

# Lessons and Carols for Christmas: Savior, Christ, Lord

## Sunday, January 1/23

### Treaty 4 Territory

*We are privileged to gather today in Treaty 4 Territory and the traditional homeland of the Metis.*

### Welcome Statement

*You are welcome here, you, whose face does not resemble mine, whose spirit I may not define, you, whose eyes have seen, what I will never dream. You, whose frame is bent or broken, whose mind fears the unspoken. You are welcome here.*

*Regardless of your race, your age, your gender identity or expression, your marital status, physical and mental ability, your sexual orientation, country of origin, economic and religious status, you will be honoured here.*

*For Christ has made us whole and Christ has set us free. His daily grace enables us to live in harmony.*

### **Opening..**

The angel said to [the shepherds], “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11).

As we gather we hear again the good news the angels proclaimed: God has come for all people through the birth of the one named Jesus. Through Bethlehem’s manger God comes into the chaos, messiness, and vulnerability of the world. In all things and at all times, we rejoice that God comes to save us and reigns in love. We come to adore Jesus who is Savior, Christ, and Lord.

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

Amid the troubles and fears of this world, let us confess our sin and welcome God’s forgiveness, grace, and love. **Silence**

Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

Forgive our lack of faith and trust.

Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable.

Forgive our neglect of the poor.

The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

Forgive our selfishness and complacency.

With great joy the angels proclaimed, “Do not fear. For I bring you good news of great joy. Today is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

In ✝ Jesus, who is Savior, Christ, and Lord, our sins are forgiven.

May you know the peace which the angels sang from the

heavens. Indeed, God’s forgiveness is good news of great joy!

**Amen.**

## Gathering Carol - Angels, from the realms of glory ELW 275

CHRISTMAS

### Angels, from the Realms of Glory 275

Capo 3:  $G$   
 $B\flat$

- 1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

$C$   $G$   $D$   $G$   
 $E\flat$   $B\flat$   $F$   $B\flat$

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.  
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

$G$   $C$   $Am$   $C$   $D$   $G$   
 $B\flat$   $E\flat$   $Cm$   $E\flat$   $F$   $B\flat$

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

### Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ who is Savior and Lord, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**Canticle of Praise - Angels we have heard on high ELW 289**

**Prayer of the Day - Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### Psalm 8

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory above the heavens.

<sup>2</sup>**Out of the mouths of babes and infants  
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,  
to silence the enemy and the avenger.**

<sup>3</sup>When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have established;

<sup>4</sup>**what are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
mortals that you care for them?**

<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made them a little lower than God,  
and crowned them with glory and honor.

<sup>6</sup>**You have given them dominion over the works of your  
hands;**

**you have put all things under their feet,**

<sup>7</sup>all sheep and oxen,

and also the beasts of the field,

<sup>8</sup>**the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,**

**whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**

<sup>9</sup>O LORD, our Sovereign,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

*“For unto you is born a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord”*

**Lesson: Isaiah 12:2-6**

<sup>2</sup>Surely God is my salvation;

I will trust, and will not be afraid,

for the Lord GOD is my strength and my might;

he has become my salvation.

<sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup>And you  
will say in that day:

Give thanks to the LORD,

call on his name;

make known his deeds among the nations;

proclaim that his name is exalted.

<sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;

let this be known in all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,

for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

## Response: O come, all ye faithful (refrain only) ELW 283

CHRISTMAS

283

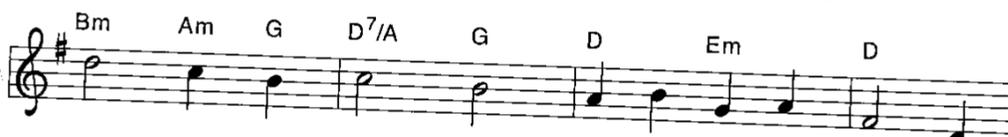
## O Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

## Lesson: Matthew 1:18-21

<sup>8</sup>Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the

Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

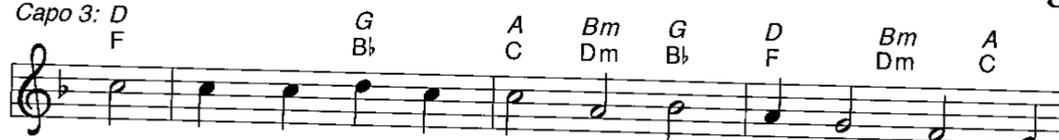
## Carol: Lo, how a rose e'er blooming ELW 272

CHRISTMAS

272

### Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Capo 3: D  
F



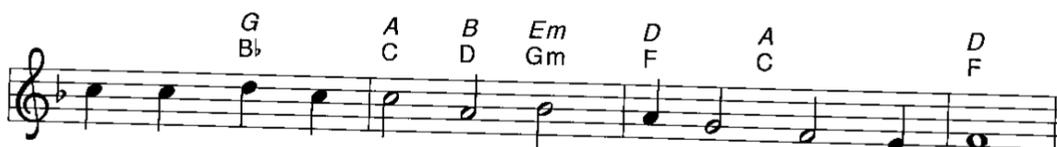
1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem hath  
2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in  
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the  
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as  
mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the  
air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the  
woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who



seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -  
vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she  
dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from  
dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to



mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.  
bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.  
sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.  
the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

***"For unto you is born a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord"***

**Lesson: Isaiah 61:1-3, 11**

<sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,

to bind up the brokenhearted,  
 to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
 and release to the prisoners;  
<sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
 and the day of vengeance of our God;  
 to comfort all who mourn;  
<sup>3</sup>to provide for those who mourn in Zion —  
 to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
 the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
 the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
 They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
 the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

<sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
 and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
 so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
 to spring up before all the nations.

**Response:** O come, all ye faithful (refrain only) ELW 283

CHRISTMAS  
 283  
 O Come, All Ye Faithful

The musical score is written in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of music with lyrics and guitar chords. The chords are: G, D, G, C, G/D, D, Em, Asus, A, D, G, Asus, A7, D, Bm, Am, G, D7/A, G, D, Em, D, G, D, Em, D, G, C, G/D, D, G.

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal, O  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

*Refrain*  
 Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

**Lesson: John 1:19-23, 29-34**

<sup>19</sup>This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup>He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." <sup>22</sup>Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup>He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said.

<sup>29</sup>The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" <sup>30</sup>This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup>And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup>I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'" <sup>34</sup>And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

**Carol: In the bleak midwinter ELW 294**

## In the Bleak Midwinter

294

Capo 3: D  
F

Bm Dm

Em/G Gm/B $\flat$

Em Gm A $^7$  C $^7$

1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;  
3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?

D F

Bm Dm

Em/G Gm/B $\flat$

A C

D F

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;  
If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;

G/B B $\flat$ /D

G B $\flat$

Bm Dm

F $\sharp$ m Am

G B $\flat$

A C

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed  
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;

D F

Bm Dm

Em/G Gm/B $\flat$

A C

D F

in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus - Christ.  
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

*“For unto you is born a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord”*

## Lesson: Isaiah 9:1-8

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness —  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden,

and the bar across their shoulders,  
 the rod of their oppressor,  
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.  
 5For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
 and all the garments rolled in blood  
 shall be burned as fuel for the fire.  
 6For a child has been born for us,  
 a son given to us;  
 authority rests upon his shoulders;  
 and he is named  
 Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
 7His authority shall grow continually,  
 and there shall be endless peace  
 for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
 He will establish and uphold it  
 with justice and with righteousness  
 from this time onward and forevermore.  
 The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

**Response:** O come, all ye faithful (refrain only) ELW 283

--- from up - peat - ing:

*Refrain*

Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus  
 O come, let us a - dore him, Do - mi - num.  
 Christ the Lord!

### Lesson: Luke 1:26-35

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with

God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

## Carol: O little town of Bethlehem ELW 279

CHRISTMAS

### O Little Town of Bethlehem 279



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove  
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!  
4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.  
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.  
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.  
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,  
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!  
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

## Apostles Creed - (ELW p. 189)

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 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.

### Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family. *A brief silence.*

Merciful God, broaden the church's hospitality and welcome. Open our hearts to any in need of refuge and help, especially those who are persecuted. Prosper the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Life-giving God, restore the health of the soil, the seas, and the air. Increase the joy and praise of all living things. In the coming year strengthen local, national, and international efforts to prevent further harm to the environment. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Liberating God, deliver your people from cruel oppression. Increase justice in every nation and keep the dream of freedom alive. In this new year bring the blessing of peace and put an

end to violent conflict throughout the world (regions in turmoil and conflict may be named). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Uplifting God, raise all who are bowed down by trouble and need, especially individuals and families living in poverty and those we name now. *Stacie, Debbie, Elaine, Beth, Lynne, Paul, Harley, Emma, Kevin, Jane, Terri, Todd, Shirley, Paula, Lorraine, Shadie, Sunshine & Wade...* Protect and nurture all children. Sustain those who parent, teach, and care for the young. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Abiding God, accompany this community in the coming year. Increase our love for one another and the neighbors we serve. Enrich our worship and deepen our faith. Sustain our pastor (Stewart) and all who minister in your name. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, the holy innocents who perish in every generation are safe in your keeping. We give you thanks and praise for the all the faithful who have gone before us into everlasting life with you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God. **Amen.**

### **Offering & Offering Prayer**

God of abundance,  
 receive and bless these gifts we have offered.  
 Join our hearts with the song of the angels,  
 and gather us at your table of celebration.  
 Strengthen us to share with all the world  
 the abundance of your grace upon grace,  
 poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. **Amen.**

### **Musical Offering**

#### **Blessing**

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary,  
 the obedience of Joseph,  
 the joy of the angels,

the eagerness of the shepherds,  
and the everlasting peace of Jesus  
who is Savior, Christ, and Lord.

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you and keep you now and forever. Amen.

## Sending Carol - Go tell it on the mountain ELW 290

CHRISTMAS

### Go Tell It on the Mountain

290

*Refrain*  
*Capo 3:* D G/D A D D  
F B $\flat$ /F F C F



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep - herds feared and trem - bled when, lo, a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;



be - hold, through - out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve our Savior, Christ, and Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

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