

A Festival of
Nine Lessons & Carols



Church of the Good Shepherd
Lexington, Kentucky

16 December 2007

5:00 pm

Invitatory Up! good Christen folk, and listen G. R. Woodward
(1848-1934)

*Up! Good Christen folk, and listen how the merry church bells ring,
and from steeple bid good people come adore the new-born King:
Tell the story how from glory God came down at Christmastide,
bringing gladness, chasing sadness, showering blessings far and wide,
born of mother, blest o'er other, Ex Maria Virgine,
in a stable ('tis no fable), Christus natus hodie.*

The First Lesson: Genesis 3:8-19

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

Reader: Miss Katherine Wright, Deputy Head Chorister, St. Cecilia Girls' Choir

Carol 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 that he took,
as clerkes finden written in their book.
Ne had the apple taken been,
ne had never our lady a been heavnè queen.
Blessed be the time that apple taken was.
Therefore we moun singen Deo gracias!
[15th Century]*

The Second Lesson: Genesis 22:15-18

*God promises to faithful Abraham
that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.*

Reader: Mrs. Nancy Jackson, Good Shepherd parishioner,
a representative of Good Shepherd Altar Guild
and the Lexington Connection, which handles details for Good Shepherd's Choir Tours

Carol Drop down, ye heavens Heathcote Statham (1889-1973)

*Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness:
let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation,
and let righteousness spring up together.
Mercy and truth are met together:
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
Truth shall flourish out of the earth:
and righteousness hath looked down, down from heaven.
Alleluia!*

[Text: Isaiah 45: 8, Psalm 85:10-11]

- *The People stand and sing:*

Hymn 72 Hark! the glad sound Richmond
(Descant: Lang)

- *All are seated.*

The Third Lesson: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 *The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.*

Reader: Dr. Everett McCorvey, *Director of Opera*
and *Lexington Opera Society Endowed Chair in Opera Studies, University of Kentucky*

Anthem Never weather-beaten sail Charles Wood (1866-1926)

*Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore,
never tired pilgrims limbs affected slumber more,
than my weary sprite now longs to fly out of my troubled breast:
O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest!
Ever blooming are the joys of heaven's high Paradise,
Cold age deafe not there our ears nor vapour dims our eyes:
Glory there the sun out-shines; whose beams the Blessed only see:
O come quickly, glorious Lord, and raise my sprite to thee!*
[Text: Thomas Campion 1567-1620]

The Fourth Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-4 *The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*

Reader: Mr. Ray Larson, *Good Shepherd parishioner*
and *Fayette County Commonwealth's Attorney*

Carol The Lamb (1982) John Tavener (b. 1944)

*Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee?
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed by the stream and o'er the mead;
Gave the clothing of delight, Softest clothing, wooly bright;
Gave thee such a tender voice, Making all the vales rejoice?
Little lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee?
Little Lamb, I'll tell thee, Little Lamb, I'll tell thee:
He is called by thy name, For he calls himself a Lamb.
He is meek, and he is mild, He became a little child.
I, a child, and thou a lamb, We are called by his name.
Little Lamb, God bless thee! Little Lamb, God bless thee!*
[Text: William Blake, 1757-1827]

The Fifth Lesson: St. Luke 1:26-35, 38 *The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

Reader: Mr. Jim Gray, *Vice Mayor of Lexington*

Carol A maiden most gentle Andrew Carter (b. 1939)

*A maiden most gentle and tender we sing:
Of Mary the mother of Jesus our King.
Ave Maria.
How blessed is the birth of her heavenly child,
Who came to redeem us in Mary so mild.*

*Ave maria.
The Arch-angel Gabriel foretold by his call
The Lord of all creation, and Saviour of all.*

*Ave Maria.
Three Kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare,
And marvelled in awe at the babe in her care.*

*Ave Maria.
Rejoice and be glad now this Christmas we pray;
Sing praise to the Saviour, sing endless 'Ave.'*

Ave Maria.

[Text: paraphrased from the Venerable Bede by Andrew Carter]

- *The People stand and sing:*

Hymn 92 On this day earth shall ring *Personent hodie*

- *All are seated.*

The Sixth Lesson: St. Luke 2: 1, 3-7

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

*Reader: Ms. Juanita Betz Peterson, Good Shepherd parishioner
and a representative of Good Shepherd's lectors*

Spiritual Carol Mary had a baby arr. William L. Dawson (1899-1990)

*Mary had a Baby, My Lord!
Where was he born? Born in a manger.
Mary had a Baby born in a manger, My Lord!
What did they call Him? King Jesus.
Mary had a Baby, He was called "King Jesus."
He is called "King Jesus," "Mighty Counsellor," "King Emmanuel,"
Mighty God," "Everlasting Father," "Prince of Peace."
Mary had a Baby, My Lord!*

The Seventh Lesson: St. Luke 2: 8-16

The shepherds go to the manger.

Reader: Mrs. Joyce Roth, Minister of Visitors and Newcomers

Carol Here is the Little Door Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

*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 that 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 battled red,
 Myrrh for the honoured happy dead;
 Gifts for His children, terrible and sweet;
 Touched by such tiny hands, and oh, such tiny feet.
 [Text: Francis Chesterton]*

- *The People stand and sing:*

Hymn 94* While shepherds watched their flocks by night *Winchester Old*
 (Descant: Willcocks)

- *The People are seated.*

The Eighth Lesson: St. Matthew 2:1-11 *The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.*

Reader: John Linker, *Organist/Choirmaster*

Carol The Angels and the Shepherds Bohemian carol, Arr. C. H. Trevor

*Shepherds, O hark ye, glad tidings we bring,
 Peace and goodwill to the world now we sing;
 See in a manger Christ the Anointed,
 Whom for your Saviour God hath appointed.*

Alleluia

*In yonder manger behold now he lies,
 Whom angel voices foretold from the skies.
 Seeking thy mercy, we kneel before thee,
 Singing thy praises, humbly adore thee.*

Alleluia.

*Still through the ages the song doth resound,
 Peace and goodwill on the earth shall abound.*

*Bear we the tidings to every nation,
 Born is the Chirst Child for man's salvation.*

Alleluia.

[Text: Adapted from Helen A. Dickinson]

- *All stand for the reading of the Ninth Lesson and the singing of the hymn that follows.*

The Ninth Lesson: St. John 1:1-14 *St. John unfolds the great
 mystery of the Incarnation.*

Reader: The Rev'd Robert L. Sessum, *Rector of Good Shepherd*

- *All remain standing for a Welcome to the People from the Rector
 and to sing the Hymn that follows..*

Hymn 82 Of the Father's love begotten *Divinum mysterium*
 (Descant: Willcocks)

We invite you to future choral services and concerts at Good Shepherd

Friday, 21 December 2007 in St Peter's, Paris, Kentucky

7:00pm Ordination of Donovan Cain to the Sacred Order of Priests – Combined Good Shepherd Choirs

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**Monday, 24 December 2007**

*5:00pm Christmas Eve Eucharist, with Carols at 4:30pm* – St Nicholas Boys' Choir & St Cecilia Girls' Choir

*11:00pm Christmas Eve Midnight Mass, with Carols at 10:30pm* – Canterbury Choir, Parish Choir, Sr Choristers

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Sunday, 27 January 2008 in The Presbyterian Church, Danville, Kentucky

5:30pm Choral Evensong – Combined Good Shepherd Choirs

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**Sunday, 3 February 2008** in Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington

*5:00pm Choral Evensong* – Combined Girls' Choirs from Good Shepherd, Christ Church Cathedral, and St Philip's Cathedral, Atlanta

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Sunday, 24 February 2008 – 5:00pm

'Lift Every Voice and Sing' service and concert in commemoration of Black History Month and featuring music and liturgy written and/or influenced by Blacks of African descent – Combined Good Shepherd Choirs

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**Sunday, 25 May 2008**

*5:00pm Choral Evensong* – Combined Choirs with the Festival Choir of St Michael the Archangel Church

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Sunday, 6 July 2008 – The Choirs on Tour to New York

11:00am Eucharist in St Thomas Church Fifth Avenue

6:00pm Evensong in the Cathedral of St John the Divine

Church of the Good Shepherd

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The Rev'd Robert L. Sessum, *Rector*

The Rev'd Elise B. Johnstone, *Assistant to the Rector*

The Rev'd James E. Campbell, *Priest Assistant*

The Rev'd Lauren Hendrick, *Deacon, Minister of Christian Formation*

Mr. John Kevin Linker, *Organist/Choirmaster*

Mr. Zachary Ullery, *Assistant Organist*

Ms. Dale Chapman, *Minister of Administration*

Ms. Joyce Roth, *Minister of Visitors and Newcomers*

Ms. Cindy McKee, *Parish Secretary*

Mr. Leroy Nealy, *Sexton*