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*Lessons & Carols at*  
**LITTLE TRINITY**

SINCE 1842



**Advent 3 | Sunday, Dec 14, 2025**

**Lessons & Carols Worship Service**  
**6:30pm**

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# Welcome to Little T!

## A Service of Lessons and Carols

This booklet will hopefully help make you feel more comfortable, especially if this is new to you.

Today, instead of our usual Sunday service of Holy Communion, we are having a service of lessons and carols. Six biblical lessons tell the story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah who would reconcile humanity to God, and the fulfillment of that promise in the birth of Jesus. Readings are taken from the book of Genesis, the prophetic books, and the Gospels.

If this is new to you please join in only when you are comfortable. Note the instructions **STAND**, **SIT** and **SIT/KNEEL**. In general, we stand to praise, sit to learn and sit/kneel to pray.

**Bold** print directs you to join in unison.

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## WORSHIP SERVICE

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### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

We lit the first candle to pray for hope. We lit the second candle to pray for peace. We light the third candle to pray for joy. Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for the joy of knowing your Son Jesus Christ, and the joy found in the knowledge of his coming again to make all things new. We pray for all those who feel no joy. May the Source of all joy find a home in them.

**Lord Jesus Christ, joy of the hearts that know you, fill us and all your world with joy. Come close to us this Advent. Amen.**

### OPENING CAROLS

***O Come All Ye Faithful  
Angels from the Realms of Glory***

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

**God whose Word became flesh, breathe a new song of joy and praise into the world, so that we may bear the good news of your salvation and proclaim your promise of peace to the ends of the earth; through Christ the Word. Amen.**

### THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

#### 1st LESSON

**Genesis 3:8-13**

Reader: David Colpitts

*Humanity was created in God's image. Image is about representation and reflection. We were created to be God's representatives on earth, to steward his good creation by reflecting his nature and character in*

*everything we do, in order to bring flourishing to all. Humanity chose grievously to turn away from God, turn away from God's way, choosing instead our own way. In love, God from the very moment of our turning away seeks restoration – a restoration of relationship and a restoration to our true vocation as stewards of his creation.*

<sup>8</sup> And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” <sup>10</sup> And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” <sup>11</sup> He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” <sup>12</sup> The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” <sup>13</sup> Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

<sup>14</sup> The Lord God said to the serpent,  
“Because you have done this,  
cursed are you above all livestock  
and above all beasts of the field;  
on your belly you shall go,  
and dust you shall eat  
all the days of your life.  
<sup>15</sup> I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and her offspring;  
he shall bruise your head,  
and you shall bruise his heel.”

Here ends the first reading.

**CAROL**

***O Come O Come Emmanuel***

## **2nd LESSON**

**Genesis 22:15-18**

Reader: Ian Koiter

*God's plan from the beginning was to have faithful humans ruling over creation to bring life to all. God chooses Abraham to preserve a line to a*

*Messiah, who would be that faithful human, perfectly reflecting God's nature and character and bringing life to all.*

<sup>15</sup> And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven <sup>16</sup> and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup> I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, <sup>18</sup> and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

Here ends the second reading.

**CAROL**

***Come Thou Long Expected Jesus***

### **3rd LESSON**

**Isaiah 12:1-6**

Reader: Jennifer Shadbolt

*Isaiah the prophet carries a message of Messianic hope of a King who will come to make all things new. As he yearns for the coming Kingdom of the Messiah, he teaches us to sing a song of that future joy in the present sorrow of our world.*

<sup>1</sup> You will say in that day:

"I will give thanks to you, O Lord,  
for though you were angry with me,  
your anger turned away,  
that you might comfort me.

<sup>2</sup> "Behold, God is my salvation;  
I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
for the Lord God is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation."

<sup>3</sup> With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup> And you will say in that day:

"Give thanks to the Lord,  
call upon his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples,  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

<sup>5</sup> “Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.

<sup>6</sup> Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

Here ends the third reading.

## **SERMON**

“Learning to Sing a Song of Future Joy”

Tim Haughton

Sermon Series: *Pondering with the Prophet*

## ***Silent reflection***

### **OFFERTORY**

*In our offertory we offer our praise and thanksgiving to the glory of God. If you wish to financially support the ongoing gospel ministry of Little Trinity Church during this time you can find options on our website at <http://littletrinity.org/give>*

## **OFFERTORY WORSHIP**

***Let All Mortal Flesh***

## **THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

**Blessed are you, Lord God of Israel, for ever and ever. All that is in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and from your own hand we have given to you.**

**Amen.**

## **4th LESSON**

**Luke 1:26-33, 46-55**

Reader: Kristen Adams

*The time for the promised Messiah has come. God chooses a young woman to bear Messiah, whose name is Jesus, Yeshua, Joshua, God saves.*

*In her song of praise Mary glories in the hope of Messiah's reign,  
dismantling the forces of darkness, humbling the proud, raising up the  
lowly, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked – turning our world upside  
down so that it might be turned right-side up.*

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary.

<sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favoured one, the Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup> But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." [...]

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

<sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

<sup>48</sup> for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

<sup>49</sup> for he who is mighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

<sup>50</sup> And his mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.

<sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

<sup>52</sup> he has brought down the mighty from their thrones  
and exalted those of humble estate;

<sup>53</sup> he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

<sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,

<sup>55</sup> as he spoke to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

Here ends the fourth reading.

**CAROL**

***Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming***

**5th LESSON**

**Luke 2:1-14**

Reader: Chris Robinson

*God's faithfulness is now perfectly revealed. Promise becomes fulfillment. His promise to restore humanity and to put creation back onto its proper course through the offspring of Abraham, a King of the line of David, has come to fruition. In this Messiah humanity will be restored to right relationship with God and to our proper place of stewarding his good creation. The natural response to this news is joy, both heavenly and earthly joy.*

<sup>1</sup> In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> And all went to be registered, each to their own town. <sup>4</sup> And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which I called Bethlehem because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup> to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup> And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup> 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.

<sup>8</sup> And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup> And suddenly



there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

Here ends the fifth reading.

**CAROL                    *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear***

**6th LESSON**

**John 1:1-14**

Reader: Jeremie Wood

*We conclude where we started, at the beginning. But here, at the beginning of John's Gospel, we see that Jesus has been with us all along: he is the divine Word, himself God, through whom all things were created. As the Gospel later describes, the Word of God is also the Lamb of God, whose sacrificial death on the cross takes away the sin of the world. Thus Jesus, who is God in flesh, restores all flesh to God.*

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of a husband, but of God. <sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Here ends the sixth reading.

## THE BLESSING

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CAROL**

***Of the Father's Love Begotten***

## THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

***Joy to the World***



## **WEEKLY CYCLE OF PRAYER**

### **MINISTRIES OF THE WIDER CHURCH**

WORLDWIDE: The Church in Brazil

DIOCESE: Church of the Ascension, Don Mills, Church of the Ascension,  
Port Perry & the Parish of Belmont

CLERICUS: Little Trinity Church (Trinity East)

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD**

Those living and working on Munition Street and Villiers Street

### **LITTLE TRINITY COMMUNITY AND LEADERS**

Honorary Associate - The Rev. Lyn Youll Marshall

### **PARISH**

Chris & Birgitta Wilson; Rosalynd Wilson; Ben & Maggie Winter; Jacob &  
Tess Winter, Raphael; Fred Witteveen & Georgina Veldhorst-Witteveen

### **MISSION PARTNERS**

McDaniel & Blossom Phillips (TWR) London, Ontario

*The Advent / Christmas floral arrangements  
are given to the glory of God by  
Elfrieda, Vern and Anne Marie Heinrichs,  
in loving memory of Ceci Heinrichs.*

*(Dec. 14, 1965 - May 15, 1975)*

*"...And a little child shall lead them." Isaiah 11:6*

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**NEXT SUNDAY, DEC 21, 2025**

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**6:30pm - Advent 4 Lamplighters** Worship & Communion Service  
Readings: Isaiah 30:1-2, 15-21; Matthew 1:18-25

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**GET IN TOUCH**

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**LITTLE TRINITY**

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Ministers: The entire Congregation

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