen.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the bird, is on the way.

3. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth  
Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming  
with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)

Music: Melody French trad.;  
harm. Martin Shaw (1875-1958) alt;

### **Third Lesson: Malachi 3:1–4**

*Read by Donna & Chuck Davies*

Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. (ESV)

### **Third Carol – O Come Divine Messiah**

**CP #95**

*By Joanne Redhead & Sharon Mulder*

1. O come, divine Messiah!  
The world in silence waits the day

when hope shall sing its triumph,  
and sadness flee away.

2. O Christ whom nations sigh for,  
whom priest and prophet long foretold,  
come break the captive's fetters,  
redeem the long-lost fold.

*Dear Saviour, haste! Come, come to earth.  
Dispel the night and show your face,  
and bid us hail the dawn of grace.  
O come, Divine Messiah!  
The world in silence waits the day  
when hope shall sing its triumph,  
and sadness flee away.*

3. You come in peace and meekness,  
and lowly will your cradle be;  
all clothed in human weakness  
shall we your Godhead see.

*Dear Saviour, haste! Come, come to earth...*

Text: Simon-Joseph Pellegrin (1663-1745)  
tr. Sister Mary of St. Philip  
*Sunday School Hymn Book*, 1887, alt.  
Music: Melody French (16<sup>th</sup> cent)  
harm. Godfrey Ridout (1918-1984)

## **Fourth Lesson: Isaiah 7:14; 40:9; 60:1-3; 9:2,6**

*Read by Howard & Valerie Jones*

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel. Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (ESV)

## **Fourth Carol – O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

**CP #89**

*By Amy Dow*

1. O come, O come Emmanuel  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here,  
until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

2. O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free  
thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
From depths of hell thy people save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...*

3. O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer  
our spirits by thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...*

4. O come, thou Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heavenly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...*

5. O come, O come, thou Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the Law  
in cloud and majesty and awe.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel*

Text: Latin (9<sup>th</sup> cent.?)

tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.

Music: Plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale* (15<sup>th</sup> cent.);

arr. Healey Willan (1880-1968)



## **Fifth Lesson: Luke 2:1-16**

*Read by Al & Gill Lawrie*

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem

and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. (ESV)

## **Fifth Carol – While Shepherds Watched**

**CP #136**

*By Amy Dow*

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night  
all seated on the ground,  
the angel of the Lord came down  
and glory shone around.
2. "Fear not," said he, for mighty dread  
had seized their troubled mind.  
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
to you and all mankind."
3. "To you in David's town this day  
is born of David's line  
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
and this shall be the sign."
4. "The heavenly Babe you there shall find  
to human view displayed,  
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands  
and in a manger laid."
5. Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith  
appeared a shining throng

of angels praising God, who thus  
addressed their joyful song:

6. "All glory be to God on high,  
and to the earth be peace;  
goodwill henceforth from heaven to earth  
begin and never cease."

Text : Luke 2:8-14; para. Nahum Tate (1652-1715), alt.

Music: Melody *Whole Book of Psalms*, 1592;

desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971)

## **Sixth Lesson: Matthew 11:25-30**

*Read by Sue Hollinger & Jonathan Sorokan*

At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (ESV)

## **Sixth Carol – O Come Little Children**

**CP #127**

*By Joanne Redhead & Sharon Mulder*

1. O come, little children; O come, one and all.  
Look into the manger in Bethlehem's stall;  
for there, little children, on this holiest night,

our God sends from heaven his Son, your delight.

2. He lies there before you, asleep in the hay,  
with Mary and Joseph to guard him and pray.  
The wondering shepherds look in at the door,  
and seeing the infant, they kneel and adore.
3. Adore like the shepherds! Your glad voices raise  
with those of the angels who sing in his praise.  
Your chorus will echo from earth to the sky,  
with "Glory to God in his heaven most high."

Text : Christoph von Schmid (1768-1854)

Tr. Edward C. Currie (? - 1967), alt.

Music: Melody Johann Abraham Peter Schulz (1747-1800)

harm. J. Alfred Schehl (1822-1959), alt.



*"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last,  
the beginning and the end."*

(Revelation 22:13 ESV)

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