

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve, 2020



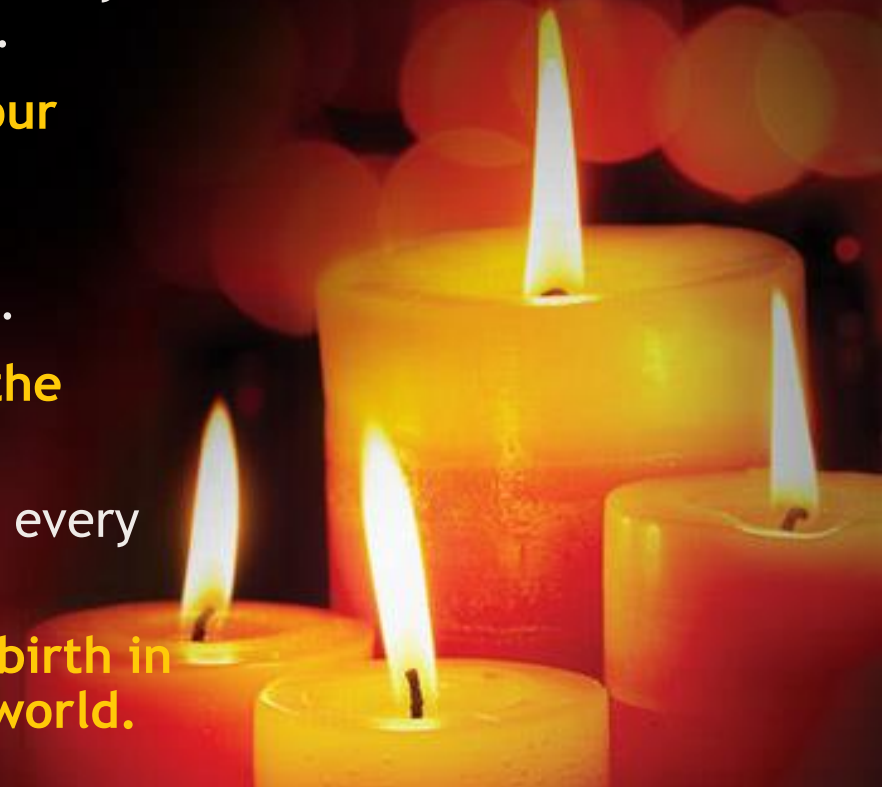
Carol #124 “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

- ▶ Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.
- ▶ Truly God, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
word of God, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
Christ will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.
- ▶ Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.
- ▶ At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, God most high!"



Litany Of The Candles

- ▶ LEADER: The Lord be with you.
- ▶ **PEOPLE: And also with you.**
- ▶ LEADER: We gather to celebrate the birth of the One who is the light of the world.
- ▶ **PEOPLE: We are here to worship God made flesh this night in Bethlehem of Judea.**
- ▶ LEADER: We light the candle of hope to remind us of the promises made by all the prophets that God would raise up a savior for his people Israel.
- ▶ **PEOPLE: Christ is our hope and our salvation. He calls us to share our hope in Him with the world.**
- ▶ LEADER: We light the candle of peace to remind us that it is only by following God's path of justice and love that true peace can be found.
- ▶ **PEOPLE: Christ brings the peace of God to us. He calls us to share the peace He gives with the world.**
- ▶ LEADER: We light the candle of joy to remind us that God gives joy to every heart that abides in Him.
- ▶ **PEOPLE: As Mary and Joseph rejoiced in the birth of Jesus - so His birth in us brings us joy. God calls us to share the joy Jesus gives with the world.**



Litany Of The Candles

- ▶ **LEADER:** We light the candle of love to remind us that Jesus is God's gift of love to us - and that in Him, the light of love triumphs over darkness.
- ▶ **PEOPLE:** Love never fails - it transforms all those who give it and receive it. God calls us to share God's love with the world.
- ▶ **LEADER:** We light the Christ candle to remind us that the light of the world was born this night.
- ▶ **PEOPLE:** The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness - on them a light has shined.
- ▶ **LEADER:** You, O Lord, have multiplied your people. You have increased their joy.
- ▶ **PEOPLE:** He is called Emmanuel, for in him God is with us.
- ▶ **ALL:** Almighty God - you have made this night holy by the gift of your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of Mary. Upon Him rested all your grace, through Him has come all your mercy. Let His light shine within our hearts tonight even more brightly than it shines from the candles in this place. Help us to hear your word and to celebrate your everlasting love through Him. Amen.



Carol #128 “One Candle is Lit”

- ▶ Come surely, Lord Jesus, as dawn follows night, our hearts long to greet you, as roses, the light. Salvation, draw near us, our vision engage. One candle is lit for the hope of the age.
- ▶ Come quickly, shalom, teach us how to prepare for a gift that compels us with justice to care. Our spirits are restless till sin and war cease. One candle is lit for the reign of God's peace.
- ▶ Come, festively sing while awaiting the birth, join angels in dancing from heaven to earth. Wave banners of good news, lift high thankful praise. One candle is lit for the joy of these days.
- ▶ Come, wander where lion and lamb gently play, where evil is banished and faith takes the day, a babe in a manger to fool the world's eyes. One candle is lit for God's loving surprise.
- ▶ Come, listen, the sounds of God-with-us ring clear, and signs of a cross in the distance appear. The Word once made flesh, yet the Word ever near. One candle is lit for the Christ-birthday here.

CAROL # 160 “Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

- ▶ Lo, how a rose, e'er blooming, from tender stem hath sprung, of Jesse's lineage coming by faithful prophets sung; it came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter when half-spent was the night.
- ▶ Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind; with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright she bore to us a Savior when half-spent was the night.

CAROL # 161 (v. 1 & 2) "I Wonder as I Wander"

- ▶ I wonder as I wander, out under the sky, how Jesus the Savior did come for to die for poor ordinary 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 shepherd and all. but high from God's heaven a star's light did fall, and the promise of ages it did then recall.



CAROL # 162 (v. 1 & 2) “What Child is This?”

- ▶ 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 Christian, fear: for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading: [Refrain]



CAROL # 104 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten

- ▶ Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
Christ 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, sing praises; angels and archangels sing! And on earth let all the faithful now your joyous anthems ring, ev'ry tongue Christ's name confessing, countless voices answering, evermore and evermore!
- ▶ 3Christ, to thee with God Creator, and O Holy Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be: Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore!

CAROL # 151 (v. 1 & 2) “The First Noël”

- ▶ The first Noel, the angel did say; was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
- ▶ Refrain:
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.
- ▶ They looked up and saw a star, shining in the east, beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night: [Refrain]



CAROL # 155 “Angels We Have Heard On High”

- ▶ Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
- ▶ Refrain:
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
- ▶ Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be, Which inspire your heavenly song? [Refrain]
- ▶ Come to Bethlehem and see Christ, who comes in lowly birth. Come, adore on bended knee Jesus, joy of heav'n and earth. [Refrain]
- ▶ See within a manger laid, Christ, whom choirs of angels praise; Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise. [Refrain]

CAROL # 145 “Silent Night, Holy Night”

- ▶ 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.

