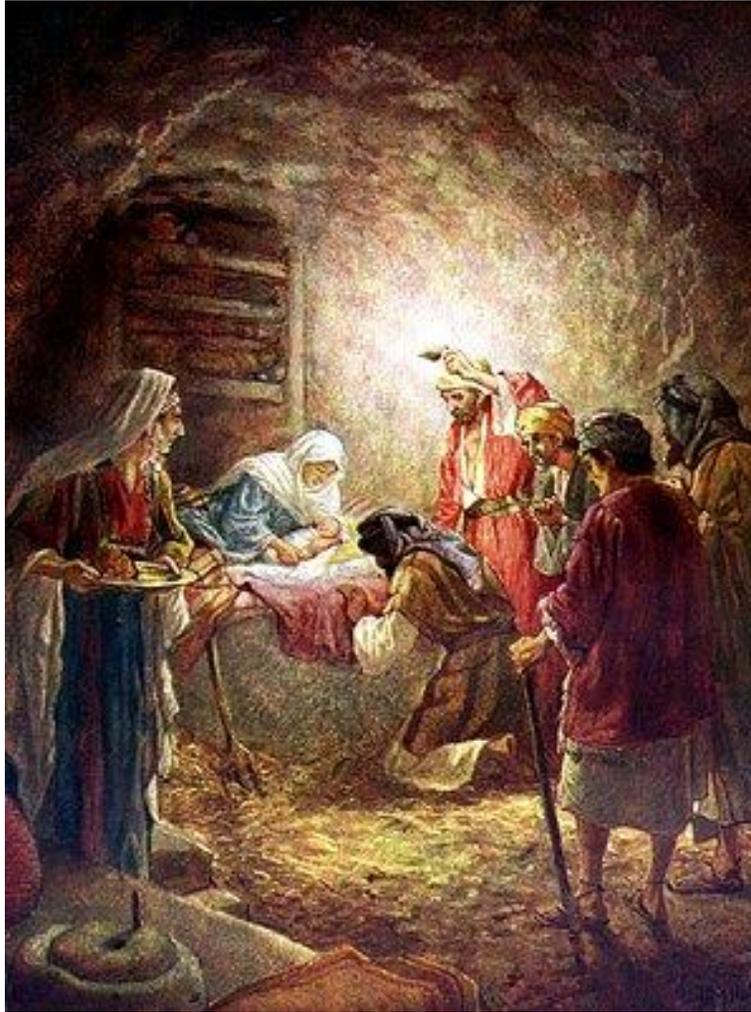


# *Nine Lessons and Carols*



*December 23, 2018*  
*5:00 pm*

*Church of St. John the Evangelist*  
*Elora, Ontario*  
*(founded 1842)*

*The congregation is requested to keep a prayerful silence before and after the service in accord with Anglican custom.*

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

**HYMN:** (*all stand*) **Once In Royal David's City**

arr. Willcocks

**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.

**full** And through all his wondrous childhood  
He would honour and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly maiden,  
In whose gentle arms he lay:  
Christian children all must be  
Mild, obedient, good as he.

**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.

**full** 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.

**full** 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:** *(remain standing)*

Beloved in Christ, at this Christmastide let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the record of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all people; for unity and harmony within the Church he came to build, and especially in this our diocese.

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

Lastly, 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 the Lord Jesus we are one for evermore.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the Throne of Heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

**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 them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**LESSON I** Genesis 3.8-15, 17-19 God tells Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise, and his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

*Read by Michael Chong, MP, Halton-Wellington*

**CAROL I Wonder as I Wander**

O'Donovan

*I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,  
How Jesus the Saviour did come for to die,  
For poor orn'ry people like you and like I...*

*When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall,  
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.  
But high from the heavens a star's light did fall,  
And the promise of ages it then did recall.*

*If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,  
A star in the sky or a bird on the wing,  
Or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,  
He surely could have had it,  
'Cause he was the King.  
I wonder...*

**LESSON II**      Genesis 22.15-18      God promises to Abraham that in his seed all the nations  
of the earth shall be blessed.

*Read by Percy Love*

**CAROL King Jesus Hath a Garden**

Wood

*King Jesus hath a garden full of divers flow'rs,  
Where I go culling posies gay, all times and hours.  
There naught is heard but paradise bird,  
Harp, dulcimer, lute,  
With cymbal, trump and tymbal,  
And the tender soothing flute...*

*The crown imperial bloometh too in yonder place,  
'Tis charity, of stock divine, the flow'r of grace.  
There naught...  
Yet, 'mid the brave, the bravest prize  
of all may claim  
The Star of Bethlem, Jesus, Blessed be his Name!  
There naught...*

*The lily, white in blossom there is chastity:  
The violet with sweet perfume, humility.  
There naught...*

*Ah! Jesu Lord, my heal and weal, my bliss complete,  
Make thou my heart thy garden plot, fair, trim and neat.  
That I may hear this musick clear:  
Harp, dulcimer, lute...*

**LESSON III**      Isaiah 9.2-7      Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

*Read by Pam Gradwell*

*There is a flow'r sprung of a tree,  
The root thereof is called Jesse,  
A flow'r of price;  
There is none such in paradise.*

1.    *This flow'r is fair and fresh of hue,  
It fadeth never, but ever is new;  
The blessed branch this flow'r on grew  
Was Mary mild that bare Jesu;  
A flow'r of grace;  
Against all sorrow it is solace.*
2.    *The seed hereof was Goddes sand [gift],  
That God himself sowed with his hand,  
In Nazareth, that holy land,  
Amidst her arbour a maiden found;  
This blessed flow'r  
Sprang never but in Mary's bower.*

3.    *When Gabriel this maid did meet,  
With 'Ave Maria' he did her greet;  
Between them two this flow'r was set  
And safe was kept, no man should wit,  
Till on a day  
In Bethlehem it could spread and spread.*
4.    *When that fair flower began to spread  
And his sweet blossom began to bed [bud],  
Then rich and poor of ev'ry land  
They marvelled how this flower might spread,  
Till kinges three  
That blessed flower came to see.*
5.    *Angels there came from heaven's tower  
To look upon this freshele flow'r,  
How fair he was in his colour  
And how sweet in his savour;  
And to behold  
How such a flow'r might spring in gold.*

**HYMN** (*all stand*)    **See Amid the Winter's Snow**

Goss

**See amid the winter's snow,  
Born for us on earth below;  
See the tender Lamb appears,  
Promised from eternal years.**

**Say, ye holy shepherds, say  
What your joyful news to-day;  
Wherefore have ye left your sheep  
On the lonely mountain steep?**

**Lo, within a manger lies –  
He who built the starry skies;  
He who throned in height sublime  
Sits amid the cherubim!**

**'As we watched at dead of night,  
Lo, we saw a wondrous light;  
Angels singing "Peace on earth"  
Told us of the Saviour's birth.'**

**Hail, thou ever blessed morn,  
Hail redemption's happy dawn,  
Sing through all Jerusalem,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

*Please be seated*

**LESSON IV:**    Isaiah 11.1-4a, 6-9    The peace Christ will bring is foreshadowed.  
*Read by Melanie Love*

**CAROL    The Infant King**

Basque Noel

1. Sing lullaby!  
Lullaby baby, now reclining,  
Sing lullaby!  
Hush, do not wake the Infant King.  
Angels are watching, stars are shining  
Over the place where he is lying.  
Sing lullaby!

2. Sing lullaby!  
Lullaby baby, now a-sleeping,  
Sing lullaby!  
Hush, do not wake the Infant King.  
Soon will come sorrow with the morning,  
Soon will come bitter grief and weeping:  
Sing lullaby!

3. Sing lullaby!  
Lullaby baby, now a-dozing,  
Sing lullaby!  
Hush, do not wake the Infant King.  
Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing,  
Then in the grave at last reposing:  
Sing lullaby!

4. Sing lullaby!  
Lullaby! is the babe awaking?  
Sing lullaby!  
Hush, do not stir the Infant King.  
Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning,  
Conquering Death, its bondage breaking:  
Sing lullaby!

**LESSON V    Luke 1.26-38    The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.**  
*Read by Thomas Littlewood*

**CAROL    Balulalow**

Britten

O my deare hert, young Jesu sweet,  
Prepare thy creddil in my spreit  
And I sall rock thee in my hert,  
And never mair from thee depert.

But I sall praise thee evermore  
With sangis sweet unto thy gloir.  
The knees of my hert sall I bow,  
And sing that richt Balulalow.

**LESSON VI    Matthew 1.18-25    St. Matthew tells of the birth of Christ.**  
*Read by Colin Fox*

**CAROL    Hodie Christus Natus est**

Sweelinck

Hodie, Christus natus est: Noe...  
Hodie, Salvator apparuit: Alleluja ...  
Hodie, in terra canunt angeli:  
Laetantur Archangeli. Noe...  
Hodie, exultant justi, dicentes:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Alleluja.

Today Christ is born:  
Today the Savior appears:  
Today the angels sing on earth,  
and the Archangels rejoice.  
Today the just exalt, saying,  
"Glory to God in the Highest! Alleluia!"

OFFERTORY HYMN (*all stand*)

Of the Father's Love Begotten

arr. Willan

Of the Father's love begotten  
Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,  
He the Source, the Ending he,  
Of the things that are, that have been,  
And that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heaven, adore him;  
Angel-hosts, his praises sing;  
All dominions, bow before him,  
And extol our God and King;  
Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
Every voice in concert ring,  
Evermore and evermore.

Oh that birth forever blessed!  
When the Virgin, full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
Bare the Saviour of our race,  
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,  
First revealed his sacred face,  
Evermore and evermore.

Christ, to thee, with God the Father,  
And, O Holy Ghost, to thee,  
Hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving,  
And unwearied praises be,  
Honour, glory, and dominion,  
And eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore.

*Please be seated*

LESSON VII Luke 2.8-20 The shepherds go to the manger.

*Read by Nancy Scott*

CAROL

Sir Christemas

Mathias

*Good day, good day, good day,  
My lord sir Christemas, good day!  
Good day, sir Christemas, our kinge,  
For ev'ry one both olde and yinge  
Is glad and blithe of your cominge.  
Good day, My lord sir Christemas, good day!  
Godes sone so moche of might,  
From hev'n to erthe doun is light,  
And borne is of a maide so bright.  
Good day, my lord sir Christemas, good day!*

*Hev'n and erthe as we can tell,  
And alle that ever in them dwelle,  
Of your cominge they sing full well. Good day!  
Of your cominge this clerkes finde,  
Ye come to save all man kinde,  
And of their sorrows them unbinde. Good day!  
All manner of merthes we will make,  
And solas to our hertes take,  
My semely lorde, for your sake.  
Good day, sir Christemas, good day!*

LESSON VIII Matthew 2.1-12 The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

*Read by Clare Johnston*

**CAROL     Here is the Little Door**

Howells

*Here is the little door, lift up the latch, oh lift!  
We need not wander more but enter with our gift;  
Our gift of finest gold,  
Gold that was never bought nor sold;  
Myrrh to be strewn about his bed;  
Incense in clouds about his head;  
All for the Child who stirs not in his sleep.  
But holy slumber holds with ass and sheep.*

*Bend low about his bed, for each he has a gift;  
See how his eyes awake, lift up your hands, O lift!  
For gold, he gives a keen-edged sword  
(Defend with it Thy little Lord!),  
For incense, smoke of battle red,  
Myrrh for the honoured happy dead;  
Gifts for his children, terrible and sweet,  
Touched by such tiny hands and oh such tiny feet.*

*Please stand for the Gospel*

**LESSON IX     John 1.1-14   St. John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.**

*Read by Rector*

*Please be seated*

**CAROL                             Castitatis lilium effloruit**

VanderZee

*Castitatis lilium effloruit quia Dei filius apparuit.  
Fulget dies ista celebris.  
Regenato exultat in laudibus multitudo celestis exercitus.  
Fulget dies ista celebris.  
Ad videndum moment irepro tin stella magos et pastores angelus.  
Salvatorem pastores annuntiant Deum natum magi donis predicant.  
Fulget dies ista celebris.  
Virgo mater servat hec in animo.  
Fulget dies ista celebris!*

**Priest**     The Lord be with you.

**People**    *And with thy spirit.*

**Priest**     Let us pray.

## CHRISTMAS COLLECT

Almighty God, who hast given us thy only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin: Grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

## BLESSING

HYMN (*all stand*) *Adeste Fideles*

arr. Willcocks

*Adeste, fideles, laeti triumphantes,  
Venite, venite in Bethlehem  
Natum videte regem angelorum;  
Venite adoremus, Dominum.*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above,  
Glory to God in the highest;  
*Venite adoremus, Dominum.*

God of God, Light of Light,  
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God, begotten, not created;  
*Venite adoremus, Dominum.*

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps:  
*Venite adoremus, Dominum.*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesu, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:  
*Venite adoremus, Dominum.*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

O Come Thou Saviour of the Gentiles

Bach

Sidespeople Elizabeth and Stan Litch  
Susan and Ken Edwards

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS WEEK

### THE WEEK AHEAD

<b>Monday-Friday</b>		Daily Mattins (Daily Mattins will resume <b>January 2</b> )
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	4:00 pm	Children's Eucharist & Blessing of the Crèche
	5:30 pm	Contemporary Eucharist
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Choral Eucharist (parish choir)</b>
	<b>10:00 pm</b>	<b>Choral Eucharist (parish choir)</b>
<b>Christmas Day</b>	10:00 am	Choral Eucharist (parish choir members)
<b>Wednesday</b>		Holy Communion will resume Wednesday, <b>Jan 3</b>

**Treasurer's Update-** When considering your weekly offerings, please keep in mind general parish expenses. These include (among other things) payroll, utilities, telephone, caretaking and maintenance, office expenses and insurance. Actual general offerings trail budgeted general offerings by \$42,054 as of Dec 10, 2017. At this point in 2016, actual general offerings trailed budget by \$46,603. Pre-Authorized Payment plans help to ensure a consistent offering stream throughout the year to help us meet Parish expenses and also present an opportunity for the Parish to avoid significant bank fees. If you are considering enrolling for a Pre-Authorized Payment plan or if you would like to update an existing plan, please ask for the forms at the Parish Centre. Thank you.

**Epiphany Lessons and Carols** January 13, 2019 at 11 am.

If you wish to give a gift for **memorial flowers** for Christmas Eve, please telephone the church office at 519.846.5911.

**2019 Offering Envelopes** are available for pick up in Thompson Hall.

As 2018 is drawing to a close, it is important that all donations are received by December 31st, to be included in your year-end statements. If you are planning to enroll in the "Pre-Authorized Payments", please ensure that I receive a copy of your form for my records, as it is important that your donation is designated to the proper account.

Copies of our most recent parish newsletter **Common Supplications** are available at the back of the church. The newsletter is also on our parish website [www.stjohnselora.ca](http://www.stjohnselora.ca)

**Blackberry Bog Christmas Trees** Come out to our farm to harvest your own tree, \$35.00. Proceeds to all three church choirs. Open weekends. South on Elora Rd. (#7) several Km, turn left at bottom of first big hill at 2nd Line. Next right on to 6th Sideroad, then 2 km to sign on road. (519) 843-5915

**Congratulations St. John's.** You met our target of \$900. for the Centre Wellington Food Bank's Christmas Hamper drive. As always, the need remains for ongoing donations of non-perishable food items.

## CHRISTMAS, EPIPHANY IN THE PARISH

CHRISTMAS EVE	4:00 pm	Children's Eucharist and Blessing of the Crèche
	5:30 pm	Contemporary Eucharist (Volunteer Choir)
	7:00 pm	<i>Christmas Eucharist at Christ Church Chapel, Drayton</i>
	7:00 pm	<b>Choral Eucharist (Parish Choir)</b>
	10:00 pm	<b>Choral Eucharist (Parish Choir)</b>
CHRISTMAS DAY	10:00 am	Choral Eucharist (Parish Choir members)
January 14, 2018	11:00 am	<b>Lessons and Carols for Epiphany (Parish Choir)</b>
February 11, 2018	12:15 pm	<b>Annual Vestry Meeting</b>