



“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth
peace among those whom God favors!”

~ Luke 2:14

Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols

December 24, 2021 – Six O’clock p.m.
Highland Baptist Church – Louisville, Kentucky

Tonight's scripture lessons are pictured in the side banners beginning with the First Lesson by the organ and moving counterclockwise to the Christmas tree.

Prelude

Philip Moore

Chorale Prelude in IRBY

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Virenee Chatmon and Bruce Carroll

Chiming of the Hour

After the chiming of the hour, the congregation shall stand.

Processional Carol †

IRBY

Once in Royal David's City

Hannelore Mehler, mezzo-soprano

Soloist: 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.

All: 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 Savior holy.

Treble And through all his wondrous childhood he would honor and
Voices: obey, love and watch the lowly maiden, in whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as he.

Bass For he is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew,
Voices: 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.

All: And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love,
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above,
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

All: 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.

The Bidding Prayer

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

THE FIRST LESSON

Taft and Livia Mayfield

God announces in the Garden of Eden
that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

~ Genesis 3:8-15

Carol (81) †

PICARDY

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent

THE SECOND LESSON

Bill Campbell

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

~ Genesis 22:15-18

Carol

John Rutter

Nativity Carol

Born in a stable so bare, born so long ago; Born 'neath light of star He who loved us so. Far away
silent he lay, born today, your homage pay, for Christ is born for aye, born on Christmas Day.
Cradled by mother so fair, tender her lullaby; over her son so dear angel hosts fill the sky. Far away
silent he lay, born today, your homage pay; Christ is born for aye, born on Christmas Day. Wise
men from distant far land, shepherds from starry hills worship this babe so rare, hearts with his
warmth he fills. Love in that stable was born into our hearts to flow; innocent dreaming babe,
make me thy love to know.

THE THIRD LESSON

Molly Braun

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

~ Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

Carol (127) †

MENDELSSOHN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

THE FOURTH LESSON

Bob Cunningham

The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem.

~ Micah 5:2-4

Carol (107) †

ST. LOUIS

O Little Town of Bethlehem

THE FIFTH LESSON

John Dickson

The Angel Gabriel salutes the blessed virgin Mary.

~ Luke 1:26-35, 38

† *For those who are able, we invite you to stand.*

Carol

Carl Shalk

Before the Marvel of This Night

Before the marvel of this night adoring, fold your wings and bow, then tear the sky apart with light and with your news the world endow. Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sorrow cease: Sing peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace! Awake the sleeping world with song. This is the day the Lord has made. Assemble here, celestial throng, in royal splendor come arrayed. Give earth a glimpse of heav'nly bliss. A teasing taste of what they miss: sing peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace! The love that we have always known, our constant joy and endless light, now to the loveless world be shown, now break upon its night. Into one song compress the love that rules our universe above: sing love, sing love, sing gift of love!

THE SIXTH LESSON

Lauren Jones Mayfield

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

~ Luke 2:1-7

Carol (110)

MUELLER

Away in a Manger

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Kathy Collier

The shepherds go unto the manger.

~ Luke 2:8-16

Offertory Carol

text by Christina Rosetti
music by Harold Darke

In the Bleak Mid-winter

In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan; earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago. Our God, Heav'n cannot hold him nor earth sustain; Heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign: in the bleak mid-winter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ. Enough for him, whom cherubim worship night and day, a breastful of milk and a mangerful of hay; enough for him, whom angels fall down before, the ox and ass and camel which adore. What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb. If I were a Wise Man I would do my part, yet, what I can I give him, give my heart.

THE EIGHTH LESSON

Renee Purtlebaugh

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

~ Matthew 2:1-11

Carol (124) †

THE FIRST NOEL

The First Noel

THE NINTH LESSON

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

St. John unfolds the great mystery of incarnation.

~ John 1:1-14

Carol (102) †

ANTIOCH

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

The Lighting of the Christ Candle and Passing of the Light

Congregational Carol

STILLE NACHT

Silent Night! Holy Night!

Silent night! holy night! All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and Child,
holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night! holy night! Son of God, love's pure light,
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Mary Alice Birdwhistell

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

The Blessing

Recessional Carol †

ADESTE FIDELES

O Come, All Ye Faithful

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,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

True God of true God, Light from Light eternal,
lo, he shuns not the virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.
Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
"Glory to God, all glory in the highest";

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Organ Voluntary

Noel Rawsthorne

On Christmas Night

Following the service, there will be deacons at each exit to collect contributions to the church's Fellowship Fund, which helps those in need in our community.

We are grateful to those who purchased poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary during the Advent season. If you purchased a poinsettia to honor a loved one, you may take it with you following tonight's Lessons and Carols Service.

Our Sunday, December 26, morning service will be available only as a livestream on Highland's Facebook and YouTube accounts at 10:00 a.m.

In-person worship resumes on Sunday, January 2, with 10:00 a.m. Bible Study Classes for all ages followed by worship at 11:15 a.m.



Jerre and Frank Bassett CUSTODIANS	Cheryl Davis OFFICE MANAGER	Lauren Jones Mayfield ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUNG ADULTS AND MISSIONS
Mary Alice Birdwhistell PASTOR	Perry Dixon ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES	Walter McWhorter CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR
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Bill Campbell DEACON CHAIR	Lillian Glover PASTORAL INTERN	Renee Purtlebaugh ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES
Kathy Collier MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP	Kathleen Gordon FINANCIAL SECRETARY	
