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The Reverends Paul and Stacey Simpson Duke, *Pastors*  
Sue Ellen Glover, *Director of Christian Education*  
Carole Ott, *Director of Music*  
Debra Snyder, *Director of Handbell Choirs*  
Joel Hastings, *Organist*  
Carey Viviano, *Administrative Assistant*  
The Reverend James Middleton, *Pastor Emeritus*

# A Festival of Lessons and Carols

December 24, 2007

7:30 p.m.

Angels we have heard on high ~ *arr. B. Ingram*  
*Johnson Memorial Handbells, Feiner Memorial Handchimes*

WELCOME

PRELUDE Noël: "Où s'en vont ces gais bergers" ~ *Claude-Bénigne Balbastre*

BIDDING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (*"debts"*)

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE The Halliday Family

HYMN Once in royal David's city *IRBY*

*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.*

*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 Savior holy.*

\*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.  
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.  
*Sam Kidd, Soloist*

Poinsettias have been given by in honor of:

The Alaniz Family	Our military serving in Iraq and elsewhere in the world
The Fortune-Gallagher Family	Jenny Van Dorn; Mary Gallagher
Andrea Juchartz, Chris, Elizabeth & Charlotte Durham	Mervyn & Conrad Juchartz
David Robbins	Joyce Arnn
Lynn Suits	Jim & Jerry Suits, Ruth & Bill Kerr
Jim, Ethan & Emily Wright	Margarete & James Wright

Poinsettias have been given by in memory of:

The Brewer Family	Helen Brewer; Russell Brewer; Esther Moore
Lloyd & Lois Crabtree	George Wendell Crabtree
The Doman Family	Christine, Carl & David Doman
Larry & Linda Dicks	Mervin Mack & Joyce McKeachie Doerner
Joan Farrell	Ruth Harris
Jim & Elizabeth Gold	Roy & Vinita Martin
James, Elizabeth, Rachel & David Gold	John C. Floyd, Jr.
His cousins	Randolph Forbes Reed
Beverly Inbody	Orrin & Doris Inbody
Johanna Johnson	Robert Johnson
Iris Martin	All my loved ones
Nancy Rhodes & Ethan Wright	Mary West Stroh
Omer Robbins, Jr.	Elsie I. Robbins
Nancy Rushton	George & Velda Sanders
Thomas Scott	Marie Johnson & Robert P. Scott
The White Family	Gladys & Frank Eggleton
Rick & Melissa Whittington, Jim & Elizabeth Gold	Claire Hodge

*\*\* Please take your poinsettias home after the service this evening. \*\**

*Announcements:*

Childcare for infants, preschoolers, and kindergarten aged children is offered on the third floor this evening.

Please turn off all cell phones and pagers.

Donations for the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering 2007 will continue to be received throughout the month of December. Envelopes are available in the pews, and offering plates are near the exit doors. Please give generously.

Please join us on Sunday mornings for our 10:00 Worship Service.

*Special thanks to:*

The Sanctuary Choir

Johnson Memorial Handbells, Feiner Memorial Handchimes

*Soloists:* Sam Kidd, Bonnie Kidd, Lucy Thompson, Bob Kidd

*Flutist:* Charise Hastings

*Quartet:* Bonnie Kidd, Nancy Paul, Lucy Thompson, Esther Floyd

*Readers:* Hannah Foster, Matthew Kirchner, Stacey Simpson Duke, John Floyd III,

Anna Moyer, Paul Simpson Duke, Lois Crabtree

*Acolytes:* Jack Stearns, Grace Crowe

*Decorators:* The Gathering students, David Robbins, Joyce Arnn,

John Reed, Gregg & Merilee Magnuson

*Sextons:* Adam Dolson, Ryan Madis, Becky Miller, Brent Schedeler

*Lights & Sound:* Matthew Kirchner

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah ix

Hannah Foster

*Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by the prophet Isaiah*

CAROL

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

~ Elizabeth Poston

The tree of life my soul hath seen Laden with fruit and always green  
The trees of nature fruitless be Compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel By faith I know but ne'er can tell  
The glory which I now can see In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought And pleasure dearly I have bought  
I missed of all but now I see 'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil Here I will sit and rest a while  
Under the shadow I will be Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit does make my soul to thrive It keeps my dying faith alive  
Which makes my soul in haste to be With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

*Sam Kidd, Bonnie Kidd, soloists*

*Bonnie Kidd, Nancy Paul, Lucy Thompson, Esther Floyd, quartet*

\*HYMN

O come, all ye faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

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!*

God of God, Light of Light,  
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God, Begotten, not created: *Refrain*

See how the shepherds, Summoned to his cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
We too will thither Bend our joyful footsteps: *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God In the highest: *Refrain*

SECOND LESSON  
*Isaiah foretells of John the Baptist*

Isaiah xi

Matthew Kirchner

CAROL In dulci jubilo

In dulci jubilo, Let us our homage shew;  
Our heart's joy reclineth, In praesepio  
And like a bright star shineth, Matris in gremio  
Alpha es et O!

O Jesu parvule, I yearn for thee alway!  
Hear me, I beseech thee, O puer optime!  
My prayer let it reach thee, O Princeps gloriae!  
Trahe me post te!

O Patris caritas, O Nati lenitas!  
Deeply were we stained, Per nostra cirmina;  
But thou hast for us gained, Coelorum gaudia,  
O that we were there!

Ubi sunt gaudia, If they be not there?  
There are angels singing, Nova cantica,  
And there the bells are ringing In Regis curia:  
O that we were there!

*Bonnie Kidd, soloist*

THIRD LESSON St Luke i  
*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Stacey Simpson Duke

CAROL A virgin most pure

A virgin most pure as the prophets do tell,  
brought forth a baby as it hath befell;  
To be our redeemer from death, hell, and sin,  
Which Adam's transgressions had wrapped us in.

*Refrain: Aye, and therefore be merry;  
Rejoice and be you merry;  
Set sorrow aside;  
Christ Jesus our Saviour was born at this tide.*

In Bethlehem Jewry a city there was,  
Where Joseph and Mary together did pass,  
And there to be taxed with many one more,  
For Caesar commanded the same should be so. *Refrain*

~ *Traditional German Carol*  
*arr. John Rutter*

~ *Traditional Carol*  
*arr. Charles Woods*

\*COLLECT (IN UNISON)

O God, who makes us glad with the yearly expectation of your coming,  
grant that we, who with joy receive your only Son as our Redeemer,  
may without fear behold him when he shall come to be our Judge,  
even your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

\*HYMN Hark! the herald angels sing *MENDELSSOHN*

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 th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold him come Offspring of a virgin's womb:  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail th'incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, Ris'n with healing in his wings;  
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

BLESSING

POSTLUDE Farandole from *Suite L'Arlésienne* ~ *Georges Bizet*  
*arr. Joel Hastings*

\* *If you are able, please stand.*

CAROL Christmas night

~ arr. John Rutter

Softly through the winter's darkness shines a light,  
Clear and still in Bethlehem on Christmas Night  
Round the stable where a virgin mother mild  
Watches over Jesus Christ the holy child.

Shepherds kneel in adoration by his bed;  
Seraphim in glory hover round his head.  
Wise men, guided by the leading of a star,  
Bring him gifts of precious treasure from a far.

Choirs of angels sing to greet his wondrous birth:  
Christ our Lord in human form comes down to earth.  
"Glory to God in highest heaven" their joyful strain:  
"Peace on earth, goodwill to men" their glad refrain.

Lullaby! The child lies sleeping: sing Lullaby!  
Safe in Mary's tender keeping: sing Lullaby!  
Guardian Angels keep their watch till break of day:  
Lullaby! sweet Jesus sleeps among the hay.

Alleluia! let the earth rejoice today!  
Christ is born to take our sins and guilt away.  
Praise the Lord who sent him down from heaven above:  
Holy infant, born of God the Father's love.

\*HYMN Silent night, holy night

STILLE NACHT

Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light;  
Radiant beams from thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night, Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Then they were constrained in a stable to lie,  
Where horses and asses they used for to tie;  
Their lodging to simple they took it no scorn,  
But against the next morning our Saviour was born. *Refrain*

Then God sent an angel from heaven so high,  
To certain poor shepherds in fields where they lie,  
And bade them no longer in sorrow to stay,  
Because that our Saviour was born on this day. *Refrain*

Then presently after the shepherds did spy  
A number of angels that stood in the sky;  
Then joyfully talked and sweetly did sing,  
"To God be all glory our heavenly King." *Refrain*

*Lucy Thompson, Bob Kidd, soloists*

\*HYMN What child is this

GREENSLEEVES

What child is this who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

*Refrain: This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary.*

Why lies he in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading. *Refrain*

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come, peasant, king, to own him;  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone him. *Refrain*

FOURTH LESSON  
*St Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus*

St Matthew i

John Floyd, III

CAROL I wonder as I wander ~ *John Jacob Niles*  
*arr. Keith Christopher*  
 I wonder as I wander out under the sky,  
 How Jesus the Savior did come for to die,  
 For poor orn'ry people like you and like I,  
 I wonder as I wander, ... out under the sky;  
 When Mary birthed Jesus 'twas in a cow's stall,  
 With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all,  
 And high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,  
 And the promise of the ages, ... they 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 heaven to sing,  
 He surely could've had it... 'cause he was the King.  
*Charise Hastings, flute; Lucy Thompson, Bob Kidd, soloists*

FIFTH LESSON St Luke ii Anna Moyer  
*The shepherds go to the manger*

CAROL Gaudete ~ *Piae Cantiones 1582*  
*Refrain:*  
*Gaudete, Gaudete! Rejoice! Rejoice!*  
*Christus est natus Christ is born*  
*Ex maria virgine, Of the virgin Mary,*  
*Gaudete! Rejoice!*  
 Tempus ad est gratiae, It is now the time of grace  
 Hoc quod optabamus; That we have desired;  
 Carmina laetitiae, Let us sing songs of joy  
 Devote redamus. *Refrain* Let us give devotion. *Refrain*  
 Deus homo factus est, God was made man,  
 Natura mirante; And nature marvels;  
 Mundus renovatus est The world was renewed  
 A Christo regnante. *Refrain* By Christ who is King. *Refrain*  
 Ezechiellis porta The gate of Ezechiel  
 Clausa pertransitur; Has been passed through;  
 Unde lux est orta From where the light rises  
 Salus invenitur. *Refrain* Salvation is found. *Refrain*  
 Ergo nostra cantio, Therefore let our assembly now sing.  
 Psallat iam in lustris; Sing the Psalms to purify us;  
 Benedicat Domino: Let us praise the Lord:  
 Salus Regi nostro. Greetings to our King. *Refrain*  
*Bonnie Kidd, Lucy Thompson, Bob Kidd soloists*

\*HYMN (hymnal, 248) On this day earth shall ring *PERSONET HODIE*  
 On this day earth shall ring with the song children sing  
 to the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to save us; him the father gave us.  
*Refrain: Ideo-o-o, Ideo-o-o,*  
*Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!*  
 His the doom, ours the mirth; when he came down to earth,  
 Bethlehem saw his birth; ox and ass beside him, from the cold would hide him.  
*Refrain*  
 God's bright star, o'er his head, Wise Men three to him led;  
 Kneel they low by his bed, lay their gifts before him, praise him and adore him.  
*Refrain*  
 On this day angels sing; with their song earth shall ring,  
 Praising Christ, heaven's King, born on earth to save us; peace and love he gave us.  
*Refrain*

SIXTH LESSON St John i Paul Simpson Duke  
*The Word was made flesh*

CAROL King Jesus hath a garden ~ *Traditional*  
 King Jesus hath a garden, filled with divers flow'rs  
 where I go culling posies gay, all times and hours.  
*Refrain:*  
*There naught is heard but Paradise bird,*  
*harp, dulcimer, lute, with cymbal,*  
*trump and tymbal, and the tender soothing flute.*  
 The Lily white in blossom there, is purity:  
 the Violet, with sweet perfume, Humility. *Refrain*  
 The bonny Damask Rose is known as Patience.  
 The blithe and thrifty Marygold, Obedience. *Refrain*  
 Yet, 'mid the brave, the bravest prize of all may claim,  
 The Star of Bethlem-Jesus-blessed be his name. *Refrain*  
 Ah! Jesu Lord, my heal and weal, my bliss complete,  
 make thou my heart thy garden plot, fair, trim and neat. *Refrain*

SEVENTH LESSON 1 John iv Lois Crabtree  
*St John exhorts us to love one another*