

# Advent Carol Service



**Advent Carol Service**  
**Sunday, December 3, 2023**  
*(\* indicates the assembly stands)*

Prelude

*“Three Noels”*  
Joseph est bien marié  
Or nous dites Marie  
Pour l'amour de Marie

G. Lasceux

Words of Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

\*Hymn 257 verses 1, 4-5 & 7

*“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

First Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-3, 16-18

Delaney Laking

L: Arise, shine; for your light has come,

**A: God’s glory appears bright as the dawn.**

Choir

*“Cantique de Jean Racine”*

G. Fauré

Second Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

Rev. Dr. Allen Jorgenson

L: Almighty God, come to us,

**A: that the earth may behold your glory.**

\*Hymn (see page 5)

*“Come Now, O God”*

Third Reading: Genesis 3:1-7, 22-24

Karen Farrell

L: We wait for the Lord,

**A: and we hope in God who saves us.**

Choir "A Ceremony of Carols" B. Britten  
Procession  
There is no Rose  
That yongë child  
Balulalow

Fourth Reading: Luke 1:26-38

L: Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you. Do not be afraid,

**A: for nothing will be impossible with God.**

\*Hymn 242 v. 3 choir

*"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"*

Fifth Reading: Luke 2:1-7

L: To us a child is born, to us a Son is given,

**A: In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

Choir "A Ceremony of Carols" B. Britten  
This Little Babe  
Interlude  
Spring Carol  
Deo Gracias

Offering "Concerto for Harp in Bb major" G.F. Handel

\*Offering Hymn 254

*"Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

\*Offering Prayer

\*Prayers

L: Our world stumbles blindly toward chaos—

**A: Come and be our Wisdom.**

L: We languish in prisons of mind and spirit—

**A: Come and be our Key of David.**

L: We are scattered, lacking a sure leader—

**A: Come and be our King of peace.**

L: We need to know that God is with us—

**A: Come and be our Emmanuel, that we may rejoice in you.**

L: Gather us all under the promise of your Son, who taught us to pray:

**A: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come, your will be done,**

**on earth, as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,**

**and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

\*Blessing

L: The peace of God accompany your waiting,

the light of Christ warm your hearts,

and the joy of the Spirit fill you with hope.

**A: Amen.**

\*Hymn 435

*"Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"*

\*Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Christ is coming soon.

**A: Thanks be to God**

Postlude

*"Toccata"*

T. Dubois

---



---

## Leading Worship This Evening:

**Minister & violinist:** Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

**Diaconal Minister of Music:** Deacon Scott Knarr

**Guest Artist:** Lori Gemmell, harp

**Sanctuary Choir:** Julia Crnko, Nicole Hamilton, John McLellan, Laura Moolenbeek, Lana Moses, Nathalie Nasr, Bev Roeder, Caroline Schmidt, Dylan Siebert, Kento Stratford, Hannah Swiderski, John Waterfield.

**Usher Team Leader:** Peter Winkler

**Crucifer:** Paul Gross

**Torchbearers:** Delaney Laking and Jeremy Hawrylak

**Broadcast:** Jason Smolak

**Reception Coordinators:** Marjorie and Scott Kuschnereit

**Building Monitor:** Ron Roeder (519-895-6833)

---



**Lori Gemmell** joined the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony in 1999 and was principal harpist with the KWS when it ceased to operate in September 2023. Previously, she was a member of Orchestra London and the Calgary Philharmonic. She received her Master's degree from the University of Toronto where she studied with renowned Canadian harpist Judy Loman. Lori is much in demand as a soloist, chamber musician and recording artist and is a harp instructor with the Wilfrid Laurier University music faculty.

# Come, Now, O God

1 Come now, O God, when our love is for - sak - en.  
2 Come, when we squan - der the free - dom you gave us.  
3 Come, put an end to our self - serv - ing mad - ness.

Come, when our bed - rock of faith has been shak - en.  
Come, break the sys - tems of sin that en - slave us.  
Come, while the world is en - shroud - ed in sad - ness.

Come, when our deep - est of hopes are mis - tak - en.  
Come, though we won - der if you can still save us.  
Come, turn the tears of our mourn - ing to glad - ness.

Come, Em - man - u - el. Come, Em - man - u - el.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984  
Music: LOST IN THE NIGHT, Finnish folk tune  
Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

**A Ceremony of Carols, Op. 28** was composed by British musician Benjamin Britten (1913 – 1976) in 1942 during a sea voyage from New York City to London. Britten's most-recorded composition, *A Ceremony of Carols*, is loved the world over for its creative and often poignant blend of mid-twentieth-century harmonies with words drawn from late medieval English and ancient church Latin. Although most of us will not immediately follow either the Latin or the language of early British icons like Geoffrey Chaucer, the melodies and harmonies of the short movements in *A Ceremony of Carols* never fail to stir feelings of hope, joy, serenity and celebration over the birth of a baby called Jesus in very humble and quite unsafe circumstances.

The work itself also sprang from unlikely and unsafe circumstances – it literally had a rough crossing from inspiration to completion. It was the spring of 1942, in the midst of World War II, when Britten and his beloved partner, tenor Peter Pears, decided to return to England on a very non-luxurious Swedish cargo ship. Three years earlier at the beginning of hostilities, the pair had taken refuge in the United States to escape growing political and cultural discrimination against pacifists and same-sex relationships. But with no clear prospect of an end to the war, homesickness set in and they made the risky choice to return.

Sea-sickness added to their constant fear of being torpedoed by German U-boats. One of the few things Britten could do during those stressful weeks on board ship was to compose; he sought peace and relief in setting a group of early English and Latin texts to music. Britten was inspired in his choice of old English lyrics by a book called *The English Galaxy of Shorter Poems*, many of which were anonymous and humble verses that originated orally among the illiterate poor, who could identify completely with Jesus' birth in a stable. Britten originally set each chant or carol as a separate short choral work but later found a unity of seasonal focus and feeling among them. He then added opening and closing movements based on the Latin chant, "Hodie Christus natus est" (today Christ is born) and integrated the set with exquisite harp accompaniment, including a beautiful solo as the eighth movement of the work. More than 80 years after its inception on rough seas in the midst of war, *A Ceremony of Carols* continues to enchant and inspire listeners with its unique vision of Christ's birth among ordinary people in extraordinary times.

## Procession

*Hodie Christus natus est:*

*hodie Salvator apparuit:*

*hodie in terra canunt angeli:*

*laetantur archangeli:*

*hodie exsultant justi, dicentes:*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Alleluia!*

Today Christ is born

Today the Saviour appears

Today the angels sing on earth

the archangels rejoice

Today the just exult, saying:

Glory to God in the highest.

Alleluia!

## There is no Rose

There is no rose of such vertu As is the rose that bare Jesu. Alleluia.

For in this rose containèd was Heaven and earth in litel space,

Res miranda, Res miranda. [Wonderful thing]

By that rose we may well see There be one God in persons three,

Pares forma, pares forma. [Equal in form]

The aungels sungen the shepherds to:

Gloria in excelsis, gloria in excelsis Deo! Gaudeamus, gaudeamus. [Let us rejoice]

Leave we all this werldly mirth, and follow we this joyful birth. Transeamus.

Alleluia, Res miranda, Pares forma, Gaudeamus, Transeamus. [Let us follow]

## That yongë child

That yongë child when it gan weep With song she lulled him asleep:

That was so sweet a melody It passèd alle minstrelsy.

The nightingalë sang also: Her song is hoarse and nought thereto:

Whoso attendeth to her song And leaveth the first then doth he wrong.



## **Balulalow**

O my deare hert, young Jesu sweit, Prepare thy creddil in my spreit,  
And I sall rock thee to my hert, And never mair from thee depart.

But I sall praise thee evermoir with sangës sweit unto thy gloir;  
The knees of my hert sall I bow, And sing that richt Balulalow!

## **This Little Babe**

This little Babe so few days old, Is come to rifle Satan's fold;  
All hell doth at his presence quake, Though he himself for cold do shake;  
For in this weak unarmèd wise The gates of hell he will surprise.

With tears he fights and wins the field, His naked breast stands for a shield;  
His battering shot are babish cries, His arrows looks of weeping eyes,  
His martial ensigns Cold and Need, And feeble Flesh his warrior's steed.

His camp is pitchèd in a stall, His bulwark but a broken wall;  
The crib his trench, haystalks his stakes; Of shepherds he his muster makes;  
And thus, as sure his foe to wound, The angels' trumps alarum sound.

My soul, with Christ join thou in fight; Stick to the tents that he hath pight.  
Within his crib is surest ward; This little Babe will be thy guard.  
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy; Then flit not from this heavenly Boy!

## **Interlude for harp solo**

## Spring Carol

Pleasure it is to hear iwis, the Birdès sing. The deer in the dale,  
the sheep in the vale, the corn springing.

God's purvayance For sustenance. It is for man.  
Then we always to him give praise, And thank him than.

## Deo Gracias

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!  
Adam lay ibounden, bounden in a bond;  
Four thousand winter thought he not too long.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!  
And all was for an appil, an appil that he tok,  
As clerkès finden written in their book.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!  
Ne had the appil takè ben, the appil takè ben  
Ne haddè never our lady a ben hevenè quene.

Blessèd be the time that appil takè was.  
Therefore we moun singen. Deo gracias!

## Cantique de Jean Racine

*Verbe égal au Très-Haut, notre unique espérance,  
Jour éternel de la terre et des cieux,  
De la paisible nuit nous rompons le silence:  
Divin Sauveur, jette sur nous les yeux.*

Word of the Highest, our only hope,  
Eternal day of the earth and the heavens,  
We break the silence of the peaceful night;  
Saviour Divine, cast your eyes upon us.

*Répands sur nous le feu de Ta grâce puissante;  
Que tout l'enfer fuie au son de Ta voix;  
Dissipe le sommeil d'une âme languissante  
Qui la conduit à l'oubli de Tes lois!*

Pour on us the fire of your powerful grace,  
That all hell may flee at the sound of your voice;  
Clear away the slumber of a weary soul,  
That leads to forgetfulness of your laws!

*Ô Christ! sois favorable à ce peuple fidèle,  
Pour Te bénir maintenant rassemblé;  
Reçois les chants qu'il offre à Ta gloire immortelle,  
Et de Tes dons qu'il retourne comblé.*

O Christ, look with favour upon your faithful people  
Now gathered here to praise you;  
Receive their hymns offered to your immortal glory;  
May they go forth filled with your gifts.

## **Are you new here?**

We're so glad that you joined us for worship this evening!

-*Page numbers* in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red hymnal), e.g. marked "p.125", are located at the bottom of the page in the front section of the book. Hymn numbers are the large numbers at the top of the page in the second half of the book.

-*Washrooms*: use the west stair tower door (closest to the piano) and stay on that floor. Use the hallway by the office, there is an accessible all-gender washroom on your left. Alternatively, use the stairway to the floor below. The men's washroom is to your immediate left, and the women's is behind you to your left.

-*Safety*: Our building monitor patrols the building to ensure security during worship. Their cell number is found under "Leading Worship Today".

-*Accessibility*: Accessible on-street parking is available beside the church along Church St. Our marked accessible entrance is on Church Street, with a lift up to the sanctuary level. Two spots (labeled "For Accessible Needs") are also available in our main parking lot nearest the Office Entrance. Our accessible washroom is located beside our Fellowship Hall (off the entranceway on the Church St. side). Unfortunately, to currently reach the Fellowship Hall or this washroom without using stairs, you must use the lift and then exit the building and proceed via the sidewalk down to the Fellowship Hall doors (with the alcove).

- *Fellowship Hall reception following the service*: To get there, use the west stair tower door (closest to the piano) and stay on that floor. Use the hallway by the office to the stairway to the floor below. Turn left and then immediately right down the hallway.

**West Tower Door for Emergency Only.** Due to the ongoing construction planning, when going in to the church house or washrooms, use the west stair tower door and stay on that floor. Use the hallway by the office to the stairway to the floor below. The stairs in the west tower are closed to the lower level sanctuary and should only be used in case of an emergency to exit the building.

### **Important Information for today's worship**

- **Offering:** Will be collected today during the Offering Music. Alternately, you may place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon entering.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, please remain in place until the end of the postlude.
- **Please join us for** after the service for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall! Use the door nearest to the piano, and follow the signs.



Join former members of the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony for a dramatic reading of A Christmas Carol with musical interludes on December 17 at 4 pm at St. Matthews. Special guests include Tom Allen, Andrew Craig and the KW Youth Orchestra.

# CHRISTMAS AT ST. MATTHEWS

## Worship Services

**Christmas Eve (German)**

December 24th

5:00 pm

**Christmas Eve (English)**

December 24th

7:30 pm

**Christmas Day**

December 25th

9:30 am







## JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

Get the newsletter and email updates on upcoming church events, announcements, reminders and service changes.

Contact [info@stmattskw.com](mailto:info@stmattskw.com) today!

**Fire Exits:** All Sanctuary fire exits remain operational during lower-level demolition and renovations. This includes the three Narthex (Entrance) doors, the mid-tower door (half-way up the right side), and the staircase at the front left, piano side.

**Church Fire Plan** For everyone's awareness, a copy of the Church Fire Plan for safe exit from the Sanctuary appears in the back of the worship books. Please take a moment to review for your own safety.

### Contact Information

Office: 519-742-0462      [stmattskw.com](http://stmattskw.com)

Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Ext. 3 [pastorcarey@stmattskw.com](mailto:pastorcarey@stmattskw.com)

Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Ext. 2 [pastorsebastian@stmattskw.com](mailto:pastorsebastian@stmattskw.com)

Deacon Scott Knarr

Ext. 4 [deaconscott@stmattskw.com](mailto:deaconscott@stmattskw.com)

Leanne Vanderhout

Ext. 6 [lvanderhout@stmattskw.com](mailto:lvanderhout@stmattskw.com)



[Facebook](#)



[Instagram](#)



[YouTube](#)



[Donate](#)



# St. Matthews Lutheran Church

54 BENTON STREET  
KITCHENER  
N2G 3H2  
519.742.0462

[stmattskw.com](http://stmattskw.com)  
[info@stmattskw.com](mailto:info@stmattskw.com)