

**TRINITY ON THE HILL EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO**



**“And the light shineth in darkness” (John 1:5 KJV)**

**A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR ADVENT**

**December 7, 2025  
Six O'clock in the Evening**

***We warmly welcome you to this evening's service.***

***Please silence your cell phones and pagers and maintain prayerful quiet before the service.***

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*The concept of this program finds its origins in the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols made famous by the Christmas Eve service at King's College, Cambridge. The service was conceived by F. W. Benson, the Bishop of Truro Cathedral, who later became the Archbishop of Canterbury. The service was used for the first time on Christmas Eve in 1880 and, as its popularity grew, it was formally adapted at King's College in 1918 by Eric Milner-White, the Dean of King's College. Since 1918, the service has been aired live by the BBC on Christmas Eve throughout the world. In 1934, sixteen years after the adaptation of the Nine Lessons and Carols, Eric Milner-White composed another order of service, a Procession with Carols on Advent Sunday. In the same format as the original Nine Lessons and Carols, the purpose of this service was to "not celebrate Christmas, but to expect it."*

*The popularity of the annual Advent Carol Service all over the world is a testament to the Christian yearning for the coming of Christ. As the people assemble in candlelight, a hushed expectancy is broken by the choir singing. The carols, hymns and readings reflect the yearning of the generations who waited for the birth of the Messiah and our own need for awakening into the spiritual life. They also provide an affirmation that Christ has come, is present in the world today, and will come again.*

*We warmly welcome you to this evening's service.*

*Please stay for a reception in Kelly Hall after the service.*

## Organ Prelude

### The Matin Responsory (sung)

after G.P. da Palestrina (1525?-1594)

I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth. Go ye out to meet him and say: Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel? High and low, rich and poor, one with another, Go ye out to meet him and say: Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep. Tell us, art thou he that should come? Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth. Go ye out to meet him and say: Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?

*Please stand for the Hymn*

### The Processional Hymn: "Creator of the stars of night"

PUER NOBIS

To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the Spir - it, Three in One,

(all) Cre a - tor of the stars of night, Your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,  
(men) In sor - row that the an - cient curse Should doom to death a u - ni - verse  
(women) When this old world drew on toward night You came, but not in splen - dor bright  
(all) At your great Name, O Je - sus, now All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;  
(choir) Come in your ho - ly might, we pray, Re - deem us for e - ter - nal day  
(all) To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the Spir - it, Three in One,

Praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be From age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

O Christ, Re-deem - er of us all, We pray you hear us when we call.  
You came, O Sav - ior, to set free Your own in glo - rious lib - er - ty.  
Not as a mon - arch, but the child Of Mar - y, blame - less moth - er mild.  
All things on earth with one ac - cord, Like those in heav'n shall call you Lord.  
De - fend us while we dwell be - low From all as - saults of our dread foe.  
Praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be From age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal* 1940, alt.  
Music: *Puer nobis*, melody from Trier MS., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621); harm. *Cowley Carol Book*, 1902; desc. Eliot Glaser

## **The Bidding**

The Reverend Mary Ann Hill, Rector

Beloved in Christ, as we await the great festival of Christmas, let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning. Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience into the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child; and let us make this Church glad with our carols of praise:

But first let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for unity and brotherhood within the Church he came to build; for those who walk in darkness and the shadow of death; and for the Church in this place and everywhere, that it may be freed from all evil and fear, and may in pure joy lift up the light of the love of God.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick in body and in mind and them that mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; all who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Last, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven; in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

*Please stand or kneel*

**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 Almighty God bless us with his grace: Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

*Please be seated for the Lesson*

## **The First Lesson: Genesis 3:1-15**

Read by Josh Moore

*Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.*

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

Here ends the reading.

**Choir Anthem:** "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 heavené queen.  
Blessed be the time  
That apple taken was,  
Therefore we moun singen,  
"Deo gracias!"*

**The Second Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11**

Read by Patrick Moore

*God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.*

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the LORD GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Here ends the reading.

*Please stand for the Hymn*

*Please be seated for the Lesson*

**The Third Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10**

Read by Katy Gulsby

*The prophet proclaims that God will come and save us*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.” Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God’s people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Here ends the reading.

*Please remain seated*

**Choir Anthem:** “A shoot shall come forth”

Richard Horn

*A shoot shall come forth out of Jesse,  
And a bud shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit life shall be with him,  
The spirit of wisdom and truth.*

*He'll come from the end of his heaven,  
And the earth shall be torn from its place;  
Our lives shall be filled with his radiance  
As floodwaters cover the sea.*

**Refrain**

*From out of the wells of salvation  
Will be draw us the water of life;  
His waist shall be girdled with justice,  
The heart of his heart shall be Love.*

*Then the lamb shall lie down with the leopard,  
And the lion eat straw with the ox,  
For the hand of a Child shall lead them  
To the peaceable kingdom of God.*

**The Fourth Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-15**

Read by Morgan Brennan

*God announces that a new covenant will be made with Israel.*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt-- a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Here ends the reading.

*Please stand for the Hymn*

*Please be seated for the Lesson*

**The Fifth Lesson: Isaiah 6: 1-11**

Read by Leni Moore

*God reveals his glory to the prophet and calls him to be his messenger*

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!" Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" And he said, "Go and say to this people: 'Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.' Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and comprehend with their minds, and turn and be healed." Then I said, "How long, O Lord?" And he said: "Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is utterly desolate.

Here ends the reading.

**Choir Anthem:** "This is the Truth Sent From Above"

English trad., arr. James Kirkby

*This is the truth sent from above,  
The truth of God, the God of love:  
Therefore don't turn me from your door,  
But hearken all, both rich and poor.*

*The first thing which I do relate  
Is that God did man create,  
The next thing which to you I'll tell,  
Woman was made with man to dwell.*

*Thus we were heirs to endless woes,  
Till God the Lord did interpose,  
And so a promise soon did run,  
That he would redeem us by his Son.*

*Then, after this, 'twas God's own choice  
To place them both in Paradise,  
There to remain, from evil free,  
Except they ate of such a tree*

*But they did eat, which was a sin  
And thus their ruin did begin.  
Ruined themselves, both you and me,  
And all of their posterity.*

**The Sixth Lesson: Zephaniah 3:14-18**

Read by Joanna Gillespie

*The Lord will be among us; we are summoned to rejoice and sing*

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

Here ends the reading.

*Please stand for the Hymn*

**Congregational Hymn:** “Hark! The glad sound”

**Hymnal 71**

*Please be seated for the Lesson*

**The Seventh Lesson: Baruch 4:36-5:9**

Read by Rozelle Wright

*The Scribe Baruch urges the people to look East because salvation is at hand.*

Look toward the east, O Jerusalem, and see the joy that is coming to you from God. Look, your children are coming, whom you sent away; they are coming, gathered from east and west, at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God. Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Here ends the reading.

**Choir Anthem:** “I sing of a maiden”

Lennox Berkeley (1903—89)

*1. I sing of a maiden That is makeleßs:  
King of all kinges To her son she ches.*

*4. He came all so stillë There his mother lay,  
As dew in Aprillë That falleth on the spray.*

*2. He came all so stillë There his mother was,  
As dew in Aprillë That falleth on the grass.*

*5. Mother and maiden Was never none but she;  
Well may such a lady Goddës mother be.*

*3. He came all so stillë To his mother's bow'r  
As dew in Aprillë That falleth on the flow'r.*

**The Eighth Lesson: Micah 5: 2-4**

Read by Rob Baran

*The one who is to rule Israel will be born in the village of Bethlehem.*

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

Here ends the reading.

*Please stand for the Hymn*

**Congregational Hymn:** “O come, O come Emmanuel”

**Hymnal 56**

*Please be seated for the Lesson*



## The Ninth Lesson: Luke 1:26-38

Read by Fr. Colin Kelly

*The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High.*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The LORD is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 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. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the LORD; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Here ends the reading.

### Choir Anthem: "Magnificat"

Sir Charles Villiers Stanford

*My soul doth magnify the Lord,  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.*

*For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.*

*He hath shewed strength with his arm.  
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.*

*He hath filled the hungry with good things.  
And the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel  
as he promised to our forefathers Abraham, and his seed forever.  
Amen.*

*Please stand*

### The Collect and Blessing

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn:** "Lo! he comes, with clouds descending"

**Hymnal 57** (descant L. Singleton)

*Please be seated for the Postlude*

**Organ Postlude:** “Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme”

J.C. Pachelbel

*Following this service, the congregation is cordially invited to a reception in Kelly Hall.*

**Clergy**

The Rev. Mary Ann Hill, Rector  
The Rev. Colin Kelly, Rector Emeritus

**Acolytes**

Susan Sprake: Crucifer  
Cece Gulsby, Anna Moore: Torch Bearers

**Choir Director**

Louisa Singleton

**Organist**

John Singleton

**The Chancel Choir**

*Soprano*

Lynn Godwin  
Kristina Montoya  
Robin Pekar  
Andrea Schmidt  
Claire Singleton  
River Yamada

*Alto*

Alison Bailey  
Ruth Cox  
Kandice Favorite  
Rebecca Holmes  
Linda Light  
Marie Schmidt  
Isabella Stephens

*Tenor*

Pat Harding  
Jason Rutledge  
Cathy Walters

*Bass*

Joe Cox  
Jeff Favorite  
Fr. Colin Kelly

Join us on **Christmas Eve** to celebrate the birth of the Savior:

**5:00 pm:** Family Service with Pageant

**10:00 pm:** Carols for the Christ Child

followed at 10:30 pm by

Festival Choral Holy Communion with music for choir and organ

**Christmas Day**

**10:00 am:** Holy Eucharist





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Sexton: Wendy Huff