



Adoration of the Magi
Artist: Domenico Ghirlandaio

A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

THURSDAY, THE 24TH OF DECEMBER 2015

10:45 IN THE EVENING

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

THE REVEREND DR. THOMAS H. YORTY, PASTOR
GARRETT F. MARTIN, ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER

WELCOME

*We welcome you to Westminster Presbyterian Church
on this most holy of nights
and invite you to learn more about our congregation
by visiting our website, www.wpcbuffalo.org,
picking up a newsletter in the reception area,
or speaking with me or any of the staff.*

*At this time of year, perhaps more than at other times,
we are more aware of our need for a Prince of Peace
and more willing to explore our spiritual journeys.*

*We would be honored to have those conversations with you.
May God bless you and your loved ones this Christmas
and may the light of the Christ-child
fill your life.*

*In Christ's Service,
The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor*

Concert - Prelude

Shades of FORREST GREEN
We Three Kings of Orient Are
The Coventry Carol
Carol of the Bells
In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

arr. Tim Waugh
arr. Valerie Stephenson
arr. Philip Roberts
arr. Nicholas Hanson
J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

- I. Magnificat anima mea Dominum
 II. Et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo,
 III. A Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae. Ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent
 IV. Omnes generationes,
 V. Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est, et sanctum nomen eius,
 VI. Et misericordia a progenie in progenies timentibus eum.
 VII. Fecit potentiam in brachio suo, dispersit superbos mente cordis sui.
 VIII. Deposuit potentes de sede et exaltavit humiles.
 IX. Esurientes implevit bonis et divites dimisit inanes.
 X. Suscepit Israel puerum suum recordatus misericordiae suae
 XI. Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros, Abraham et semini eius in saecula.
 XII. Gloria Patri, gloria Filio, gloria et Spiritui Sancto,
 Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

- I. *My soul extols the Lord,*
 II. *And my spirit has rejoiced in God my savior,*
 III. *Because he looked on his servant in her lowliness. For behold from now on will call me fortunate,*
 IV. *All generations,*
 V. *Because he who is strong has done great things for me, and his name is holy,*
 VI. *And his mercy extend from generation to generation to those who fear him.*
 VII. *He has used the power of his arm: he has scattered the haughty in their prideful thoughts.*
 VIII. *He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and raised high the lowly.*
 IX. *He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.*
 X. *Mindful of his mercy, he has helped Israel his servant,*
 XI. *As he promised to our forefathers Abraham and his descendants forever.*
 XII. *Glory be to the Father, glory to the Son and glory to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and will be always, even for ages of ages. Amen.*

Julia Cox, soprano	Jenece Gerber, mezzo-soprano
Hillary Hunt, soprano	Edith Grossman, mezzo-soprano
Hannah Taylor, soprano	Max Pipinich, tenor
Maggie Zindle, soprano	James Wright, baritone

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

The Bidding Prayer

Concluding with The Lord's Prayer

The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty

Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go even to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger. Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against Him until the glorious redemption brought to us by His Holy Child Jesus; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of His birth with hymns and songs of praise. But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace and justice on the earth; for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city. And because He particularly loves them, let us remember in His name the poor and helpless; the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; as well as those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ. Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and whom, in Jesus, we are one forevermore.

And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ Himself has taught us:

**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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

The Almighty God bless us with His grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

The Carol in Procession

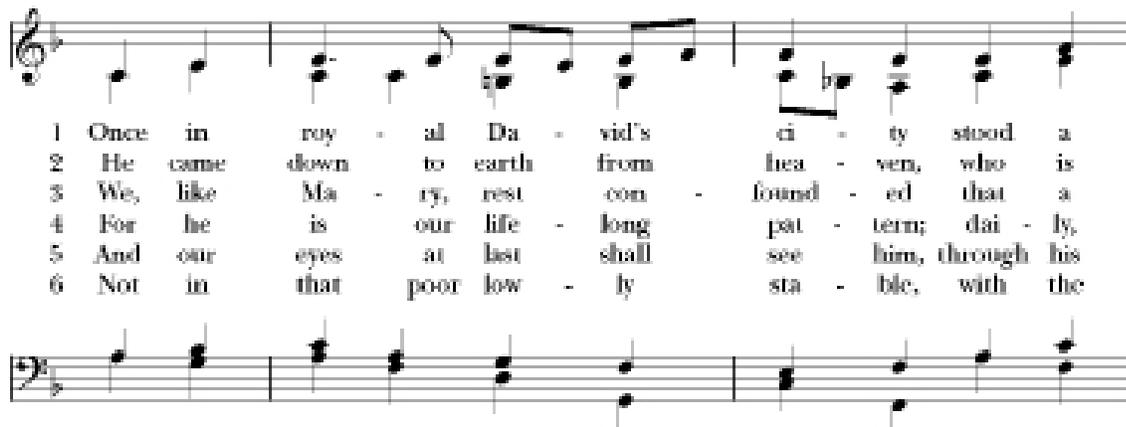
Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

The people stand to sing.

Choristers: Stanzas 1 & 2

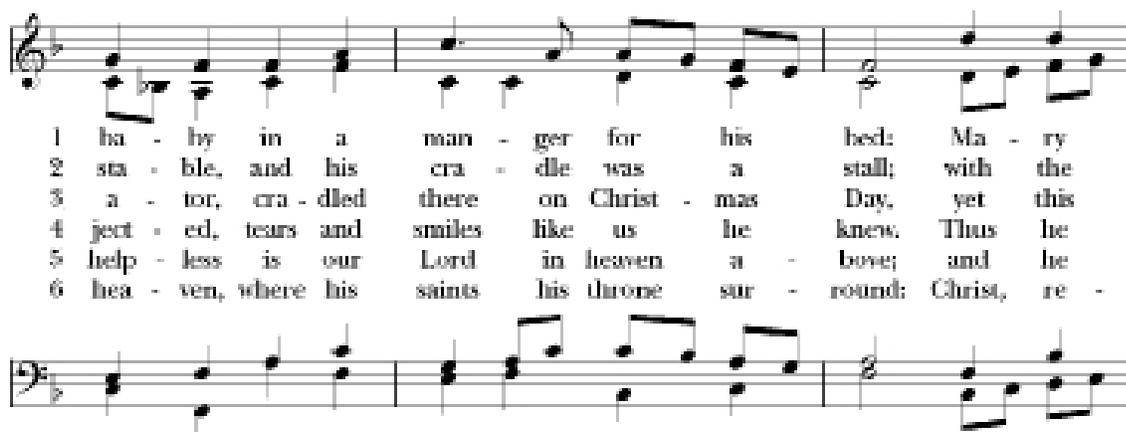
Congregation: Stanzas 3, 4, 5, & 6



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a
2 He came down to earth from hea - ven, who is
3 We, like Ma - ry, rest con - found - ed that a
4 For he is our life - long pat - tern; dai - ly,
5 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his
6 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the



1 low - ly cat - tle shed, where a mo - ther laid her
2 God and Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a
3 sta - ble should dis - play hea - ven's Word, the world's cre -
4 when on earth he grew, he was tempt - ed, scorned, re -
5 own re - deem - ing love; for that child who seemed so
6 ox - en stand - ing round, we shall see him; but in



1 ha - by in a man - ger for his bed: Ma - ry
2 sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall; with the
3 a - tor, cra - dled there on Christ - mas Day, yet this
4 ject - ed, tears and smiles like us he knew. Thus he
5 help - less is our Lord in heaven a - bove; and he
6 hea - ven, where his saints his throne sur - round: Christ, re -



1 was that mo - ther mild, — Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child. —
2 poor, the scorned, the low - ly, lived on earth our Sa - vior ho - ly,
3 child, our Lord and bro - ther, brought us love for one an - oth - er.
4 feels for all our sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.
5 leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
6 veiled to faith - ful eye, set at God's right hand on high.

The First Lesson

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

Bina Pawley

Adam and Eve disobey God's command and disrupt the order and goodness of creation.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' The Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.' And to the man he said, 'Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, You shall not eat of it, cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring comfort for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.'

Carol

Adam Lay Ybounden

Carson Cooman (b. 1982)

Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple, an apple that he took,
As clerkés finden written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been;
Ne had never our Lady abeen heav'nè queen.

Blessed be the time that appel taken was.
Therefore we moun singen Deo gracias!

The Second Lesson

Genesis 22:15-18

Reed Stevens

God promises that, through Abraham, all the peoples of the world will be blessed.

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, 'By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.'

Carol

Joy to the World, the Lord is Come

ANTIOCH

The people stand to sing.

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
=3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
3 far as the curse is found, far
4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
peat the sound - ing joy,
as the curse is found,
won - ders of his love,

The Third Lesson

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Cricket Gordon

The people who walk in darkness receive the promise of the Messiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the thrones of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Carol

The People Who Walk in Darkness

Pepper Choplin (b. 1957)

The people who walk in darkness have seen a great light.
Now lift up your eyes, see the glory of the Lord, and all flesh will see it together.
Rise and shine, your light has come to the people who walk in darkness.

The Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

Alex Renzoni

The Messiah will come from the root of Jesse to restore the peace of creation.

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Carol

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Daniel E. Gawthrop (b. 1949)

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung.
It came, a blossom 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 Saviour,
When half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispel in splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God, from sin and death now save us,
And share our every load.

The Fifth Lesson

Luke 1:26-35, 38

Marcia Buhl

An angel appears to Mary and announces that she will bear a holy child.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Carol

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

The people stand to sing.

MENDELSSOHN

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb,
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right - cou - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain
 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!

The Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:1-16

Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem where Mary gives birth to her child.

Jeff Renzoni

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Angels appear to shepherds in the fields and announce the birth of the Messiah.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!' When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Carol

Away in a Manger

Clifford Brock (b. 1982)

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky
And stay by my side 'till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

Melissa Givens, soprano Victor Schuel, baritone

The Seventh Lesson

Matthew 2:1-11

Claude Welch

Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah and offer gifts to the baby Jesus.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Carol

What Sweeter Music

John Rutter (b. 1945)

What sweeter music can we bring,
Than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King?
Awake the voice! Awake the string!

We see him come, and know him ours,
Who, with his sunshine and his showers,
Turns all the patient ground to flowers.

Dark and dull night, fly hence away,
And give the honour to this day
That sees December turned to May.

The darling of the world is come,
And fit it is, we find a room
To welcome him, to welcome him.

Why does the chilling winter's morn
Smile, like a field beset with corn?
Or smell like a meadow newly-shorn
Thus, on the sudden? Come and see
The cause, why things thus fragrant be:

The nobler part,
Of all the house here, is the heart,
Which we will give him; and bequeath
This holly, and this ivy wreath,
To do him honour; who's our King,
And Lord of all this reveling.

'Tis he is born, whose quickening birth
Gives life and lustre, public mirth,
To heaven, and the under-earth.

Carol

In the Bleak Midwinter

The people stand to sing.

CRANHAM

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
2 Our God, heaven can - not hold him, nor — earth sus - tain;
3 An - gels and arch - an - gels may have gath - ered there,
4 What — can I give him, poor — as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heaven and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
cher - u - bim and se - ra - phim throng - ed the air;
If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow — on — snow,
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble - place suf - ficed
but his mo - ther on - ly, in her maid - en bliss,
if I were a wise — man, I would do my part;

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
the Lord — God in - car - nate, Je - sus Christ.
wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with a kiss.
yet what I can I give him — give my heart.

The Eighth Lesson

John 1:1-14

The Word of God becomes flesh and lives among us, full of grace and truth.

Dr. Yorty

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Carol

Light Looked Down

Philip Moore (b. 1943)

Light looked down and beheld darkness. "Thither will I go," said Light.
Peace looked down and beheld war. "Thither will I go", said Peace.
Love looked down and beheld hatred. "Thither will I go," said Love.

So came Light and shone;
So came Peace and gave rest;
So came Love and brought Life.

And the word was made Flesh and dwelt among us, And we beheld his glory, full of grace and truth

Käthe Wright Kaufman, soprano

The Welcome and Offering

This year our Christmas Eve offering will be divided between two non-profit organizations, located on Buffalo's West Side. We are grateful for the good work being done by tonight's recipients and we are grateful for your generosity. Together we are making a difference. Together we are building a City of Good Neighbors, a welcoming community with opportunity for all.

Tailoring Training Program (The Somali Youth Association of Buffalo)

Abdinoor Jama and his partner Aden Aden, both refugees from Somalia are trained tailors who have started a tailoring training program to prepare fellow refugees, many of whom are women without job prospects. The trainees are completing a well-developed program at Abdinoor's space at 215 Forest Ave. Once they graduate with their certificate, they will be qualified for many sewing jobs in the area. Abdinoor has already contacted several employers who will welcome his graduates as employees. Abdinoor has a strong business plan for his organization and wants to train more individuals, but needs more sewing machines and supplies. The funds donated by WPC's Christmas offering will allow them to buy several sewing machines and a good amount of fabric, thread and accessories. It will give them a tremendous jump in their ability to impact their own community. Their story is a compelling one when you consider that Abdi and Aden feel so strongly about their new home here among us in Buffalo, that they want to ease the way to self-sufficiency for others. The sewing program is open to all refugees both from Somalia and elsewhere.

Food Cart Pilot program (WEDI West Side Bazaar)

Refugees continue to move to Buffalo, and many of them bring skills in foodservice and excellent cuisines, as evidenced by the West Side Bazaar. Through the West Side Bazaar Food Cart, more entrepreneurs may achieve their dream of selling food, current Bazaar tenants will increase their income, and more communities will learn about new cultures and their food. The Food Cart should also eventually make a profit, helping make the Bazaar and other programs sustainable while training individuals without jobs in the foodservice business, including health regulations, marketing, and time and project management. The Food Cart will allow the Bazaar to reach new communities on the east side of Buffalo and throughout Western New York. It will provide income to the Bazaar owners as well as prospective restaurant owners who want to test the market with their food. In the future, if successful, WEDI may be able to hire people through the Food Cart and provide experiential foodservice training opportunities.

Thank you for your generous support and for helping to strengthen our neighborhoods and city.

The Offertory

Gesù Bambino

Pietro Yon (1886-1943), Orch. Matthew Marco (b.1990)

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows upon a winter night,
Was born the Child, the Christmas Rose, the King of Love and Light.

The angels sang, the shepherds sang, the grateful earth rejoiced;
And at His blessed birth the stars their exultation voiced.

Again the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night,
That gave the world its Christmas Rose, its King of Love and Light.

Let ev'ry voice acclaim His name, the grateful chorus swell.
From paradise to earth He came that we with Him might dwell.

O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Melissa Givens, soprano

The Presentation of the Gifts

The people stand as the Deacons come forward and remain standing for the Doxology.

The Doxology

OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Retiring Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

The people stand to sing and remain standing for the Benediction and Response.



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,



1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;



1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?



Refrain
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

Silent Night, Holy Night

STILLE NACHT

The people remain standing to sing. The light of the Christ Candle will be distributed among the people.

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

WESTMINSTER CHOIR

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Choirmaster
Käthe Wright Kaufman, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar

Dorothy Brown	Jaime Goldfuss	Paula Mazur	Victor Schuel
David Butler	Sarah Gordon	Stephen Mellen	Hanford Searl, Jr.
Kenneth Carter	Edith Grossman	Scott Nachbar	Elenora Seib
Valerie Cooley	David Hohn	Bobbie Billings Neal	Robert Sherman
Julia Cox	Lucinda Hohn	Justine Parmele	David Stedje
Christine Curtis	Hillary Hunt	Roger Parris	Hannah Taylor
Rhys Curtis	Clio Jabine	Bina Pawley	A. Reed Taylor
Avis Devine	Michael John	Julia Pawley	David Tear
Bill Devine	Nicholas John	Donna Paxson	Adam Utley
Mary Alice Devine	Douglas Kirkpatrick	Karen Peck	Nancy Van Baak
Katilyn Dykstra	Doug Kohler	Max Pipinich	Kathy Vitagliano
Anne Marie Faltisco	David Lewis	Rebeca Ruesch	Jim Wright
Heidi Fors	Cynthia Mayo	Chuck Rice	Julie Zenger
Jenece Gerber	Walter S. Mayo	Veronica Shanchuck	Maggie Zindle

WESTMINSTER HANDBELL CHOIR

Walter S. Mayo, Director

Dorothy Brown	Donna Estrich	Cynthia Mayo
Valerie Cooley	Colleen Hohman	Bonnie Smith
Chris Curtis	Doug Kohler	Hannah Taylor
Rhys Curtis	Debbie LaMendola	Maggie Zindle
Bruce Dierenfield	Katie Little	Kasey Zitnik

ORCHESTRA

<i>Violin I</i>	<i>Viola</i>	<i>Bass</i>	<i>Bassoon</i>
Alan Ross	Valerie Heywood	Daniel Pendley	Reno Fusano
Antoine LeFebvre	Maria Hardcastle		
Kiersten Fischer	Gayle Hutton	<i>Flute</i>	<i>Trumpet</i>
		Rhonda Schwartz	Aaron Schuman
<i>Violin II</i>	<i>Cello</i>	Marlene Witnauer	Matt Caputy
Emily Gervase	Roman Mekinulov		
Emily Greetham	Doug Shaw	<i>Oboe</i>	<i>Percussion</i>
Irene Reilly	Lynn Ruta	Florence Myers	Christopher Ziemba
		Christine Ford	

The Christmas Tree in the Narthex is a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Speth.

A Christmas Eve CD of the Westminster Choir and Orchestra is available for purchase in the Reception Office.

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NOTES ON TONIGHT'S SERVICE

The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a format for a service of Christian worship celebrating the birth of Jesus. The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus is told in Bible readings from Genesis, the prophetic books, and the Gospels, interspersed with the singing of carols, hymns, and choral music. The format was based on an order drawn up by Edward White Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury but at that time Bishop of Truro, in Coazrnwall, for use on Christmas Eve 1880. Tradition says that he organized a 10 p.m. service on Christmas Eve in a temporary wooden shed serving as his cathedral and that a key purpose of the service was to keep men out of pubs on Christmas Eve. The original liturgy has since been adapted and used by other churches all over the world. In the United Kingdom, the service has become the standard format for schools' Christmas carol services. The best-known service is broadcast annually on Christmas Eve, from King's College, Cambridge.

The first Festival of Lessons and Carols at King's College, Cambridge, was held on Christmas Eve in 1918. It was conceived by Eric Milner-White, the Dean of the College, whose experience as an army chaplain had led him to believe that more imaginative worship was needed by the Church of England. The order of service was adapted from the order created by Benson for Truro Cathedral 38 years earlier, based on an idea from the future Bishop of Edinburgh, George Henry Somerset Walpole.

The music at the first service at King's was directed by Arthur Henry Mann, who was the organist from 1876 to 1929. The choir had 16 trebles as specified in statutes laid down by Henry VI, and until 1927 the men's voices were provided by choral scholars and lay clerks. Today, 14 undergraduates from King's College, Cambridge, sing the men's parts. The service was first broadcast by the British Broadcasting Corporation in 1928 and, except for 1930, has been broadcast every year since, even throughout World War II despite the stained glass having been removed from the Chapel and the lack of heating. For security reasons, the name "King's" was not mentioned during wartime broadcasts. During the 1930's the BBC began broadcasting the service on its overseas programs, and it is estimated that each year there are millions of listeners worldwide who listen to it live on the BBC World Service. Since 1979 in the USA, the broadcast has been heard live on public radio stations affiliated with American Public Media, and most stations broadcast a repeat on Christmas Day. From 1963, the service was periodically filmed for television broadcast in the UK. Presently each year, a program entitled Carols from King's which is pre-recorded in early or mid-December is shown on Christmas Eve in the UK.

PREACHING SCHEDULE JANUARY 2016

8:45 AM in the Holmes Chapel and

11AM in the Sanctuary

The Reverend Dr. Thomas H. Yorty
will preach in the month of December & January

December 27

Luke 2:41-52; *A Christmas Story*

One Service at 11AM

January 3

John 1:1-18; *In the Beginning*

January 10

Amahl and the Night Visitors

January 17

John 2:1-11; *The First Miracle*

January 24

Luke 4:14-21;

Filled with Power - the Leaders

January 31

Luke 4:21-30;

Filled with Power -the Congregation

WESTMINSTER PRESENTS

Gian Carlo Menotti's

Amahl and the Night Visitors

At Westminster in the Sanctuary.

Tickets: \$16 Adults/\$8 Children

Friday, January 8 at 7PM

Saturday, January 9 at 3PM

Sunday, January 10 at 11AM in worship (no charge)

Sunday, January 10 at 3PM

For Tickets: <http://bit.ly/1NcfsEF>

Presented by: Nickel City Opera

Masterworks Service

Sunday, March 13

The Choirs of Westminster and musicians of the BPO
present two choral and orchestral masterworks:

Andrew Carter's *Benedicite*

Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy*

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. Thomas H. Yorty, Pastor, tyorty@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 313

The Rev. Beth Hennessy, Pastoral Care Associate, bhennessy@wpcbuffalo.org, 716-697-0919

Garrett F. Martin, Organist and Director of Music Ministries, gmartin@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 318

Käthe Wright Kaufman, Glynda Stephens Taylor Organ Scholar, kkaufman@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 357

Debbie Katz, Director of Christian Education, dkatz@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 329

Mark Aquino, Youth Coordinator, maquino@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 311

Nancy Berger, Interim Chief Operations Officer, nberger@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 305

Lenore Neiler, Communications Coordinator, lneiler@wpcbuffalo.org, ext 302

Marie Hasselback-Costa, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor, mcosta@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 308

Patricia Kelly, WPC/WECP Accountant, pkelly@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 327

Jamie Adamczyk, Administrative Assistant, jadameczyk@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 326

WESTMINSTER EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

Karen Kones Dearing, Co-Director, kdearing@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 328

Priscilla Maddock, Co-Director, pmaddock@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 330

Loretta McKenna, Receptionist, lmckenna@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 327

Jessica Mitrovits, Development Associate, jmitrovits@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 332

Ebony Mallory, Administrative Assistant, emallory@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 300

FACILITIES

Aaron Vivian, Facilities Supervisor, avivian@wpcbuffalo.org, ext. 319, 716-504-7308

Jeff Kaczmarek, Maintenance, ext. 319, 716-345-8013

Carlos Ortiz, Maintenance, 716-208-4070

Reinaldo Arroyo, Maintenance, 716-578-8264



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
724 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14209
716-884-9437 www.wpcbuffalo.org Follow us on Facebook!