



**Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**

**The Presbyterian Church of Okemos**

**2258 Bennett Road, Okemos, MI 48864**

**Live Worship Stream – [okemospres.org/live](http://okemospres.org/live)**



## **AN EVENING OF LESSONS AND CAROLS**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020 — 7:00 PM



**Dr. Marlene Brewbaker**

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & ORGANIST

**Connor Koppin**

CHOIR DIRECTOR

**Irene Shutt**

HANDBELL CHOIR DIRECTOR

**Rev. Betsy Aho**

**Rev. Rick Blunt**

**Susan Cancro**

**Rev. Peggy Casteel-Huston**

**Rev. Frederick Nestrock**

**Rev. Ellen Schoepf**

**Rev. Alice Fleming Townley**

READERS

**WELCOME TO**

**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF OKEMOS**

Whether you are visiting in the community or are looking for a church home, you will find a welcome at the Presbyterian Church of Okemos. This is a place where all are invited to gather together and engage God through worship, study, fellowship, and service.

The music programs at the church provide people of all ages with an opportunity to make a joyful noise unto the Lord, to enjoy the fellowship of others in a choir setting, and to grow in their faith and life.

If you are interested in participating in any of our music ensembles, please e-mail [chorus@okemospres.org](mailto:chorus@okemospres.org).

# The Origin of the Lessons and Carols



For millions of people, the annual broadcast service of “A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols” from the chapel of King’s College, Cambridge, is an essential part of Christmas. The service consists of lessons telling the story of our Redemption interspersed with carols and hymns sung by the choir and congregation. The service was first held in its present form on Christmas Eve, 1919. The British Broadcasting Company (BBC) first broadcast the service in 1928 and is now heard by millions all over the world. In the United States alone, over three hundred radio stations including WKAR carry the broadcast on Christmas Eve morning.

The service begins with a solo voice singing “Once in Royal David’s City.” It invokes the enchantment of the storyteller’s “once upon a time...,” and we are drawn in as the story unfolds through words and music.

What accounts for the continued success of this yearly event? The strength of the service itself comes from the fact that the story being told lies at the very core of our Christian faith. The vitality and freshness comes in part from the new arrangements of old carols and hymns, and the introduction of new music each year. The continued interest is supported by the ways in which the service has been adapted throughout the world, from large cathedrals to small parishes, from the West Indies to the Far East.

As Michael Till, former dean of King’s College, so eloquently stated, “a diversity of people with different personalities, preoccupations and needs are caught up in a common act of attention, and find within the story, something which speaks to them personally and revives a capacity for wonder. For the magic of this particular ‘once upon a time’ is that, in one way or another, as the story unfolds ‘once’ becomes ‘now’ and ‘for us.’”

— Dr. Marlene Brewbaker

## PRELUDE

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### Greensleeves

ORGAN AND FLUTE

Music, 16<sup>th</sup> CENTURY ENGLISH BALLAD

Arranged, PETER CRISAFULL

1

### Variations on *Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland*

ORGAN

Music, MARTIN LUTHER

Arranged, KAREN KEEN

## WELCOME

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Rev. Peggy Casteel-Huston  
The Presbyterian Church of Okemos

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

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**1 (Solo)** Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.

**4 (All)** For he is our childhood's pattern,  
Day by day like us he grew,  
He was little, weak and helpless,  
Tears and smiles like us he knew;  
And he feeleth for our sadness,  
And he shareth in our gladness.

**2 (Choir)** He came down to earth from heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable,  
And his cradle was a stall;  
With the poor, and mean and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

**5 (All)** And our eyes at last shall see him,  
Through his own redeeming love,  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heaven above;  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he is gone.

**3 (Choir)** And through all his wondrous childhood  
He would honor and obey,  
Love, and watch the lowly maiden,  
In whose gentle arms he lay;  
Christian children all must be  
Mild, obedient, good as he.

**6 (All)** Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see him; but in heaven,  
Set at God's right hand on high;  
When like stars his children crowned  
All in white shall wait around.

Words, CECIL FRANCES ALEXANDER

Melody, HENRY JOHN GAUNTLET

## BIDDING PRAYER

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Rev. Alice Fleming Townley  
The Presbyterian Church of Okemos

### \*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

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**1** O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels!

**Refrain**

O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ, the Lord!

**2** Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation!  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all Glory in the highest!  
*[Refrain]*

**3** Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!  
*[Refrain]*

Words and melody, ADESTE FIDELIS, attributed to JOHN FRANCIS WADE

Translated, FREDERICK OAKLEY

Arranged, JAMES BIERY

### FIRST LESSON

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#### Genesis 3: 8-15; 17-19

*God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise, and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head*

Rev. Rick Blunt

Okemos Community Church

### CAROL

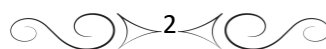
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#### The Truth from Above

CHANCEL CHOIR

ENGLISH TRADITIONAL CAROL

Arranged, R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS



**SECOND LESSON**

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**Isaiah 9:2–6**

*The prophet foretells the promised Messiah*

Rev. Betsy Aho

Haslett Community Church

**CAROL**

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**Fum, Fum, Fum!**

CHANCEL CHOIR

CATALONIAN CAROL  
Arranged, MACK WILBERG

**THIRD LESSON**

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**Isaiah 11:1–9**

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown*

Susan Cancro

Advent House Ministries

**CAROL**

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

MSU QUARTET

15<sup>th</sup> CENTURY GERMAN CAROL  
Translated, THEODORE BAKER  
Arranged, MICHEAL PRAETORIOUS

**FOURTH LESSON**

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**Luke 1:26–38**

*The angel Gabriel visits the blessed Virgin Mary*

Rev. Ellen Schoepf

Faith Lutheran Church

CAROL

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The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

HANDBELL CHOIR

BASQUE CAROL

Arranged, FRED GRAMMAN

FIFTH LESSON

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Matthew 1:18–23

*He shall be called "Emmanuel," which means "God-with-us"*

Rev. Frederick Nestrock

Saint Katherine's Episcopal Church

ANTHEM

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*Tecum principium, from Oratorio de Noël*

(My soul doth magnify, from Christmas Oratorio)

SOPRANO, TENOR, BARITONE

HARP AND ORGAN

CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS

Arranged, FRED GRAMMAN

SIXTH LESSON

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Luke 2:1–7

*The birth of Jesus*

Rev. Alice Fleming Townley

CAROL

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Silent Night

CHANCEL CHOIR, HARP, FLUTE

Words, JOSEPH MOHR

Melody, FRANZ XAVIER GRUBER

Arranged, MATTHEW CULLUTON

## SEVENTH LESSON

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### Luke 2:8–20

*The shepherds go to the manger*

Rev. Rick Blunt

#### \*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

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**1** Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains?  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains.  
*[Refrain]*

**2** Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?  
*[Refrain]*

#### Refrain

Gloria, in excelsis Deo,  
Gloria, in excelsis Deo,

**3** Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ, the Lord, the newborn king!  
*[Refrain]*

Words and melody, GLORIA, French Carol

Translated, JAMES CHADWICK

Arranged, EDWARD SHIPPEN BARNES

## EIGHTH LESSON

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### Matthew 2:1–12

*The magi are led by the star to Jesus*

Rev. Betsy Aho

#### CAROL

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### WE THREE KINGS

HANDBELL CHOIR

Arranged, JOEL RANEY

## NINTH LESSON

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### John 1:1–5, 10–12, 14

*St. John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation*

Rev. Peggy Casteel-Huston

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ANTHEM

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

CHANCEL AND HANDBELL CHOIRS, HARP, FLUTE

Words and Melody from *Piae Cantiones*, 1582

Translated, JANE MARION JOSEPH

Music, NEIL HARMON

**\*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN**

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**1** Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic hosts proclaim  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!

**3** Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that we no more may die.  
Born to raise us from the earth,  
Born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!”

**2** Christ by highest heaven adored,  
Christ the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of the virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Words, CHARLES WESLEY  
Melody, FELIX MENDELSSOHN  
Arranged, WILLIAM HAYMAN CUMMINGS

**\*PRAYER AND BLESSING**

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Rev. Peggy Casteel-Huston

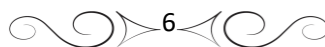
**POSTLUDE**

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Toccata on *I saw three ships*

BRASS AND ORGAN

CHARLES E. PEERY



## The Chancel Choir

|                |                   |                  |                  |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Ben Baldwin    | Eric Frost        | Kaija Kocher     | Gabe Reitemeier  | Ewen Todd         |
| Liz Ball       | Maggie Grace      | Jan Krehbiel     | Kathy Richardson | Gary VanKempen    |
| Chelsea Berner | Terri Grady       | Xiaosha Lin      | Bill Ruddock     | Elsbeth Weidenaar |
| Clelyn Chapin  | Amy Hall          | Emmie McKillips  | Fred Ruppert     | Peter Weidenaar   |
| David Cook     | Ryan Jones        | Brennan Michaels | Jill Schaberg    | Irene Yoder-Best  |
| Kathi Cook     | Nancy Kanistanaux | Brandon Miller   | Jen Sengin       | Paula Zichi       |
| Charlotte Darr | Jean Kocher       | Matthew Pearson  | Irene Shutt      |                   |
| Zanna Feldkamp | Jim Kocher        | Zarina Qurashi   |                  |                   |

## The Handbell Choir

|                   |                        |                  |
|-------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Sally Belloli     | Lou Cravotta           | Lydia Morgan     |
| Jeff Conroy-Krutz | Barbara Fretwell-Cooke | Carolyn Sherrill |
| David Cook        | Beth Layhe             | Helen Taylor     |
| Kathi Cook        | Sarah Mayhew           | Ewen Todd        |
| Linda Cravotta    | Michael Moore          |                  |

## The Brass Ensemble

### Trumpet

Mason Rorapaugh  
Michael Barkett  
Simon Holoweiko  
Patrick Olivero

### Trombone

Fern Stevermer  
Jared Jarvis  
Jamey Morgan

### Trombone

Andre Thacker

### Horn

Nick Brown

## The Instrumentalists

Brittany DeYoung – Harp  
Colton Wainsetter – Flute and Piccolo



*For more than 30 years, Advent House has provided assistance to mid-Michigan's most vulnerable individuals. Their services include a year-round Weekend Day Shelter, programs for the homeless, a street outreach program, job readiness training, a prison reentry program, and employment assistance for homeless veterans. Last year a new service, the Shared Housing Intervention Program, was introduced offering assistance for school age children who lack permanent housing. This program continues to grow with more funds needed for supplies and resources.*

*In addition, with the financial hardships associated with the pandemic, Advent House is assisting with the Eviction Diversion Program which has helped over 1100 families. Beyond the initial help of preventing eviction, many of these families are in need of ongoing case management to keep them stable. Your financial help is greatly needed to help meet the needs of these ever-expanding programs.*

*To send a donation directly to Advent House, please mail your check to 743 North Martin Luther King Boulevard, Lansing, Michigan 48915.*

# THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF OKEMOS

Sunday Worship Online, 10 am

## STAFF

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Rev. Peggy Casteel-Huston

INTERIM PASTOR

Rev. Alice Fleming Townley

ASSISTANT PASTOR

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker

ORGANIST

Connor Koppin

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Sue Schnackenberg

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

Anna Thiel

OFFICE MANAGER

Edward Ennen

SEXTON

## OFFICE HOURS

**MONDAY - FRIDAY: 9 AM – 2 PM**

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WEB [okemospres.org](http://okemospres.org)

