

A Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols
Hanley Christian Reformed Church
December 25, 2020 □ 9:30 a.m.



Merry Christmas! *May God bless you with the joy and peace that come through entrusting your life to Christ as your Savior and King. This morning we recall ancient prophecies of the coming of the Messiah, the Son of David. We read of their fulfillment in the birth of Jesus. And we express our joy through Christmas songs.*

*Each carol will be sung **without announcement.***

Prelude (Ashley and Sydney – violins)

Opening Song: “Come, Child of Light”

Come, O child of light, we pray.
Enter our hearts and show us your way.
Promise of God, heaven’s pure light,
light for our world shining bright! Come,
O child of light we pray.

Welcome and Opening Prayer Pastor
Joe

First Lesson -- Genesis 3:8,9,11b-15..... Derek
The first promise of deliverance from sin’s grip.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

*Carol: **Ring the Bells** – Praise! Hymnal
Ring the bells, ring the bells, let the whole world know Christ
was born in Bethlehem many years ago.

Born to die that man might live, came to earth new life to give,
Born of Mary, born so low, many years ago.

God the Father gave His Son, gave His own beloved One
To this wicked, sinful earth, to bring mankind His love, new birth.

Ring the bells, Ring the bells, let the whole world know Christ
the Savior lives today, as He did so long ago!

Second Lesson – Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 Cyndi
Christ will bring a kingdom of peace and safety

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Prophets Candle

Carol: ***Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*** – PH 345:1-3

Third Lesson – Luke 2:1-7 Steve
The emperor's decree: Joseph and Mary must go to their hometown.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Bethlehem Candle

*Carol: ***O Come, All Ye Faithful*** – PH 340:1,4

Fourth Lesson – Luke 2:8-12 Nancy
The heavenly announcement: A Savior has been born to you.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Shepherds Candle

Special music: Mandi

Fifth Lesson -- Luke 2:13-20 Nick
The angelic host glorifies God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Angels Candle
Carol: **Angels from the Realms of Glory** – PH 354:1,5

Sixth Lesson – Matthew 2:1-11Katie
The Magi bring gifts to the newborn king.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Message: **Under Bethlehem's Stars: A Royal Contrast**
*Carol: **The First Noel** – Celebration
265:1,3,4,5

(continued on back)

Seventh Lesson -- John 1:1-14 Pastor Joe
"The Word became flesh"

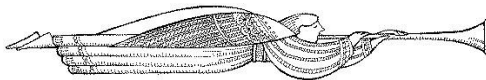
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Carol: **Silent Night! Holy Night!** – LUYH 85:1,3

*Benediction

*Doxology: **Joy to the World!** – PH 337:1,4

Postlude



Message Outline

- I. Introduction: "A savior has been born to you."

- II. We herald the birth of a king: "Christ, the Lord."

- III. How well do you relate to him as ruler over your life?

- IV. Spiritually and morally, you will live under the dominion
(the dominant influence) of one of two kingdoms.
 - A. Exhibit one: Herod the Great (a great, self-serving, life
destroying king)

 - B. Exhibit two: Shepherd-kings like godly King David
(servant-minded rulers who combine greatness
and goodness)

- V. Conclusion: Whose rule will you live under?