



CHRIST CHURCH
PORTOLA VALLEY & WOODSIDE



LESSONS &



CAROLS

A service of "Lessons and Carols" is an Anglican tradition dating back to 1880. The most famous such service takes place each year on Christmas Eve at King's College in Cambridge, England. Some elements of today's service will be very traditional. For example, the service always begins with singing "Once in Royal David's City." The first verse, as today, is sung by a soprano soloist. However, we are also incorporating some non-traditional aspects this year by drawing our five lessons from theologians and poets, rather than following the prescribed bible readings.

The Holy Eucharist, Rite Two
December 4, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME!

The Episcopal Parish of Portola Valley & Woodside

815 Portola Road, Portola Valley, California 94028

☎ (650) 851-0224 📧 ccpvw.org 📘 facebook.com/ccpvw

Please socially distance and wear masks for indoor services.

(Masks are available on the table in the Narthex as you enter the Church)

All eligible people need to be vaccinated.

**Please be smart, stay safe, care for others,
and stay at home if you don't feel well.**

Thank you to today's volunteers!

| | |
|-------------|------------------|
| Greeter | Ross Soubirous |
| Usher | Ross Soubirous |
| Acolyte | Louise Delafield |
| Altar Guild | Betsy Alexander |
| Lesson 1 | Anne Bertenthal |
| Lesson 2 | James Coker |
| Lesson 3 | Betsy Alexander |
| Lesson 4 | Mary Soubirous |
| Lesson 5 | Mary Hufty |

THE WORD OF GOD

PRELUDE *Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen*

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN 102 Once in royal David's city

Irby

Verse 1, sung by a soprano 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.

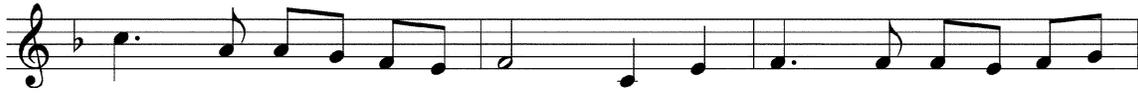
Verse 2, sung by the choir:

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 Savior holy.

Verses 3-6, sung by all:



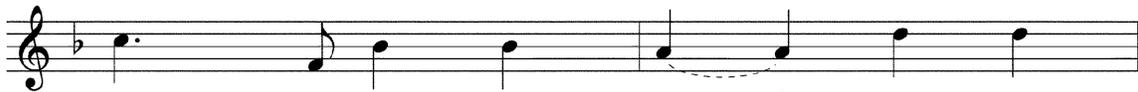
3. And through all his won - drous child - hood He would
4. For he is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by
5. And our eyes at last shall see him, Through his



hon - or and o - bey, Love and watch the low - ly
day like us he grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and
own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and



maid - en In whose gen - tle arms he lay. Chris - tian
help - less, Tears and smiles like us he knew: And he
gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove: And he



chil - dren all should be Kind, o -
feels for all our sad - ness, And he
leads his chil - dren on To the



be - dient, good as he.
shares in all our glad - ness.
place where he has gone.

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.

A BIDDING PRAYER

Celebrant Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed the story of God's loving purpose from the time of creation until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for God's Church in our country and in this city.

And because Jesus particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to gather all these petitions, let us pray the prayer attributed to St. Francis, saying:

All **Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

Celebrant The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all.
Amen.

Please be seated.

God speaks all things into being. Jesus is present at the beginning of time.

Reader When the divine community we call God created the visible (and invisible) universe they spoke words like “let there be light” and things that were not in one moment began to exist in the next. Stars. Planets. Oceans. Mountains. Trees. Animals. Flowers.

When the Father began to make all things, our wisdom tells us that it was the Son by whom the Father spoke all things into being; Christ spoke the things that were not as though they were and they were so. Orchid. Zebra. Maple. Everest. Atlantic. Jupiter. Andromeda. And so on.

Instead of speaking humanity into existence, our wisdom tells us that God hand-crafted us from the clay, breathed into our motionless humanity the breath of life, invested flesh with his image, and gave us the divine capacity of language.

The season from Thanksgiving to Epiphany allows Christians to marinate in the story of the Word made bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh and we come away as participants in the mystery.

Ponder with me the humility of a God who speaks all things into existence making himself speechless, making himself incapable of sounding words.

Christ emerges from Mary’s womb into this world of struggle and pain and vulnerability and, beyond crying out as most babies do, he has no power to address his human brothers and sisters.

I am astonished, and in my heart I am on my knees, before this mystery that God becomes silent for us and for our salvation. So much—infinity, it seems, by this account—can be spoken without words. The divine community who spoke the worlds into existence as One God reveal their love in a profound wordless action.

CAROL Adam lay ybounden

Boris Ord (1897-1961)

Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple, an apple that he took,
As clerkes finden written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been,
Ne had never our lady abeen heaven-é queen.

Blessed be the time that apple taken was,
Therefore we moun singen, Deo gracias!

Please stand as you are able.

CAROL Hymn 60, Creator of the stars of nights

Conditor alme siderum



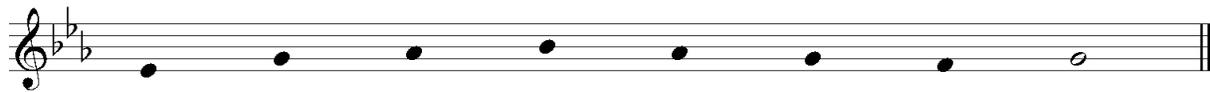
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse
3 When this old world drew on toward night,
4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,



1 we pray you hear us when we call.
2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.

Please be seated.

THE SECOND LESSON Hymn by Isaac Watts

Reader: A member of the choir

The prophets foretell that a descendent of David would come to save humankind.

Reader Hosanna to the royal son
Of David's ancient line!
His natures two, his person one,
Mysterious and divine.
The root of David, here we find,
And offspring, are the same:
Eternity and time are joined
In our Immanuel's name.
Blest he that comes to wretched man
With peaceful news from Heaven!

Hosannas, of the highest strain,
To Christ the Lord be given.

Let mortals ne'er refuse to take
The Hosanna on their tongues,
Lest rocks and stones should rise and break
Their silence into songs.

CAROL A Spotless Rose

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Soloist: Lorenzo Murillo

A Spotless Rose is blowing,
Sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers' foreshowing,
Of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light
Amid the cold, cold winter,
And in the dark midnight.
The Rose which I am singing,
Whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root springing
In Mary, purest Maid;
For through our God's great love and might,
The Blessed Babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter's night.

THE THIRD LESSON *Free verse by Ana Lisa de Jong, from Living Tree Poetry*

Reader: A member of the outreach committee

Jesus is born of a woman.

Reader Where do I not want
to open my heart this year?
Perhaps that is where the Christ child
is waiting, a baby in the womb?

What do I not want to allow
to be birthed in me?
Is that where Divine would place his seed
and see it grow?

Where do I not want to Give God rein,
where am I an inn-keeper barring admittance.

To whom do I not want to listen,
open my ears, give credence?

Where do I not want to acknowledge any failings?
Where is the gardener not granted access,
to till and plant,
and make fruitful?

Yes, God, where do I not want
to be shaken up, stirred, and then poured?
Am I bread that resists the kneading,
the oven to turn into food?

Where do I not want
to open my heart to you?
Perhaps that is where you lie, in waiting
for my submission –

my opening
as a woman giving birth.

CAROL The Cherry Tree Carol

James Sutcliffe (1929-2000)

When Joseph was an old man,
An old man was he,
He married Virgin Mary
The Queen of Galilee.

Then Mary spoke to Joseph
So sweet and so mild:
"Joseph, gather me some cherries,
For I am with child."

Then Joseph flew in anger,
In anger flew he,
"Let the father of the baby
Gather cherries for thee!

Then Jesus spoke a few words,
A few words spoke he:
"Let my mother have some cherries,
Bow low down, cherry tree."

The cherry tree bowed low down,
Bowed low down to the ground,
And Mary gathered cherries
While Joseph stood around.

Then Joseph took Mary
All on his right knee,
"What have I done, Lord?
Have mercy on me."

Then Joseph took Jesus
All on his left knee,
"Oh tell me, pretty Baby,
When thy birthday will it be?

"The Sixth day of Januar'
My birthday it will be,
When the stars in the elements
Shall tremble with glee."

Please stand as you are able.

CAROL Hymn 265, The Angel Gabriel from heaven came

Gabriel's Message

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

Please be seated.

THE FOURTH LESSON *Poem by Henry Vaughan*

Reader: A member of the altar guild

From birth, the Son of God is destined to give his life for the sake of humankind.

Reader Lord! when thou didst thy self undress
Laying thy robes of glory,
To make us more, thou wouldst be less,
And becamest a woeful story.

To put on Clouds instead of light,
And clothe the morning-star with dust,
Was a translation of such height
As, but in thee, was ne'r expressed;

Brave worms, and Earth! That thus could have
A God Enclosed within your Cell
Your maker pent up in a grave,
Life locked in death, heaven in a shell;

Ah, my dear Lord! what couldst thou spy
In this impure, rebellious clay,
That made thee thus resolve to die
For those that kill thee every day?

O what strange wonders could thee move
To slight thy precious blood, and breath!
Sure it was *Love*, my Lord, for *Love*
Is only stronger far than death.

CAROL Every Stone Shall Cry

David Hurd (b. 1950)

Flute: Katy Darrow; Piano: Colin Chan

A stable lamp is lighted
Whose glow shall wake the sky;
The stars shall bend their voices,
And ev'ry stone shall cry.
And ev'ry stone shall cry,
And straw like gold shall shine;
A barn shall harbor heaven,
A stall become a shrine.

This Child through David's city,
Shall ride in triumph by;

The palm shall strew its branches,
And ev'ry stone shall cry.
And ev'ry stone shall cry,
Though heavy, dull, and dumb,
And lie within the roadway
To pave his kingdom come.

He shall be forsaken
And yielded up to die;
The skies shall groan and darken,
And ev'ry stone shall cry.
And ev'ry stone shall cry,
For stony hearts of men:
God's blood upon the spearhead,
God's love refused again.

But now as at the ending,
The low is lifted high;
The stars shall bend their voices,
And ev'ry stone shall cry.
And ev'ry stone shall cry,
In praises of the Child
By whose descent among us
The world are reconciled.

THE FIFTH LESSON *Sonnet by Christopher Villiers*

Reader: A member of the Vestry

We await Jesus' coming with hope and expectation.

Reader Another advent waiting for a star
To shine our way to Bethlehem, unwind
The tangled web of will, the gate unbar
To paradise now and a fresh vow bind.
Another year full of empty foolings,
Life wasted solemnly in dull pursuits
Of what shall follow us under grave's rulings,
Its posing importance hard death refutes.
Can Christ be born in this? Can Christ be born
In our hearts' stable? Amid dung and straw?
Is there room for Christ in me? New life sworn
So long ago, is it still new, still law?
God's naked screaming love be born in me
Again sweet child, uncurse old Adam's tree.

CAROL My Dancing Day

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day:
I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play,
To call my true love to my dance:
Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love.
This have I done for my true love.

Then was I born of a virgin pure,
Of her I took fleshly substance;
Thus was I knit to man's nature,
To call my true love to my dance:
Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love.
This have I done for my true love.

In a manger laid and wrapped I was,
So very poor, this was my chance,
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass,
To call my true love to my dance:
Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love.
This have I done for my true love.

Please stand as you are able.

THE GOSPEL *John 1:1-14*

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dates for many of our upcoming events can be found on the back of this bulletin.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Organ improvisation on Once in Royal David's City

At the start of The Great Thanksgiving, please stand as you are able.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

Carson P. Cooman (b. 1982)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,
Lord God of Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry.
Glo-ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bles - sed is he that com-eth in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high-est.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All **We remember his death,**
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,
People **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Please be seated until it is your turn to come forward for Communion. **Do not consume the host immediately upon receiving it.** Please return to your seat with the sacrament and together we will consume the bread as the celebrant says the following words:*

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

THE COMMUNION

All people (including children of all ages) are welcome to receive Communion at this Church. Please come forward as directed by the ushers. To receive the bread, hold out your hands and the clergy will place it on your palm without touching your hands. The celebrant will take a sip of the wine on behalf of the congregation. If you prefer not to receive the Communion, you may come forward placing your hands over your chest, and the clergy will be glad to offer you a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN 82 Of the Father's love begotten

Divinum mysterium



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be -
 2 O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin,
 3 Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
 4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 prais - es sing; powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him,
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing,



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that
 bore the Sa - vior of our race; and the Babe, the
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be; hon - or, glo - ry



are, that have _____ been, and that fu - ture
 world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his
 earth be si - lent, ev - ery voice in
 and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal



years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
 sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
 con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____
 vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more! _____

Please stand as you are able.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant

Let us pray.

All

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
 you have graciously accepted us as living members
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
 and you have fed us with spiritual food
 in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
 Send us now into the world in peace,
 and grant us strength and courage**

**to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

CHORAL BLESSING Benediction

Will Schneider

The Lord bless you and keep you;
Make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

THE DISMISSAL

One Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Von Himmel hoch, da komm' ich her

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

A PRAYER FOR CELEBRATIONS

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Check our weekly email for more details.

Sunday, December 4

5:00 p.m.

The joyous return of the Christmas Banquet with singing, home cooked food, and merriment. All are welcome. Please RSVP to admin@ccpvw.org. \$25.

Sunday, December 11

During coffee hour (11:15 a.m.)

Help wrap gifts for forgotten seniors living at Burlingame Long Term Care.

Sunday, December 18

1:30 p.m.

Enthusiastic carolers including kids/teens are needed to brighten the holidays at Silver Oaks Memory Care in Menlo Park. Contact Angela Hey.

Sunday, December 18

5:00 p.m.

Gingerbread House Decorating and a light supper in the parish hall.

Please RSVP to admin@ccpvw.org.

Ongoing Collection Drives

Collecting warm outerwear (new socks, new hats, scarves, gloves) and new underwear for both men and women (sizes M-XL). Bras too. Can you help? Bring items to the marked box in the breezeway. Donated items are due by December 25 and will be distributed to those living at Maple Street Shelter.

Collecting 170 gently used or new Christmas gifts for the forgotten at Burlingame Long Term Care. Bring items to the marked box in the breezeway by December 22.

Collecting small (hotel-sized) toiletries for Maple Street Shelter.

Please bring them to the box in the Narthex.