

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul

in the City of Detroit

December 16, 2023

Nine Lessons and Carols

Five O'Clock

with the Cathedral Choir



The Very Reverend Dr. S. Scott Hunter
Dean of the Cathedral

The Right Reverend Dr. Bonnie A. Perry
Eleventh Bishop of the Diocese of Michigan

WELCOME! Our vision is to be an extraordinary spiritual gathering place where people of all backgrounds and ages are welcome to question and learn, pray, worship and serve; being loved by God in ways that change and improve their lives and the lives of others.

CONCERNING THE SERVICE

Though it seems an ancient liturgy, the service of Nine Lessons and Carols has its roots in Victorian England. Organized by Bishop Benson of Truro, it was first observed in Truro Cathedral at Christmas, 1880 as a gift to the community. The popular format spread to other areas of England and it was first observed in the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge in 1918. It is certainly best known through the broadcast from King's College on Christmas Eve, heard annually by well over a *billion* people worldwide.

The service is simplicity itself: nine lessons (readings) from scripture that tell the story of humankind's fall from grace to its redemption made possible by the birth of Jesus Christ. Interspersed among the readings are carols, hymns, anthems, and motets sung by the choir and the congregation that reflect, respond to, and comment on the readings. Lessons are read by choristers, parishioners, clergy, and representatives of the Cathedral's larger community. The service always begins with *Once in Royal David's City*, the first verse sung by a single chorister.

The service of Lessons and Carols has spread far from its Truro roots to everywhere in the Anglican Communion. We in Detroit offer this service to the glory of God and as a gift to all who enter our doors and wish them, in the words from Paul's letter to the Philippians, "the peace of God, which passes all understanding," in this approaching Christmastide and always.

Notes on this evening's music can be found on page 12.

A schedule of services for Christmastide can be found on the back page of this bulletin.

If you wish to make an offering in support of the mission and ministry of this Cathedral, you are invited to place it in the box in the Great Crossing as you exit this evening.

CATHEDRAL SERVICES

Sundays

Morning Prayer, 7:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist, 8:15 a.m.

Sung Holy Eucharist with Choir, 11:00 a.m.

*Evensong, 4:00 p.m.

The 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. services are also livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

Weekdays at 12:10 p.m. in Nativity Chapel

Tuesday, Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, Noonday Prayer

Thursday, Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing

Friday, Noonday Prayer

The Office of Compline is offered each evening at 8:00 p.m. on our Facebook page.

*Choral Evensong is generally offered on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, and Cathedral Evensong (sung by the congregation) on the first and third Sundays of the month, September through May. *Please note that Evensong will not be offered on December 31.*

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Please silence all electronic devices.

This service is also livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

Unauthorized video or audio recording is prohibited.

Prior to the service, beginning at 4:45 p.m., the following music is played on the Great Organ.

Noël, Joseph est bien marié

Pierre Dandrieu (1664-1733)

I Wonder as I Wander

Allen Orton Gibbs (1910-1996)

In The Bleak Midwinter

At the bell, please stand. From the Great West End the Choir begins.

AT THE PROCESSION, CAROL

Solo

ONCE in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

2. Choir only

He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly
lived on earth our Savior holy.

The congregation joins at verse 3.



3 For he is our child hood's pat-tern, day by day like us— he— grew; he was
4 We, like Ma - ry, rest con - found- ed that a sta - ble should dis - play hea-ven's
5 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing— love, for that
6 Not in that poor low - ly— sta - ble with the ox - en stand - ing— by, we shall
lit - tle, weak and help - less, tears and smiles like us— he knew; and he
Word, the world's cre - a - tor, cra - dled there on Christ - mas— Day, yet this
child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove: and he
see him, but in heav - en, set at God's right hand— on— high; when like
feel - eth for our sad - ness, and he shar - eth in— our— glad - ness.
child, our Lord and bro - ther, brought us love for one— an - oth - er.
leads his chil - dren on— to the place where he— has— gone.
stars his chil - dren crowned, all in white shall wait— a - round.

Words Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895); vs. 4 James Waring McCrady (b. 1938)

Music Irby, H. J. Gauntlett, harm. Arthur Mann; vs. 6 descant by David Bartlett (b. 1947)

Please remain standing as the Dean continues with

THE BIDDING PRAYER

BELOVED in Christ, as we approach the great festival of Christmas, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Therefore, let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the story of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all God's people; for unity within the Church Christ came to build, and especially in our city, our community, and our diocese.

And because it would rejoice his heart, let us remember, in his name, the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and them that mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who do not know the Lord Jesus or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom in the Lord Jesus we are one for evermore.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the Throne of Heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

All say

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

CAROL

Ababe is born all of a may,
To bring salvation unto us.
To him we sing both night and day.
Veni Creator Spiritus. Come, creative Spirit

At Bethlehem, that blessed place,
The child of bliss now born he was;
And him to serve God give us grace,
O lux beata Trinitas. O Trinity of blessed light

There came three kings out of the East,
To worship the King that is so free,
With gold and myrrh and frankincense,
A solis ortus cardine. From the pivot of the sun's rising

The angels came down with one cry,
A fair song that night sung they,
In worship of that child:
Gloria tibi Domine. Glory to God

Words 15th century, anon.

Music William Mathias (1934-1992)

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-14, 22-24

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are led out of the Garden of Eden.

read by Helena Barnett, a chorister

CAROL

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.

Ne had the apple taken been,
Ne had never our Lady abeen heavené queen
Blessèd be the time that apple taken was,
Therefore we moun singen, *Deo gracias!*

Words English, 15th century

Music Boris Ord (1897-1961)

THE SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

God promises Abraham that through his descendants, all nations on earth will be blessed.

read by Bren O'Connor, a Cathedral Singer

CAROL

PEOPLE, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Rose, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Star, is on the way.

Angels, announce to man and beast
Him who cometh from the East.
Set every peak and valley humming
With the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Words Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)

Music Besançon Carol, arr. Barry Ferguson (b. 1942)

THE THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

read by Wilma McKinney, a Parishioner

CAROL

PEACE be to you and grace from Him who freed us from our sins;
Who loved us all and shed His blood that we might savèd be.
Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come; sing holy, holy, Lord!
Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming soon!
E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more;
They need no light, nor lamp, nor sun, for Christ will be their all.

Words Revelation 22, adapt. Ruth Manz (1919-2008)

Music Paul Manz (1919-2009)

THE FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-10

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

read by Mike Dagle, Senior Warden, the Cathedral Church of St. Paul

Please stand as you are able and sing

CAROL



1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may;
2 From God our heaven - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came
3 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,



for Je - sus Christ our Sa - vior was born on Christ - mas Day,
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought tid - ings of the same:
and with true love and char - i - ty each o - ther now em - brace;



to save us all from Sa - tan's power when we were gone a - stray.
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.
this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas doth bring re - deem - ing grace.

Refrain



O — tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and



joy, O — tid - ings of com - fort and joy!

Words Christmas Carols, Ancient and Modern, William Sandys, 1833

Music Traditional English tune, arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Please be seated.

THE FIFTH LESSON

Saint Luke 1:26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel greets the Blessed Virgin Mary.

read by the Reverend Ben Adams, Pastor, All.together Campus Ministry

CAROL

I sing of a maiden that is makëless:
King of all kingës, to her son she ches.

He came all so stillë there his mother was,
As dew in Aprillë that falleth on the grass.

He came all so stillë to his mother's bow'r,
As dew in Aprillë that falleth on the flow'r.

He came all so stillë where his mother lay,
As dew in Aprillë that falleth on the spray.

Mother and maiden was never none but she;
Well may such a lady Goddës mother be.

Words 15th century English carol

Music Lennox Berkeley (1903-1989)

THE SIXTH LESSON

Saint Luke 2:1-7

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

read by the Right Reverend Dr. Bonnie A. Perry, Bishop of the Diocese of Michigan

CAROL

T WAS in the moon of winter-time when all the birds had fled,
That God the Lord of all the earth sent angel choirs instead;
Before their light the stars grew dim, and wondering hunters heard the hymn:
Jesus your King is born in excelsis gloria.

Within a lodge of broken bark the tender Babe was found,
A ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped His beauty round;
But as the hunter braves drew nigh, the angel song rang loud and high:
Jesus your King is born in excelsis gloria.

The earliest moon of wintertime is not so round and fair
As was the ring of glory on the helpless infant there.
The chiefs from far before Him knelt with gifts of fox and beaver pelt.

O children of the forest free, the angel song is true;
The Holy Child of earth and heaven is born today for you.
Come kneel before the radiant Boy who brings you beauty, peace and joy.
Jesus your King is born in excelsis gloria.

Words St. Jean de Brébeuf (1593-1649); trans. J.E. Middleton (1872-1960)

Music William Bradley Roberts (b. 1947)

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Saint Luke 2:8-16

The shepherds go to the manger.

read by the Reverend Judith Schellhammer, Associate Priest

CAROL

SHEPHERDS, called by love,
Called by love and angels;
No place for them but a stable.
My Lord has come.

Sages, searching for stars,
Searching for love in heaven;
No place for them but a stable.
My Lord has come.

His love will hold me,
His love with cherish me,
His love will cradle me.

Lead me to see him,
Sages and shepherds and angels;
No place for me but a stable.
My Lord has come.

Words and Music Will Todd (b. 1970)

Please stand as you are able and sing as indicated.

CAROL



1. *All sing*

WHILE shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

2. *Lower voices only*

“Fear not,” said he (for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind);
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind.”

3. *Upper voices only*

To you in David’s town this day
Is born of David’s line
A Savior, who is Christ the Lord;
And this shall be the sign:

4. *Lower voices only*

The heav’nly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid.”

5. *Choir only*

Thus spake the Seraph; and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song:

6. *All*

“All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace;
Good-will henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease.”

Words Nahum Tate (1652-1715)

Music *Winchester Old* from *Este’s Psalter*, 1592; harm. Thomas Ravenscroft, 1621

Please be seated.

THE EIGHTH LESSON

Saint Matthew 2:1-11

The Wise Men are led by the star to Jesus.

read by the Reverend Anthony C. Estes, Associate Priest, Detroit Church Partnership

CAROL

SAW you never in the twilight
When the sun had left the skies
Up in heav'n the clear skies shining
Thro' the gloom like silver eyes?
So of old the Wise Men, watching,
Saw a little stranger star,
And they knew the King was given,
And they followed it from far.

Heard you never of the story
How they crossed the desert wild,
Journeyed on by plain and mountain,
Till they found the Holy Child?
How they opened up their treasure,
Kneeling to that infant King;
Gave the gold and fragrant incense,
Gave the myrrh in offering.

Know ye not that lowly baby
Was the bright and morning Star?
He who came to light the Gentiles
And the darkened isles afar?
And we, too may seek His cradle;
There our hearts' best treasure bring;
Love, and faith, and true devotion
For our Savior, God, and King.

Words Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895)

Music Harold Friedell (1905-1958)

Please stand as you are able for the Ninth Lesson.

THE NINTH LESSON

Saint John 1:1-14

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

read by the Very Reverend Dr. S. Scott Hunter, Dean of the Cathedral

Please be seated.

CAROL

DING! Dong! Merrily on high in heaven the bells are ringing!
Ding! Dong! Verily the sky is riv'n with angels singing!
Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,
And "Io, io, io!" by priest and people sungen!

Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers!
May you beautifully rime your evetime song, ye singers!

Words G.R. Woodward (1848-1934)

Music French, 16th Century, arr. Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

Please stand.

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

WE beseech you, O Lord, to pour your grace into our hearts, that we who have known the Incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

All sing

HYMN



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - umph - ant, O come ye, O come ye to
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal, robed in flesh in the
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, sing, all ye cit - i - zens of



Beth - le - hem; come, and be - hold him, born the King of An - gels:
Vir - gin's womb; on - ly be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
heav'n a - bove. Glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

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.

Words trans. F. Oakeley, W.T. Brooke and others

Music *Adeste fideles*, 18th century, arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

The Bishop then continues with

THE BLESSING

The Choir sings

THE VESPER RESPONSORY

V Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;

R Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

V Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.

R Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

V Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

R Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Words Isaiah; the Psalms

Music plainsong, adapted from Giovanni da Palestrina (c. 1525-1594)

Please remain standing as the Procession exits the Cathedral. The following music is played on the Great Organ.

Scherzo

Eugène Gigout (1844-1925)

LEADING THIS EVENING'S LITURGY

Officiant

The Very Reverend Dr. S. Scott Hunter, Dean of the Cathedral

The Cathedral Choir

Trebles

Helena Barnett
Jeanette Doric
Anna Ekevag
Mollie Kornmiller
Kinsley Romero
Adam Simon
Allison Simon
Ethan Simon
Zola Smith Head Chorister
Anouk-Valentina Spencer

Sopranos

Abigail McKay Cherry (on leave)
Carolyn Hall
Mary Grahame Hunter
Erin McClellan
Ruth Podgorny-Richards Chorister Proctor
Jocelyn Turner

Altos

Rianna Baker
Elaine Belz
James Hooker
Jean Klein
Meriem Lanseur
Bren O'Connor
Paula Styer

Tenors

William Fishwick
Brandon Graves
Valentino Peacock
Samuel Schaefer

Baritones

Adam Denk
Joseph Edmonds
Ben Hansknecht
John O'Brien
Ray Stilwell
Norman Weber
Robert Williams

Canon Jeremy David Tarrant, Organist and Choirmaster

Dr. Sarah Simko, Associate Organist and Communications Coordinator

Acolyte

Chris Hooker

Technology

Florence Williams
Dr. Alan Cooper

MUSIC MEMORIALS

Gifts have been made for the purchase of musical scores for the Choir.

Twas in the moon of wintertime is given to the glory of God and in memory William Cady Hall by Carolyn Hall.

My Lord has come is given to the glory of God and in memory of Mary Fishwick.

NOTES ON THE MUSIC

Once in Royal David's City

This text and the tune composed specifically for it received little attention until it became inextricably associated with the service of Nine Lessons and Carols as sung at King's College, Cambridge. The text first appeared in 1848 in the collection *Hymns for Little Children* by Cecil Frances Alexander, and was given this tune by Henry Gauntlett a year later. Mrs. Alexander's original third verse is replaced in our singing of this carol with one by James McCrady. The arrangement of the final verse with descant sung this evening was written by David Bartlett, Organist and Choirmaster of this cathedral from 1982-2000.

A babe is born (follows the Bidding Prayer)

The Welsh composer William Mathias' setting of this anonymous fifteenth-century text contrasts both the joy and the mystery of Christ's birth. As was common practice in the medieval period, we see Latin exclamations at the ends of the verses in macaronic fashion, the mixing of Latin with French, English, or German text.

Adam lay ybounden (follows the First Lesson)

In spite of the grim harshness of life in the Middle Ages (or perhaps because of it), medieval devotional writers were often surprisingly cheerful and optimistic in their outlook. *Adam lay ybounden* is a good example of this attitude, treating the familiar medieval theme of the *felix culpa*, or "fortunate fall:" had Adam not sinned, man would not have been redeemed through the birth of Jesus, and Mary would have never been queen of heaven. Medieval minds delighted in these kinds of paradoxes, and so did this carol's writer.

People look east (follows the Second Lesson)

First published in 1928 under the title *Carol of Advent*, this piece pairs a traditional Besançon (French) carol tune with a twentieth-century text by Eleanor Farjeon, who was famous in her lifetime as an author of nursery rhymes and singing games and is perhaps best remembered for her poem "Morning Has Broken."

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come (follows the Third Lesson)

American composer Paul Manz wrote this moving motet in 1953 when his son was critically ill and survival was in question. His wife, Ruth prepared a paraphrase of some verses from twenty-second chapter of the Book of Revelation and the composition took shape as an act of prayer at their young son's bedside.

God rest you merry, gentlemen (follows the Fourth Lesson)

Here we have one of the most recognized carols in the repertoire and it is particularly synonymous with Christmas celebrations of the nineteenth-century. It is referred to in Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* (1843), and is quoted in *Silas Marner* of George Eliot (1861). Early versions of the text appear in the 1650s, but the words with which most are familiar date from William Sandys' *Christmas Carols, Ancient and Modern*, 1833. Three of the seven verses are sung this evening. The historic meaning of the phrase "God rest you merry" is "may God grant you peace and happiness." This is important to note when interpreting this carol in contemporary context.

I sing of a maiden (follows the Fifth Lesson)

The twentieth-century English composer, Lennox Berkeley wrote for nearly every musical medium and his contribution to the choral repertoire consists almost exclusively of music for the church. His 1966 setting of the medieval carol, *I sing of a maiden*, derives its great beauty from its utter simplicity.

Twás in the moon of wintertime (follows the Sixth Lesson)

The text of this carol is attributed to Jean de Brébeuf (1593-1649), a Jesuit missionary at Sainte-Marie in Canada. It was written in the native language of the Wendat people; the song's original title is "Jesous Ahatonhia" (*Jesus, he is born*). In the English version, derived from Brébeuf's original song, Jesus is born in a "lodge of broken bark," wrapped in a "robe of rabbit skin," and surrounded by hunters instead of shepherds. The Magi are cast as "chiefs from afar" who bring him "fox and beaver pelts."

The most common musical counterpart of this text is a melody based on a traditional French folk song, "Une Jeune Pucelle" (*A Young Maid*), and the carol appears in most hymnals this way. Tonight these words are sung to original

music by the Reverend William Bradley Roberts, an Episcopal priest and Emeritus Professor of Church Music at Virginia Theological Seminary.

My Lord has come (follows the Seventh Lesson)

English composer and pianist Will Todd is both lyricist and composer of this work. He is increasingly recognized for his music in a variety of genres and media, and has made substantial contributions to the choral repertoire.

While shepherds watched their flocks

This text is based on the Gospel of Luke 2:8- 14, the Annunciation to the Shepherds. While it is not known exactly when it was penned, the carol appeared in print for the first time at the dawn of the eighteenth-century, and like *God rest you merry, gentlemen*, it was included in Sandys' collection of 1833.

The music to which these words are sung, a sixteenth-century tune called *Winchester Old*, remains the most common musical clothing of this beloved carol.

Saw you never in the twilight (follows the Eighth Lesson)

Harold Friedell was Organist and Choirmaster of St. Bartholomew's Church in New York City. His setting of Mrs. Alexander's Christmas hymn *Saw you never in the twilight* appeared in his *Eight Orisons*. While Friedell set only the first and third verses of the text, this evening's performance restores the second verse that refers to the journey of the Magi. This work was recorded by the Cathedral Choir for their 2014 CD, *Nowell Sing We*.

Ding dong merrily on high (follows the Ninth Lesson)

Ding dong merrily on high! has all the sound of a traditional carol, but the words and music were actually written several centuries apart. The melody comes from a late sixteenth-century French dancing manual, which calls the tune *Branle l'official* and describes it as a vigorous dance done by the common people. The words were written in the early twentieth-century by George Ratcliffe Woodward, who was trying to expand English carol repertoire by writing new English texts for continental European tunes. The arrangement sung this evening is by American composer Mack Wilberg and was commissioned by King's College Cambridge in 2007.

O come, all ye faithful

This beloved Christmas hymn first appeared in the manuscripts of John Francis Wade, an eighteenth-century English plainchant scribe. Although the tune and original Latin text are often attributed to Wade, their origin is ultimately unknown. This arrangement's descant for verse three was composed by the late Sir David Willcocks. The last verse, beginning with "Yea, Lord, we greet thee," is not sung tonight but will be added on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day when we sing this hymn at the great Feast of the Nativity.

Notes courtesy of Mary Grahame Hunter, Robert Kellerman, and Jeremy David Tarrant

MUSIC AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL

The Cathedral has a long tradition of excellence in music, dating to 1831 when the parish purchased its first organ—only the second such instrument in Detroit. For over a century the Cathedral Choirs have presented a great breadth of sacred choral music in liturgies and in concert. Affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music in America, the choirs sing the principal Sunday service at 11:00 a.m. weekly and Choral Evensong twice monthly, as well as occasional events such as the Advent Procession (a service of music and words in preparation for Christmas), and the beloved service of Nine Lessons and Carols, which is traditionally sung during the week before Christmas.

The choirs have sung with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and sing annually on the *Cathedral Music Society* concert series, appearing with our own renowned music staff as well as artists from around the country. The choirs make occasional domestic tours, and in recent years have been heard in Rochester, New York; Toronto; Cleveland; Chicago; Alexandria, Virginia; Cincinnati; and in the Washington National Cathedral. From 2013-2017 the Cathedral Choir performed for the Three Cathedrals Choral Festival with the choirs of St. Paul's Cathedral, Buffalo, and St. Paul's Cathedral, London, Ontario. In July 2014, the Choir made its first trip abroad in fifty years, with residencies at Chichester Cathedral and London's Southwark Cathedral, as well as concerts in Chichester and Canterbury. Another such tour was made in 2023 with the Choir in residence at Ely, St. Albans, and Southwark cathedrals.

The treble (youth) choristers come to the choir through the Cathedral Choir School of Metropolitan Detroit. Parents are encouraged to contact the Choir School at any point in the year. Adults who wish to learn more about becoming involved with the Cathedral Choirs are encouraged to contact Mr. Jeremy David Tarrant, Organist and Choirmaster.



The Cathedral Choir School of Metropolitan Detroit is a not-for-profit outreach program of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in cooperation with Cathedral Community Services. The Choir School provides an excellent, fundamental music education to children in the metropolitan Detroit region, and is open to all youth, regardless of religious affiliation. Choristers focus on vocal technique, musicianship, and citizenship in the context of the liturgical life of the Cathedral. The Choir School is a community that, while focused on music, is a systematic, long-term investment in young people. Children emerge from this experience with a deep love of fine arts, enhanced self-confidence, and an ability to work collaboratively. *To schedule an try-out or to speak further with someone about the program,*

*please contact Mr. Jeremy David Tarrant, Cathedral Organist and Choirmaster: (313) 833-7547
jtarrant@detroitcathedral.org. Visit us on the web at www.detroitcathedral.org.*

The Choir School is an extra-curricular, *tuition-free* opportunity for children with an interest in music and singing. Here are some fast facts:

- No previous musical or voice training is required or expected.
- Children need not be Episcopalian. The Choir is open to children of all faiths and backgrounds.
- Boys and Girls form the treble (soprano) section of the famed Cathedral Choir, involving consistent application of their developing musical skills, while singing the finest in choral music from all periods and in a variety of languages.
- Children gain a thorough grounding in basic musicianship, music reading, and vocal technique through the centuries-old tradition of choral singing.
- A brief, informal try-out assesses a child's readiness for the program.
- Located in the heart of Detroit's cultural center, boys and girls emerge from the program with a deep love of, and appreciation for the fine arts.
- The Cathedral Choir and Choir School are affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music.
- Children showing a strong commitment to the Choir are eligible for reduced-tuition piano lessons and summer camps.
- The Choir's debut CD recording, *Nowell Sing We*, was released in December 2014, and *Evensong for All Saints* was released in October, 2016.
- One of Detroit's treasures, the Cathedral Choir has sung widely in the United States and Canada, and made tours of England in 2014 and 2023.

CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL

Saturday, December 16

*Nine Lessons and Carols, 5:00 p.m.
with the Cathedral Choir

Sunday, December 24 – *Christmas Eve*

Holy Eucharist with hymns and carols, 4:00 p.m.
*Festal Candlelight Eucharist 10:30 p.m.
with the Cathedral Choir

Monday, December 25 – *Christmas Day*

*Christmas Morning with Bishop Perry, 10:00 a.m.
*Sung Holy Eucharist, 11:00 a.m.
with members of the Cathedral Singers

Sunday, December 31 – *The First Sunday after Christmas*

Morning Prayer, 7:30 a.m.
Holy Eucharist, 8:15 a.m.
*Sung Holy Eucharist, 11:00 a.m.
The choirs are in recess this day.

Sunday, January 7 – *Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ*

Morning Prayer, 7:30 a.m.
Holy Eucharist, 8:15 a.m.
*An Epiphany Procession with Sung Holy Eucharist, 11:00 a.m.
with the Cathedral Choir
*Choral Evensong, 4:00 p.m.
with the Schola Cantorum

*These services are also livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

YouTube Channel

[www.youtube.com/c/](http://www.youtube.com/c/CathedralChurchofStPaulDetroit)

CathedralChurchofStPaulDetroit

Everyone is Invited Everyone is Welcome

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The Cathedral Church of St. Paul

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