

SIXTH LESSON: Luke 2:1-7 John B. Myers, III
Against a backdrop of emperors and taxes, Jesus is born.
Carol #228 “He Is Born” Congregation

SEVENTH LESSON: Luke 2:8-16 Lynn Hill
The shepherds go to see the Savior of the World, lying in a manger.
Carol #221 “In the Bleak Midwinter” Congregation

EIGHTH LESSON: Matthew 2:1-11 Caroline Jones
The wise men follow a star to find the child Jesus, the King of the Jews.
Carol #249 “There’s a Song in the Air” Congregation

NINTH LESSON: John 1:1-14 Rev. Won Un
John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation.
Carol #234 “O Come, All Ye Faithful” Congregation

HOLY COMMUNION (SEE INSERT)

* CAROL #239 “Silent Night” Gene Blackmer & Congregation

*BENEDICTION

*Have a Safe & Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year!*

Announcements

Thank you all for participating in the 9 Lessons and Carols service. May you be blessed and merry in this season of Christmas!

Big thanks to candle lighters, readers, singers, bakers, servers, and cleaners.



*Central United Methodist Church
Sunday, December 24, 2023, 7 PM*



14 N. Lewis Street @ Beverley
PO Box 953 Staunton, VA 24402
(540) 886-3441
Pastor- Won Un
www.centralumcstaunton.org

PRELUDE "O Holy Night" Gene Blackmer

WORDS OF WELCOME Rev. Won Un

*PROCESSIONAL CAROL #240 "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT/CHRIST CANDLES Connie Davis

LEADER: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL: **And also with you.**
(Light 1st Candle)

LEADER: Jesus Christ, the son of Mary, the son of God is born
this night.

ALL: **God's word has been made flesh among us.**
(Light 2nd Candle)

LEADER: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

ALL: **Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness - on them a
light has shined.**
(Light 3rd Candle)

LEADER: You, O Lord, have multiplied the nation. You have in-
creased its joy. For to us a child is born, to us a son is
Given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder.

ALL: **His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty
God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**
(Light 4th Candle)

LEADER: He is also called Emmanuel, for in him God is with us.

ALL: **AMEN!**
(Light the Christ Candle)

THE BIDDING PRAYER Rev. Won Un

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

*Stand as you are able

OPENING PRAYERRev. Won Un

ALL: **Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of
Your one true light. May that light illuminate our hearts and
shine in our words and deeds. May the hope, the peace, the joy,
and the love represented by the birth in Bethlehem this night fill
our lives and become part of all that we say and do. May we
share the divine life of Your son Jesus Christ, even as He hum-
bled himself to share our humanity. Amen**

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19.....Ed Pickett
*God announces in the Garden of Eden Adam and Eve's punishment
for their rebellion and that the seed of woman shall bruise the
serpent's head.*
Carol #TFWS 2095 "Star-Child" Central Choir

SECOND LESSON: Genesis 22:15-18.....Tom Davis
*God promises to Abraham that by his descendants all the nations of
the earth shall obtain the blessing.*
"O Come, O Come Emmanuel".....Yi-Ping Chen

THIRD LESSON: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7.....Heidi Roberson
The prophet announces the birth of a king to a people in darkness.
Carol #218 "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"..... Congregation

FOURTH LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9.....Steven Klotz
*The King is coming and will usher in a reign of justice for the poor
and peace for all of God's creation.*
"Ukrainian Bell Carol".....Central Choir

FIFTH LESSON: Luke 1:26-35, 38The Gutshall Children
*The angel Gabriel announces to the virgin Mary that she will give
birth to God's promised Son whose kingdom shall never end.*
"Mary Did You Know".....Betsy Gutshall & Joe Hill

THE HOLY COMMUNION

PRAY IN UNISON

**ALL: Father of earth and heaven,
Thy hungry children feed,
Thy grace be to our spirits given,
That true immortal bread.
Grant us and all our race
In Jesus Christ to prove
The sweetness of thy pardoning grace,
The manna of thy love.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you
And also with you
Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give our thanks and praise...

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of
heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you... as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**ALL: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again...
All honor and glory is yours, almighty Father (God), now
and forever.
AMEN.**

(Servers are Sandra Clemmer and Connie Davis)

SPECIAL MUSIC “Still, Still, Still” and “Away in a Manger”

Yi-Ping Chen

OFFERING *[If you wish to make an offering please do so as you leave the building. Today's offering will go toward Central Feeding Ministry. Offering box is located at the entrance.]*

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES *(you are welcome to keep the candle)*