

LESSONS AND CAROLS

Christmas 2020 | St. John - St. Paul Collaborative



FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS
BORN, TO US A SON
IS GIVEN, AND THE
GOVERNMENT WILL
BE ON HIS SHOULDERS
AND HE WILL BE CALLED
WONDERFUL COUNSELOR,
MIGHTY GOD
EVERLASTING FATHER
PRINCE OF PEACE

ISAIAH 9:6

Collectively, we are all experiencing a Christmas like no other. As a Collaborative, we grieve the loss of the sights and sounds of literally thousands of parishioners flooding our doors to celebrate the birth of our Lord. Yet, when placed in the light of Christ's own appearance with us here, we know: Emmanuel, God with Us.

It is our deepest desire that you experience God's love in an intimate and unique way this Christmas. God Himself chose the most unexpected way to express His deepest heart: a vulnerable child. As we settle into our homes, for what is guaranteed to be a Christmas like no other, we pray that you would create a place for Christ in your home, with the confidence that He is already there.

This program was put together with a vision of your families gathered around your screens listening to God's word, and singing the comforting carols that spell *Christmas*. So snuggle in. Light a Candle. Nibble your favorite Christmas cookies. Turn the lights on the Christmas tree... and most importantly....

Sing!

With Peace, Joy, Faith and Love-
The St. John - St. Paul Collaborative Staff

Father James Laughlin

O Come, All Ye Faithful

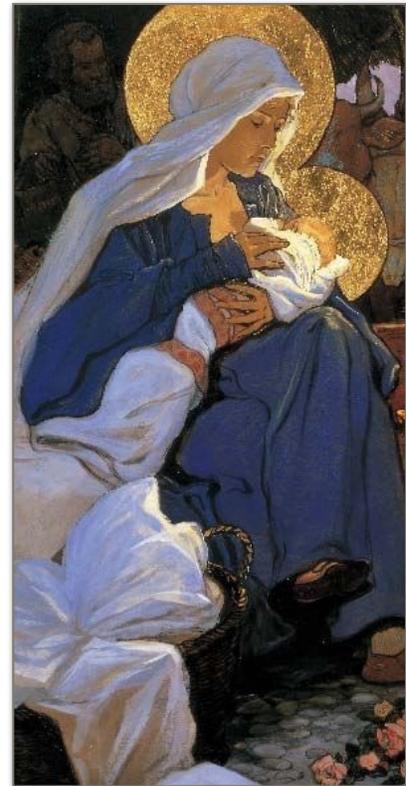
O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
Refrain



LESSON ONE: GENESIS 3:8-19

Father David Brogan

Adam lay ybounden

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 clerkès finden
Written in their book.

Nè had one apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne had never Our Lady
Abeen Heaven's Queen.

Blessèd be the time
That apple taken was.
Therefore we moun singen:
Deo gratias!

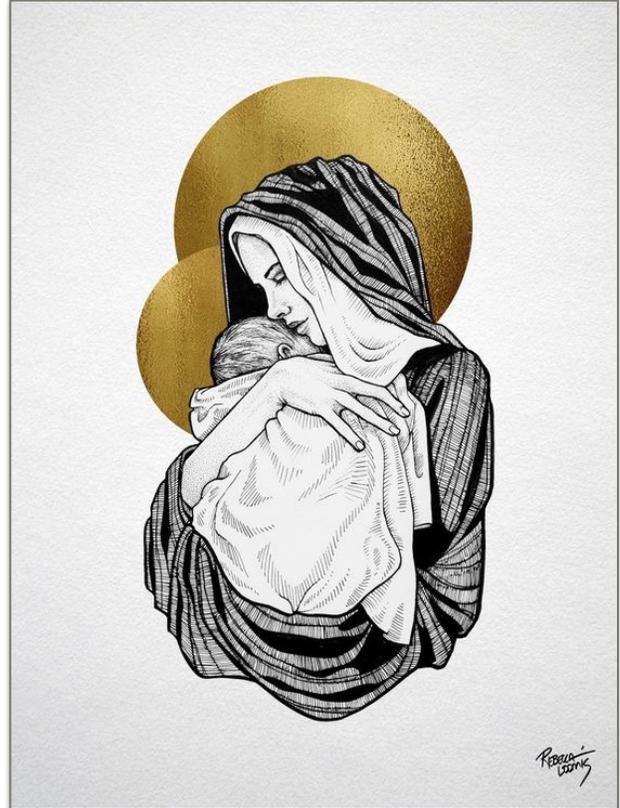
Anne Mears

In the Bleak Midwinter

In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan.
Earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone.
Snow had fallen snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter long ago.

Our God, Heav'n cannot hold Him,
Now earth sustain.
Heav'n and earth shall flee away,
When He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter,
A stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.

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



Kelly Meraw

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all
From heav'n's all gracious King;"
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav'nly music floats
O'er all the weary world:

Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hov'ring wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sound
The blessed angels sing.

For, lo, the days are hastening on,
By prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years
Comes 'round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling
And all the world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

LESSON FOUR: ISAIAH 11

Father James Laughlin

Lo! How a rose er' blooming

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
As seers 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 Savior,
When half spent was the night.

This Flow'r, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fill the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
The darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death he saves us,
And lightens every load.

Father David Brogan

A Christmas Carol

The Christ-child lay on Mary's lap,
His hair was like a light.
O weary, weary were the world,
But here is all a-right.

The Christ-child lay on Mary's breast,
His hair was like a star.
O stern and cunning are the kings,
But here the true hearts are.

The Christ-child lay on Mary's heart,
His hair was like a fire.
O weary, weary is the world,
But here the world's desire.

The Christ-child stood at Mary's knee,
His hair was like a crown.
And all the flowers looked up at Him,
And all the stars looked down.

O weary, weary were the world,
But here the world is a-right.



Anne Mears

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Infant holy, Infant Lowly
For His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging
Angels singing,
Noels winging,
Tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of All!

Flocks were sleeping;
Shepherds, keeping Vigil till the
morning new,
Saw the glory, heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
Praises voicing,
Greet the morrow;
Christ the babe was born for you!

LESSON SEVEN: LUKE 2:8-16

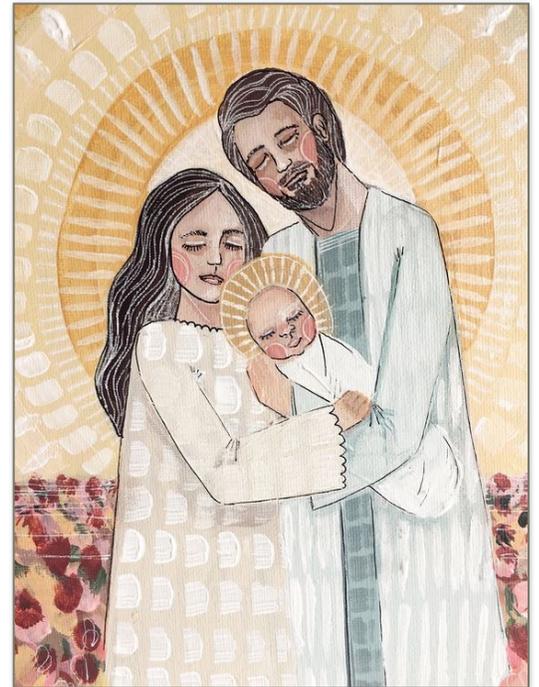
Kelly Meraw

Away in a Manger

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 until 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.



Father David Brogan

Silent 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.

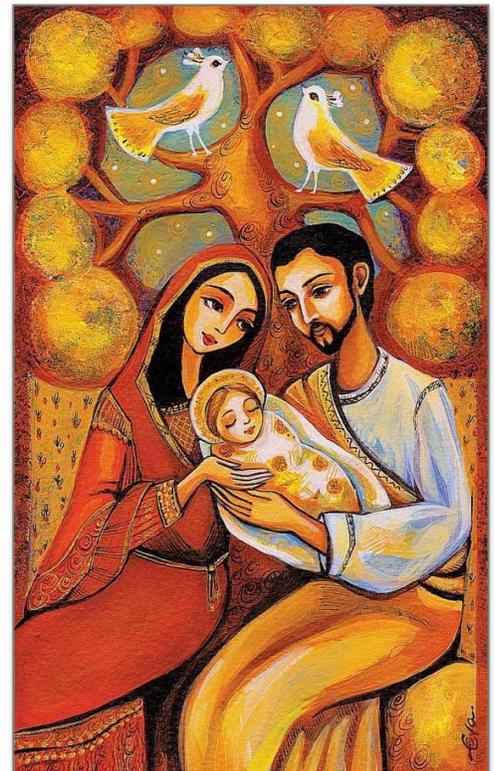
Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Father James Laughlin

O Holy Night

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world, in sin and error pining
'Til He appeared and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks, a new and glorious morn
Fall on your knees
O hear the angels' voices
O night divine
O night when Christ was born

Truly He taught us to love one another
His law is love and His gospel is peace
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother
And in His name all oppression shall cease
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name
Christ is the Lord,
Then, ever ever praise we;
His power and glory evermore proclaim.



CLOSING PRAYER

Father James Laughlin

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
Let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
plains

Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the
sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders
of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Mary Lee Cirella, St. Paul Music Director

Lois Hearn, Soprano

Michael Meraw, Baritone

Robert Mears, Tenor

Chelsea Whitaker, Collaborative Pianist

Kelly Meraw, St. John the Evangelist, Music Director