



# LESSONS & *Carols*



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
*of Sumter*

December 12, 2021



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**46th Annual Service of Lessons and Carols**

**THE OPENING VOLUNTARY**

*Overture and Pastoral Symphony from "The Messiah"*

G. F. Handel

Jacqueline Taylor and Friends, String Quartet

**WELCOME**

Debby Williams

**CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

Gus & Ashley Blum

Leader: The stories of Advent are full of dreams. The prophets dream of peaceable kingdoms. The Magi dream of warnings against returning to Herod. Joseph dreams of taking Mary as his wife. Sometimes dreams lead to risks, and risks lead to love. The Advent season depends on God's dreams. Before the prophets shared their glorious visions. God dreamed of justice. Before the Magi dreamed of their paths, God dreamed of life-giving journeys.

Before Joseph dreamed of staying with Mary, God dreamed of covenantal love. Sometimes dreams lead to risks, and risks lead to love. God is behind all the dreams and dreamers in our faith story. God took a risk, coming to us as a vulnerable baby. God takes a risk by loving us unconditionally. God risks inviting us to share in dreams of justice, mercy and steadfast love. Today, as we draw nearer to Christmas Day, we light the candle of love. May this light burn bright as a reminder that despite the risk, God is here, and God is love.

People: On this day, we remember God is Love.

✠ **PROCESSIONAL CAROL** 140

*Once in Royal David's City*

Congregation & Choir

Arr. by Robert Powell

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

Kelly Hickey

*Following the Children's Moment, children preschool through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade are invited to Children in Worship. Parents can pick up their children from the third floor after worship.*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

**MEDITATION**

*What Wondrous Love is This*

Jacqueline Taylor Hendricks, Cello

Arr. by Kristin Coleman Campbell

**THE FIRST LESSON**

*God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise.*

Fred Brogdon

Genesis 3: 8-19

✠ **THE FIRST CAROL** 347

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

Congregation & Choir

PICARDY

**THE SECOND LESSON**

*The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.*

Kimberly Land

Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

**THE SECOND CAROL**

*Morning of Promise*

Chancel Choir

Joseph Martin

**THE THIRD LESSON**

*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*

Edmunds DuBose

Isaiah 11: 1-4, 6

**THE THIRD CAROL**

*Walk in Light*

Chancel Choir

Karen Marroli

**THE FOURTH LESSON**

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Virgin Mary.*

Bonnie Disney

Luke 1: 26-38

- ✧ **THE FOURTH CAROL** 100 Congregation and Choir  
*My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout* STAR OF COUNTY DOWN  
 Verse 1, 2, and 4 –Michelle Blassengale, Soprano Refrain-Congregation  
*My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.*  
*Wipe away all tears for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.*
- THE FIFTH LESSON** Madison White  
*St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.* Luke 2: 1-7
- THE FIFTH CAROL** Chancel Choir  
*Wonderful Peace* Gustaf Nordqvist
- THE SIXTH LESSON** Bronwyn McElveen  
*The shepherds go to the manger.* Luke 2: 8-20
- THE SIXTH CAROL** Chancel Choir  
*Gloria in Excelsis* Antonio Vivaldi
- THE SEVENTH LESSON** John Michael Osteen  
*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.* Matthew 2:1-12
- ✧ **THE SEVENTH CAROL** 151 (Verses 1 and 2) Congregation & Choir  
*We Three Kings of Orient Are* THREE KINGS OF ORIENT
- SERVICE OF GIVING**  
 Call to Giving  
 The Giving of Tithes and Offerings  
 The Offertory Anthem Chancel Choir & John Michael Osteen, Baritone  
*Carol of the Magi* John Rutter
- ✧ Song of Dedication 144 *In the Bleak Midwinter* CRANHAM  
*What can I give Him, Poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a Lamb.*  
*If I were a wise man, I would do my part; Yet what I can I give him: Give my heart.*
- ✧ Offertory Prayer
- THE EIGHTH LESSON** Taylor Geddings  
*The great mystery of the Incarnation* John 1: 1-5
- ✧ **THE EIGHTH CAROL** 119 Congregation & Choir  
*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* MENDELSSOHN
- ✧ **THE NINTH LESSON** Congregation  
*Jesus gives the Great Commission.* Matthew 28  
 And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’
- ✧ **THE NINTH CAROL** Chancel Choir  
*Hallelujah! (The Messiah)* George Frederic Handel
- ✧ **THE CLOSING VOLUNTARY**  
*Praise Ye The Lord of Hosts from “Christmas Oratorio”* Camille Saint-Saëns, ed. Bish
- ✧ *The congregation is invited to stand.*



## **WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Director of Music:** Joni Brown

**Accompanists:** Denise Lynch and Hamilton Stoddard

**Percussion:** Kenny Jordan

### **Jacqueline Taylor and Friends**

**Violin:** Mary Lee Taylor Kinosian and Karen Thompson

**Viola:** Audrey Harris

**Cello:** Jacqueline Taylor Hendricks

### **Chancel Choir**

#### Soprano

Michelle Blassengale  
Mallory Beaton  
Peggy Curlovic  
Kelsie Decker  
Lauren Decker  
Layonna Figueroa  
Brittani Machado  
Debby Williams

#### Alto

Jessica Bettinger  
Dee Dailey  
Mary Jean Dowling  
Caroline Ferguson  
Sue Fienning  
Janet Kuhlmann  
Sarah Tindal

#### Tenor

Alex Beaton  
Chuck Fienning  
Herbert Johnson  
Bob Smith

#### Bass

Tom Bouknecht  
John Jackson  
John Michael Osteen  
Archie Torain  
Ted Williams

**Crucifer:** Nicholas White

**Beadle:** Dee Dailey

**Technology:** Ike Jenkins

Our guest musicians have been graciously sponsored by gifts and memorials to the FPC Music Department.  
Special thanks to members of the Worship and Music Committee.

With the advent of our new Interim's arrival, Rev. Long's last Sunday will be December 26, 2021.  
The Session

## **ADVENT WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**Monday, December 13**

**5:30 p.m. in the Chapel**

**Service of Comfort & Hope**

**For those experiencing grief and discomfort during the holidays.**

**Sunday, December 19**

**10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary**

**A drama of the Christmas Story presented by the children of FPC and**

**Service of Ordination and Installation**

**Friday, December 24**

**5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service**

**Music by the Chancel Choir, Brass Ensemble, and Soloists**

**Sunday, December 26**

**10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary**

**Informal Worship Service**