



Sunday, December 12th, 2021 at 7 p.m

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos at 2258 Bennett Road



AN EVENING OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021 — 7:00 PM



Dr. Marlene Brewbaker

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & ORGANIST

Colleen Chester

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Irene Shutt

HANDBELL CHOIR DIRECTOR

Susan Cancro

Rev. Timothy Chon

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

Rev. Lisa Schrott

Rev. Kristin Stroble

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.

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

Carols of Christmas

HANDBELL CHOIR

Arranged, LINDA SCHOLES

Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying

MARLENE BREWBAKER, ORGAN

WACHET AUF

Setting, PAUL MANZ

WELCOME

Rev. Lisa Schrott

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Cera Babb, soloist

- 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.
- 2 (Choir)

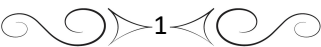
He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.
- 3 (Choir)

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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.



BIDDING PRAYER

Rev. Lisa Schrott

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

- 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!
- 2

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

O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord!
- 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]

FIRST LESSON

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. Lisa Schrott

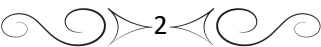
CAROL

The Lord at first did Adam make

CHANCEL CHOIR

Arranged, DAVID WILLCOCKS

*Members of the congregation are invited to stand as they are able.



SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

God's promised blessing to all nations of the earth.

Rev. Timothy Chon

North Westminster Presbyterian Church

HANDBELL ANTHEM

Let all Mortal Flesh

HANDBELL CHOIR

Arranged, JULIE TURNER

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2–6

The prophet foretells the promised Messiah

Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

The Peoples Church

CAROL

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

CHANCEL CHOIR AND BRASS ENSEMBLE

Words, JOHANN VON RIST

Melody, ERMUNTRE DICH by JOHANN SCHOP

Arranged, JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Brass parts and harmonization, ADRIAN LUCAS

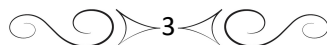
FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1–9

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown

Rev. Kristin Stroble

Eastminster Presbyterian Church



CAROL

In the Bleak Midwinter

PAIGE HEIDRICH AND COLE HARVEY, SOLOISTS

MSU OCTET

HAROLD DARKE

FIFTH LESSON

Matthew 1:18–23

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

Susan Cancro

Advent House Ministries

HANDBELL ANTHEM

All the Bells on Earth Shall Ring

HANDBELL CHOIR

Arranged, LINDA SCHOLES

SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:1–7

The birth of Jesus

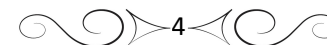
Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe

CAROL

On Christmas Night

CHANCEL CHOIR

Melody, PAUL MANZ



SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:8–20

The shepherds go to the manger

Rev. Timothy Chon

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

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

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

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

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
Translation, JAMES CHADWICK
Arranged, EDWARD SHIPPEN BARNES

EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1–12

The magi are led by the star to Jesus

Rev. Kristin Stroble

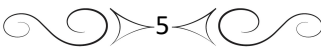
CAROL

The Three Kings

DALAN GUTHRIE, SOLOIST

CHANCEL CHOIR

Words and melody, PETER CORNELIUS
Arranged, IVOR ATKINS



NINTH LESSON

John 1:1–5, 10–12, 14

St. John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation

Rev. Lisa Schrott

CAROL

A Child Is Born in Bethlehem

CHANCEL CHOIR

Melody, PHILIP STOPFORD

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.

*PRAYER AND BLESSING

Rev. Lisa Schrott

POSTLUDE

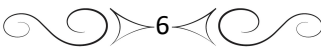
Toccata on *I Saw Three Ships*

MARLENE BREWBAKER, ORGAN

BRASS ENSEMBLE

CHARLES E PEERY

Please remain seated for the postlude.





Acknowledgements



In addition to the musicians, clergy, and readers already mentioned in the program, this special evening would not have been possible without the help and support of The Presbyterian Church of Okemos, Advent House Ministries, and the Doemel Music Endowment. We wish to express our sincere thanks to the following: all of the musicians for their work and dedication in preparing the music for this program; Sally Belloli, Jane Bobay, Brett Cone, Lynn Cone, Lou Cravotta, Eunice Cresswell, Edward Ennen, Jennifer Gordon, Mary Hahn, Nancy Kanistanaux, Carl Lira, Matt Pearson, Kathy Richardson, Dave Rumminger, Jill Schaberg and Sue Schnackenberg.

Finally, we would like to thank you for attending the concert and for supporting Advent House Ministries and the music programs of The Presbyterian Church of Okemos.

Brass Ensemble

Trumpet	Horn	Trombone	Tuba
Ryan Evans	Emma Brown	John Robinson	Evan Ziegel
Josh Harris			

The Chancel Choir

Cera Babb*	Cole Harvey*	Kathy Richardson
Jack Bertrand*	Jennifer Hansen Heder*	Maria Schoon
David Cook	Paige Heidrich*	Irene Shutt
Kathi Cook	Nancy Kanistanaux	Katie Sundeen
Joey Cross	Saleel Menon*	Ewen Todd
Troy Forbush	Doug Paterson	Gary VanKempen
Dalan Guthrie*	Matthew Pearson	Paula Zichi
Shayann Guthrie*		

*MSU Octet

The Handbell Choir

Sally Belloli	Linda Cravotta	Sarah Mayhew
Jeff Conroy-Krutz	Lou Cravotta	Michael Moore
David Cook	Barbara Fretwell-Cooke	Kathleen Shutt
Kathi Cook	Beth Layhe	Helen Taylor
		Ewen Todd



For more than thirty years, Advent House Ministries has provided assistance for mid-Michigan's most vulnerable and at risk individuals. Even in the midst of the Covid pandemic, Advent House never closed but has continued its mission to deliver assistance to those in need. While homeless shelters have been forced to close, Advent House has continued to provide a weekend day shelter offering food and safety for countless families and individuals.

Other services include a street outreach program, job readiness training, a prison re-entry program, and employment assistance for homeless veterans. The Shared Housing Intervention Program continues to offer assistance for the "epidemic" of school age children who lack permanent housing. Most recently Advent House has been involved in the distribution of Covid emergency rental assistance which have helped over 2000 households to remain stable.

The Lessons and Carols freewill offering allows the PCO Music Ministry to help provide support for those individuals and families in our community who are in need through the work of the Advent House Ministries.

As you leave the sanctuary, we hope you will consider making a donation. Visit their website at www.adventhouse.com for more information.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF OKEMOS

Sunday Worship, 10 am

COVID-19 Safety Recommendations

- Wear a mask at all times while in the sanctuary, fellowship hall, or classrooms.
- Seat yourself while being aware to keep 6 feet of distance from the neighbors in your pew.
- While seating is now allowed in every row, please stagger your seats so that you are not sitting directly behind or directly in front of anyone in the pews around you.
- Remember that young children are not vaccinated.

STAFF

Rev. Lisa Schrott

PASTOR/HEAD OF STAFF

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker

ORGANIST

Irene Shutt

HANDBELL CHOIR DIRECTOR

Colleen Chester

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Edward Ennen

SEXTON

Anna Thiel

OFFICE MANAGER

Yusuf Sultani

TECHNOLOGY COORDINATOR

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 9 am – 2 pm

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