

LESSONS AND *Carols*



St. John's Episcopal Church
December 28, 2025

Worship Leader: Kitty Underwood
Music Director: Kitty Underwood

Festival of Lessons and Carols

Opening Hymn #87 “Hark the Herald
Angels Sing”

A Bidding Prayer (kneeling)

Officiant:

Dear People of God: In this Christmas Season, let it be our duty and delight 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 in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the

glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us make St. John's glad with our carols 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 his Church in our country and in this village of Dryden.

And because he 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 sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

Our Father....Amen.

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.*

The Lessons:

(Congregation may be seated during the reading of the lessons and should stand and join in the singing of all

hymns.)

1. *Genesis 3:1-23* (Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden)

Hymn #107 “Good Christian Friends Rejoice”

2. *Isaiah 40:1-11*
(God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption)
Hymn #65 ”Prepare the way, O Zion”

3. *Isaiah 7:10-15*
(God promises that a child shall be conceived who will be known as “*God with us*”)
Hymn #109 (vs 1,2) “The First Noel”

4. *Luke 1:5-25*

(An angel announces to Zechariah that his wife, Elizabeth, will bear a son)

Hymn #89 (vs 1,4) "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

5. *Luke 1:26-56*

(The Angel Gabriel Announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High)

Hymn #102 (vs 1,2,3) "Once in David's Royal City"

6. *Luke 1:57-80* (John the Baptist is born and his father rejoices that his son will prepare the way of the Lord)

Hymn #99 "Go Tell it on the Mountain"

7. *Luke 2:1-20*

(Jesus is born in Bethlehem and is
worshipped by angels and shepherds)

*Hymn #105 (vs 1,4) "God Rest Ye
Merry Gentlemen"*

8. *Luke 2:21-35*

(Jesus receives his name
and is presented to Simeon in
the temple)

Hymn #101 "Away in a Manger"

9. *John 1:1-18*
(The Word was made flesh and we have seen His glory)
Hymn #93 vs 1,2 "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Offertory

Doxology

(sung)

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.

Announcements, Birthdays, and Anniversaries

Officiant: Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*

Closing Hymn #96 “Angels We Have Heard on High”

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