

# A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

December 12, 2021

3rd Sunday of Advent



## A river of God's love flowing into the dry places of our communities

- **Jesus Christ is already at work in our communities; we seek to join that work.**
- **Our communities are wherever God plants us: Monday through Saturday—as well as Sunday.**
- **We create servant relationships with our communities, to become better disciples of Jesus Christ.**

*On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing.*

*Ezekiel 47:12*

**Welcome to Orangewood!** We are delighted that you chose to worship with us today. At the conclusion of the service, Please visit the welcome table on the patio so that we might know more about you. We also have a gift for you. There is fellowship on the patio where you can also learn more about church activities.

**The Nursery is open for children through age 5.**

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[secretary@opc.phxcoxmail.com](mailto:secretary@opc.phxcoxmail.com)—Find us on Facebook

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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**Congregation responsively reads lines in bold text**  
**\*All who are able, please stand**

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Prelude

Welcome

Minute for Mission

Preparation for Worship

Lighting of the Advent Candle

*Leader:* The angel said to Mary: Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you! Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. You will conceive and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

Last Sunday we lit the candle of Peace. We light it and the candle of Hope again as we remember that Christ will come again and bring to the world everlasting peace.

The pink candle which we light this morning, is the candle of love. It is a sign of the great love that the Father has for us. So great that he sent his only son into the world to redeem us. It is also a reminder of the love to which the son has called us.

**O come, thou Dayspring, 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  
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

God of all wisdom, our hearts yearn for the warmth of your love, and our minds search for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior, and strengthen us to grow in love, that at the dawn of his coming we may rejoice in his presence and welcome the light of his truth. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen. Let us worship God!

\*Carol #140

*Once In Royal David's City*

IRBY

The First Lesson

Genesis 3:8-15

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

*Read by Bernale Wright*

Reflection

The Second Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-5

The Lord tells Jerusalem through Isaiah that her trial is over.  
*Read by Dennis Proffitt*

\*Carol #129

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

The Third Lesson

Isaiah 9:2,6-7

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.  
*Read by Judy Proffitt*

Anthem

*Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain* Carolyn Jennings (b. 1936)

Climb to the top of the highest mountain; joyous tidings proclaim to the world!  
Lift up your voice, shout the good news: Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will carry the lambs with His arms,  
He will ever keep them safe from harm. Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He Who made the stars in the heaven, He Who fashioned the earth and the sea,  
From time eternal He was God, the Alpha and Omega He; Behold your Lord!

He will come in power and glory; He will rule with mercy and truth,  
Hope of the nations, Light of all the world.

He will love the little children; He will hold them in His arms.  
Love Him and trust Him as a child. Behold, your Lord comes to you.

The Fourth Lesson

Micah 5:2-4

The Messiah will be born in Bethlehem.  
*Read by David Haskins*

\*Carol #121

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

ST. LOUIS

The Fifth Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

The Angel Gabriel salutes the virgin Mary.  
*Read by Sandy Frost*

Anthem

*Baby, What You Goin' To Be?* Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992)

Baby, lyin' in a manger, slumberin' so sweetly, What You goin' to be?  
Baby, all the world is watchin', all the world awaits to see what You will be.

Baby, sleepin' in a stable, underneath the heaven, what You goin' to say?  
Baby, did You bring the good news? Did you come to light our way?

Baby, gazin' at the cattle, lookin' at the shepherds, what You goin' to do?  
Baby, will you be the Master? Will You bring the Kingdom too?

Baby, Hope of all the people, what You come to do here? What You come to say?  
Baby, can you be the Savior, come to save the world one day?

Baby, lyin' in a manger, will you save the world one day?

The Sixth Lesson

Matthew 1:18-23

Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus.  
*Read by Samantha Burkhart*

Children's Sermon

\*Carol #115

Away in A Manger

Mueller

The Seventh Lesson

Luke 2:8-16  
The shepherds go to the manger.  
*Read by Becky Cederquist*

Anthem

*Before the Marvel of This Night*

Carl Schalk (1929 – 2021)

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. 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 bliss, sing bliss, sing endless bliss. Sing bliss, sing endless bliss.  
The love that we have always known, our constant joy and endless light,  
Now to the loveless world be shown; now break upon its deathly night.  
Into one song compress the love that rules our universe above.  
Sing love, sing love, sing "God is love!" Sing love, sing "God is love!"

The Eighth Lesson

Matthew 2:1-11  
The wise men are led by the star to Jesus  
*Read by Greg Harris*

\*Carol #147

*The First Nowell*

THE FIRST NOWELL

*Please remain standing for the Ninth Lesson*

\*The Ninth Lesson

John 1:1-14  
John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation.  
*Read by Rev. Kenneth Page*

Reflection

Rev. Kenneth G. Page

Prayer of Dedication

Offering

*It Came Upon A Midnight Clear*

Doxology

Old 100th

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer

\*Carol #133

*O Come, All You Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

\*Closing Prayer

O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your only Son, Jesus Christ:  
Grant that as we joyfully receive him for our Redeemer, so we may, with sure confidence behold him  
when he shall come to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world  
without end. **Amen.**

Benediction

May he who by his incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Postlude

Joy to the World  
*Chuck Sedgwick, organ*

arr. Don Hustad

**At the conclusion of this service, you are invited to meet together in the Wright Center for holiday cookies, hot cider, and good fellowship.**

## **Participating in Worship**

### **Readers**

Dennis Proffitt  
Judy Proffitt  
Bernale Wright  
Samantha Burkhart  
Greg Harris  
Becky Cederquist  
Sandy Frost  
Ken Page  
David Haskins

### **Other Participants**

The Orangewood Choir  
Orangewood Bells  
Brady Putzke, Contemporary Music  
Chuck Sedgwick, Conductor and Organist  
Terry Frost & Dan Sherwood, Greeter  
Hedy Martin, Usher

The Orangewood Church community extends a warm welcome to you. Please join us in our continuing celebration of the Advent/Christmas Season at any of our upcoming worship services or other enrichment activities. We gather to worship and to sing praises to God each Sunday at 10:30 am (Sanctuary), and 11:30 African Worship (Page Hall).

## **ORANGEWOOD STAFF**

Pastor  
Director of Music  
Band Leader  
Children & Youth  
Office & Facilities Manager  
Set-up Assistant

Rev. Kenneth G. Page  
Dr. Charles N. Sedgwick  
Brady Putzke  
Samantha Burkhart  
Pam White  
Addison Case

## **Join us for our Christmas Celebrations**

### **Sunday, December 19**

Moravian Love Feast  
10:30 am in Page Hall

### **Friday, December 24**

Candlelight and Communion with Candlelight  
7:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Orangewood Presbyterian Church community extends a warm welcome to you.

Please join us throughout the year at any of our Sunday worship services.

Blended Worship—10:30 am in the Sanctuary, and  
11:30 am African Worship in Page Hall