



Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 2022
NINE LESSONS & CAROLS

Prelude

Grounding Moment: "Where I Saw God Last"

(a poem written by Rev. Sarah Speed)

Gathering Words & Announcements

Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy:

"What makes you feel connected; what makes you feel loved?"

Readers: Sara Blodgett, Dohn Fast, Yu'Nique Reed, Joanna Wenger

HYMN *Oh How Shall I Receive Thee?* VT 215

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Music for Meditation

Let us prepare our hearts to think anew about a story of Hope and Possibility rooted in the God of the universe who created the earth (declaring it 'very good!') and who came to dwell with us in vulnerable human flesh, living with and within us still today.

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Once in Royal David's City

...words Cecil F. Alexander, arr. John Leavitt

Verse 1 – Solo

Duncan Krehbiel

Congregation joins in unison on verses 2 and 4

Verse 2:

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 low, lived our Savior long ago.

Verse 4:

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
Shall we see Him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high.
Then like stars His children, crowned,
All in white, His praise will sound!

The First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Alleluia for Advent

...words John Parker, music David Lantz III

The Second Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

HYMN *Poor of the Earth* VT 213

The Third Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10

HYMN *To Us a Child of Hope is Born* VT 259

The Fourth Lesson: Luke 1:26-38

HYMN *The Angel Gabriel Called Mary Blessed* VT 221

The Fifth Lesson: Matthew 1:18-25

The Holly She Bears a Berry

...English traditional, arr. James E. Clemens

The Sixth Lesson: Luke 1:39-58

HYMN *Come, Join in Mary's Prophet-Song* VT 246

The Seventh Lesson: Luke 2:1-7

The Star Carol

...words Wihla Hutson, music Alfred Burt

The Eighth Lesson: Luke 2:8-20

HYMN: *Angels We Have Heard on High* VT 249

The Ninth Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12

God's Love Made Visible

...words lola Brubeck, music Dave Brubeck

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(based on John 1:1-14)*

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 overtake 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.

HYMN *Joy to the World* VT 240

Benediction
Postlude

Ushers: Susan Combs & Joretta Martens
Sound: Earl Ediger & Allen Yoder
Livestream: Sadie Nisly
Nursery: Glenda Hooper
Organist & Choir Accompanist: Pauline Buller
Worship Leaders: Delon Martens, Pastor Tonya Ramer Wenger
Choir Director: Calvin Buller
Scripture Readers(in order): Jacob Unruh, Aphid (Jay) Sylvester, Reuben Wenger,
Annika Frascino, Sadie Pritchett, Hannah Nisly, Yu'Nique Reed

Words for Worship: *Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

DECEMBER 21 WEDNESDAY EVENING @ FMC EVENTS

Gather at church to remember loved ones who have died in the past year, eat supper together, and then go Christmas Caroling in the church neighborhood. You can come to one or more of the events.

5:45pm Longest Night Service in the sanctuary (livestream is planned)

6:30pm Soup Supper

7:15pm Christmas Caroling in the church neighborhood (if the weather is conducive) with dessert and hot drinks following

CHRISTMAS EVE (7pm ON DEC 24) WORSHIP SERVICE

Join us (in person or on livestream) in the traditions of playing the Krystal Bells and of the candle-lit singing of Silent Night. New this year will be a Christmas skit performed by our grade school children and a few youth/adults. ***As we have other years, please bring a plate of finger foods (savory or sweet) to share during our fellowship time following the service.***

CHRISTMAS MORNING WORSHIP – SUNDAY DECEMBER 25 @ 9:30am

From Generation to Generation ... God dwells with us

Welcome!!



**First Mennonite Church
Hutchinson KS**

Arms Wide Open: To Serve & Be Served

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