A Service of Lessons and Carols

A Service of Lessons and Carols

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN “O Come, All Ye Faithful” MH 212**

**OPENING SENTENCES Psalm 96**

Sing to the Lord a new song;

**sing to the Lord, all the earth!**

Sing to the Lord and bless God’s name;

**tell the good news of salvation from day to day.**

Declare God’s glory among the nations,

God’s marvelous works among all the peoples.

**For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.**

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice.

**Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;**

**the world, and those who live in it.**

Let the whole creation sing for joy

at the presence of God, who is coming.

**God is coming indeed,**

**to judge the earth with righteousness,**

**and the peoples with equity and truth.**

**Praise the Lord!**

**OPENING HYMN** “Twas in the Moon of Wintertime” MH 190

**FIRST LESSON** Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

*Adam and Eve disobey God’s command*

*and disrupt the order and goodness of creation*

**CAROL** “O Little Town of Bethlehem” MH 191

**SECOND LESSON** Genesis 22:15-18

*God promises that, through Abraham,*

*all the peoples of the world will be blessed*

**CAROL** “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” MH 172

**THIRD LESSON** Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

*The people who walk in darkness*

*receive the promise of the Messiah*

**CAROL** “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” MH 195

**FOURTH LESSON** Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

*The Messiah will come from the root of Jesse*

*to restore the peace of creation*

**CAROL** “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” MH 211

**FIFTH LESSON** Luke 1:26-35, 38

*An angel appears to Mary and announces*

*that she will bear a holy child*

**CAROL** “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MH 201

**SIXTH LESSON** Luke 2:1-7

*Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem,*

*where Mary gives birth to her child*

**CAROL** “Away in a Manger” MH 194

**SEVENTH LESSON** Luke 2:8-16

*Angels appear to shepherds in the fields*

*and announce the birth of the Messiah*

**CAROL** “Angels We Have Heard on High” MH 197

**EIGHTH LESSON** Matthew 2:1-11

*Magi from the East come seeking the Messiah*

*and offer gifts to the baby Jesus*

**CAROL** “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” MH 210

**NINTH LESSON** John 1:1-14

*The Word of God becomes flesh*

*and lives among us, full of grace and truth*

**CAROL** “Silent Night, Holy Night” MH 193

**PRAYERS**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

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 sins, as we forgive our sins;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN** “Joy to the World!” MH 318

**CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Adapted from “A Service of Lessons and Carols,” Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)