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Rev. Amy E. Northridge, Pastor  
Mrs. Amy Peck, Worship Choir Director  
Mr. Travis Pinci, Accompanist, Children's Music Coordinator, & Church Administrator

January 05, 2025

9:45 AM

## Lessons and Carols for the Twelve Days of Christmas<sup>1</sup>

Second Sunday after Christmas

*Thank you for worshiping with us today. If you are a guest, we invite you to take a moment to complete a visitor's card located in the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate when it is passed. We also invite you to sign your name in our guest book located in the back entrance of the sanctuary.*

*We welcome infants and children and all their wiggles & voices in our worship! For your comfort, we also have a children's corner in the back narthex where your child can relax and play and you can still participate in the worship experience. We have children's books and activity bags for them to enjoy! Additionally, after the children's message, children from 3 years old—6th grade are invited to participate in Sunday school in our classroom downstairs. They can choose to attend Sunday school or return to their seats to sit with their parents. Please see a member of the welcoming team for assistance!*

### **WORDS OF WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**      *O Little Town of Bethlehem with Joy Has Dawned*      arr. Tornquist

### **CHILDRENS' MESSAGE**

### **GATHERING HYMN**

*The Twelve Days of Christmas*

**On the twelfth day of Christmas my true love sent to me: 12 Drummers Drumming, 11 Pipers Piping, 10 Lords a Leaping, 9 Ladies Dancing, 8 Maids a Milking, 7 Swans a Swimming, 6 Geese a Laying, 5 Golden Rings, 4 Calling Birds, 3 French Hens, 2 Turtle Doves, and a Partridge in a Pear Tree!**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (based on Psalm 148 & Isaiah 61:10-62:3)

L: Praise the Lord! Praise God, all angels, sun and moon, and shining stars!

**C: I rejoice in the Lord, for God is my salvation!**

P: Praise God from the earth! All ages, all genders - let everyone praise God's name!

**C: As the earth brings forth new life, God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.**

L: We continue to celebrate the birth of Christ,

**C: for God is faithful and worthy of praise for ever and ever.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY<sup>2</sup>**

P: Lord, in this holy season of prayer and song and laughter,

**ALL: we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us: for shining star and angel's song, for infant's cry in lowly manger. We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We behold his glory, and are bathed in its radiance. Be with us as we sing the ironies of Christmas, the incomprehensible comprehended, the poetry made hard fact, the helpless Babe who cracks the world asunder. We kneel before you: shepherds, innkeepers, wise men. Help us to rise bigger than we are. Amen.**

**THE FIRST DAY OF CHRISTMAS: A PARTRIDGE IN A PEAR TREE...**

SCRIPTURE

*Matthew 23:37*

LESSON: JESUS CHRIST

CAROL

*Angels from the Realms of Glory* (vs. 1 & 4)

**ALL SING: Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth; Ye who sang creation's story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth: Come and worship, Come and worship, Worship Christ, the newborn King!**

**Saints before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear, Suddenly the Lord, descending, In His temple shall appear: Come and worship, Come and worship, Worship Christ, the newborn King!**

**THE SECOND DAY OF CHRISTMAS: TWO TURTLE DOVES...**

SCRIPTURE

*1 Timothy 4:13*

LESSON: OLD & NEW TESTAMENTS

CAROL

*The Friendly Beasts* (vs. 1 & 5)

**ALL SING: Jesus, our brother, strong and good, was humbly born in a stable rude, and the friendly beasts around him stood, Jesus, our brother, strong and good.**

**"I," said the dove, from rafters high, "I cooed you to sleep that you should not cry, we cooed you to sleep, my love and I; I," said the dove, from rafters high.**

### THE THIRD DAY OF CHRISTMAS: THREE FRENCH HENS...

SCRIPTURE

*Matthew 2:1-2, 11*

LESSON: GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH

CAROL

*We Three Kings (vs. 1 & 5)*

**ALL SING: We three kings of Orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar, Field and fountain moor and mountain, following yonder star.**

**CHORUS: O star of wonder star of night, Star with royal beauty bright Westward leading still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect light.**

**Glorious now behold Him arise. King and God and sacrifice. Alleluia, alleluia sounds through the earth and skies.**

**CHORUS**

### THE FOURTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS: FOUR CALLING BIRDS...

SCRIPTURE

*John 21:24-25*

LESSON: MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, AND JOHN

CAROL

*O Come All Ye Faithful (v. 2)*

**ALL SING: O Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation. Sing all ye citizens of heav'n above. Glory to God all, Glory in the highest.**

**O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him, O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

### THE FIFTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS: FIVE GOLDEN RINGS...

SCRIPTURE

*Luke 24:25-27*

LESSON: THE PENTATEUCH

CAROL

*O Holy Night (vs. 1 & 3)*

**ALL SING: 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 Angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born. O night, O Holy night, O night divine!**

**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; O praise His name forever! His power and glory evermore proclaim. His power and glory evermore proclaim.**

## PRAYER OF INTERCESSION FOR CHRISTMAS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

*Isaiah 9:6*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**ALL: 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 those who sin 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. Amen.**

## THE SIXTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS: SIX GEESE A LAYING...

SCRIPTURE

*Genesis 1:31-2:2*

LESSON: 6 DAYS OF CREATION

CAROL

*Good Christian Friends Rejoice (vs. 1 & 2)*

**ALL SING: Good Christian friends rejoice with heart and soul and voice. Now give heed to what we say, "Jesus Christ is born today." Ox and ass before him bow asleep within the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

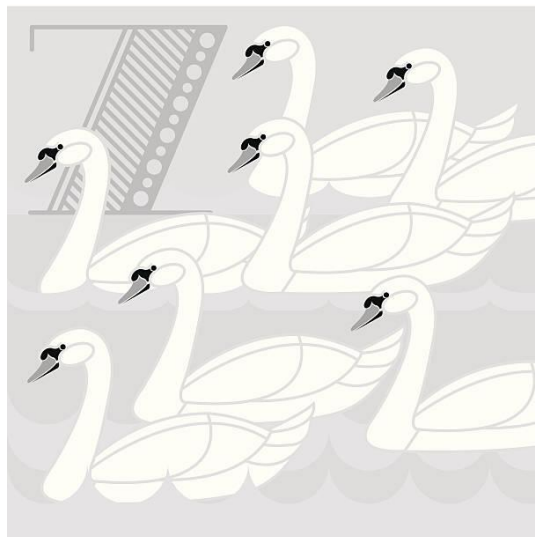
**Good Christian friends rejoice with heart and soul and voice. Now you know of endless bliss. Jesus Christ was born for this. God has opened heaven's door and you are blessed forevermore. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

## THE SEVENTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS: SEVEN SWANS A SWIMMING...

SCRIPTURE

*1 Corinthians 12:4-5*

LESSON: SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



## A TIME FOR SHARING

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY CAROL NO. 128

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

**ALL SING: 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 transcends all heaven, Earth, and its domain. Heaven and earth shall flee away when Christ comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed. The sovereign God Almighty, Jesus Christ.**

**Angels and archangels may have gathered there. Cherubim and Seraphim thronged the midnight air. But His mother only in her maiden bliss worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.**

**What can I offer 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 can I give Him, give my heart.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## The EIGHTh Day of Christmas: Eight maids a milking...

SCRIPTURE

*Matthew 5:3-10*

LESSON: EIGHT BEATITUDES

CAROL

*What Child Is This? (vs. 1 & 2)*

**ALL SING: What Child is this who laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping. This, this the angels sing is Christ God's holy offering. Haste, haste your praise to bring, the Babe the child of Mary.**

**Why lies the Child in manger bare where ox and ass are feeding? Give heed draw near for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, the cross be borne for me for you. Hail, hail the Word made flesh the Babe the child of Mary.**

## THE NINTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS: NINE LADIES DANCING...

SCRIPTURE

*Galatians 5:22-23a*

LESSON: FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

CAROL

*Angels We Have Heard on High (vs. 1, 3, & 4)*

**ALL SING: Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains. And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing. Come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord the newborn King. Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**See Him in a manger laid whom the choirs of angels praise. Mary, Joseph lend your aid while our hearts in love we raise. Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

## THE TENTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS: TEN LORDS A LEAPING...

SCRIPTURE

*Matthew 5:17-19*

LESSON: 10 COMMANDMENTS

CAROL

*O Little Town of Bethlehem (v. 3)*

**ALL SING: How silently how silently the wondrous gift is given. So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven. No ear may hear His coming but in this world of sin. Where meek souls will receive Him still the dear Christ enters in.**

## THE ELEVENTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS: ELEVEN PIPERS PIPING...

SCRIPTURE

*Matthew 28:16-20*

LESSON: FIRST ELEVEN FAITHFUL APOSTLES

CAROL

*Love Came Down at Christmas*

**ALL SING: Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine. Love was born at Christmas. Star and angels gave the sign**

**Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, love divine. Worship we our Jesus. But where is God's sacred sign?**

**Love shall be our token. Love be yours and love be mine. Love to God and neighbor, love for plea, and gift, and sign.**

## THE TWELFTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS: TWELVE DRUMMERS DRUMMING...

SCRIPTURE

*Ephesians 4:25*

LESSON: TWELVE POINTS OF THE APOSTLE'S CREED

APOSTLE'S CREED

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**

*The Twelve Days of Christmas* (words by Jim Fowler)

**ALL SING: On the first day of Christmas divine love gave to me...the Spirit of Jesus in me.**

**On the second day of Christmas divine love gave to me...life abundantly and the Spirit of Jesus in me.**

**On the third day of Christmas divine love gave to me...peace in my heart, life abundantly, and the Spirit of Jesus in me.**

**On the fourth day of Christmas divine love gave to me...love for all men, peace in my heart, life abundantly, and the Spirit of Jesus in me.**

**On the fifth day of Christmas divine love gave to me...joy...for my...soul, love for all men, peace in my heart, life abundantly, and the Spirit of Jesus in me.**

**On the sixth day of Christmas divine love gave to me...power for living, joy...for my...soul, love for all men, peace in my heart, life abundantly, and the Spirit of Jesus in me.**

**On the seventh day of Christmas divine love gave to me...His kingdom reigning, power for living, joy...for my...soul, love for all men, peace in my heart, life abundantly, and the Spirit of Jesus in me.**

**On the eighth day of Christmas divine love gave to me...songs inward singing, His kingdom reigning, power for living, joy...for my...soul, love for all men, peace in my heart, life abundantly, and the Spirit of Jesus in me.**

**On the ninth day of Christmas divine love gave to me...light-hearted dancing. songs inward singing, His kingdom reigning, power for living, joy...for my...soul, love for all men, peace in my heart, life abundantly, and the Spirit of Jesus in me.**

**On the tenth day of Christmas divine love gave to me...grace always giving, light-hearted dancing. songs inward singing, His kingdom reigning, power for living, joy...for my...soul, love for all men, peace in my heart, life abundantly, and the Spirit of Jesus in me.**

**On the eleventh day of Christmas divine love gave to me...hope always seeking. grace always giving, light-hearted dancing. songs inward singing, His kingdom reigning, power for living, joy...for my...soul, love for all men, peace in my heart, life abundantly, and the Spirit of Jesus in me.**

**On the twelfth day of Christmas divine love gave to me...means to be sharing, hope always seeking. grace always giving, light-hearted dancing, songs inward singing, His kingdom reigning, power for living, joy...for my...soul, love for all men, peace in my heart, life abundantly, and the Spirit of Jesus in me.**

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Angels from the Realms of Glory with Immanuel*

arr. Tornquist



## References

<sup>1</sup>Today's Service was put together by *The Young Clergy Women Project* and accessed for use 12/22/24

<sup>2</sup>The Prayer of the Day was posted on Xavier University's JesuitResource.org website. <http://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/Christmas-Prayers.cfm> and accessed 12/23/24

## General References

<http://answers.org/issues/twelveda.html>

<https://www.brownielocks.com/twelvedaysofchristmas.html>

## Day-Specific References

**Day 2:** See <http://biblehub.com/topical/t/turtle-dove.htm>;

<http://www.birdsandblooms.com/blog/10-surprising-facts-about-mourning-doves/>

**Day 7:** <http://mentalfloss.com/article/32015/12-things-you-might-not-know-about-twelve-days-christmas> & <https://www.pnc.com/en/about-pnc/topics/pnc-christmas-price-index.html>

**Day 8:** <http://orleansunitedchurch.com/blog/2012/01/03/on-the-eighth-day-of-christmas/>

Thank you to Lee & Patsy Brown for donating our beautiful Christmas Tree and the Christmas wreaths!

We also give thanks for the nativity scene at the front of the church. Longtime Mt. Zion member, Dick Koch, built the right side, minus the dome about 40 years ago. Then a bit later... as the inn keeper was more "prosperous," he built the left side. He added the "dome" 15 years ago, and his son Karl reworked the lighting before donating to the church after Dick's passing last winter.

Thank you to all serving in worship this morning!

**Welcome Team Members**—Nancy & Jeff Slegger, John & Connie Wolfe

**Liturgist**—Freddie Northridge

**Tech Team**—Deb Herlocker, Jack Herlocker, & Ron Miles

