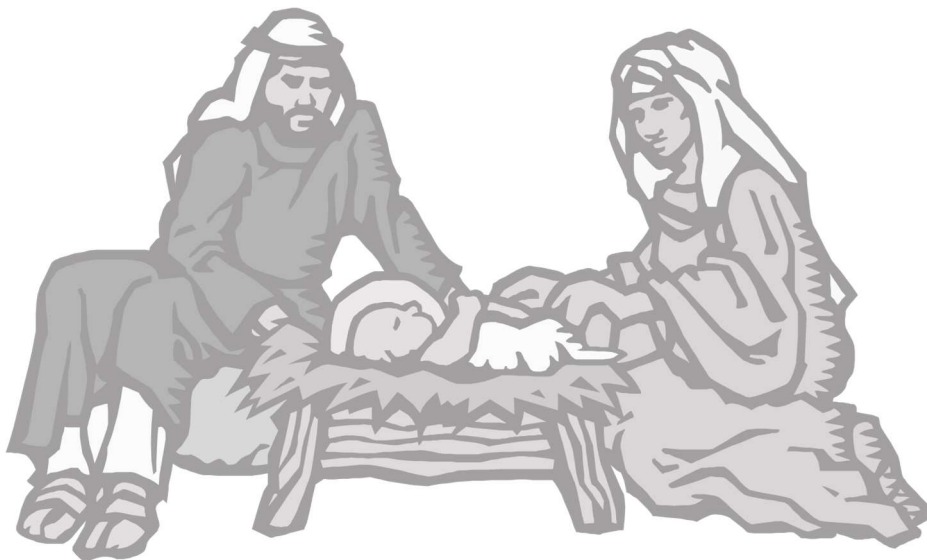


# Nine Lessons And Carols



## Scripture Readings and Christmas Carols

During Christmastime, we are delighted to again hear the message of the angels, and in heart and mind to travel to Bethlehem and see this wonderful thing which has changed mankind forever, the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us now read the Holy Scripture, the story of the loving purposes of God, from the first sin to the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child.

# Once in Royal David's City

Music by H.J. Gaubtlett  
Words by C.F. Alexander



1. Once in roy - al Dav - vid's  
Where a mo - ther laid her  
2. He came down to earth from  
And His shel - ter was a  
3. And through all His won - drous  
Love and watch the gen - tle



ci - ty Stood a low - ly ca - ttle shed.  
- ba - by In a man - ger for His bed.  
hea - ven Who is God and Lord of all;  
- sta - ble And His cra - dle was a stall:  
child - hood He would hon - or and o - bey,  
mo - ther In whose gen - tle arms He lay:



1. Ma - ry was that mo - ther mild,  
2. With the poor and mean and low - ly  
3. Chris - tian chil - dren all should be



Je - sus Christ her li - tle child.  
Lived on earth our Sa - vior ho - ly.  
Kind, o - be - dient good as He.

## GATHERING PRAYER

Let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace on earth and goodwill among all His people; for unity and fellowship and forgiveness and joy within the Church He came to build, and especially among us gathered here.

And let us remember, the poor, the helpless, the cold, the hungry, the oppressed, the sick, the sad, the lonely, and the unloved. We pray that they can discover the peace that Jesus brings to our hearts.

May Almighty God bless us with His grace and grant us the joys of everlasting life. Amen.



**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,  
Till 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 angels' voices,  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born,  
O night divine, O night,  
O night divine.**

The First Lesson: The promise of a redeemer was present from the beginning

*A reading from the book of Genesis.*

Now the snake was  
the most cunning of all the wild animals that the LORD God had made.

He asked the woman,

“Did God really say,

‘You shall not eat from any of the trees in the garden?’”

The woman answered the snake:

“We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden;

it is only about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden  
that God said,

‘You shall not eat it or even touch it, or else you will die.’”

But the snake said to the woman:

“You certainly will not die!

God knows well that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened  
and you will be like gods, who know good and evil.”

The woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes,  
and the tree was desirable for gaining wisdom.

So she took some of its fruit and ate it;

and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

Then the eyes of both of them were opened,

and they knew that they were naked;

so they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

When they heard the sound of the LORD God

walking about in the garden at the breezy time of the day,

the man and his wife hid themselves from the LORD God

among the trees of the garden.

The LORD God then called to the man and asked him:

“Where are you?”

He answered,

“I heard you in the garden;

but I was afraid, because I was naked, so I hid.”

Then God asked:

“Who told you that you were naked?

Have you eaten from the tree of which I had forbidden you to eat?”

The man replied,

“The woman whom you put here with me—

she gave me fruit from the tree, so I ate it.”

**The LORD God then asked the woman:**

**“What is this you have done?”**

**The woman answered,**

**“The snake tricked me, so I ate it.”**

**Then the LORD God said to the snake:**

**“Because you have done this, cursed are you  
among all the animals, tame or wild;**

**On your belly you shall crawl,  
and dust you shall eat  
all the days of your life.**

**I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;**

**They will strike at your head,  
While you strike at their heel.”**

Genesis 3: 1-15



**Hark! The herald angels sing!  
"Glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies!**

**With th' angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored:  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time, behold Him come,  
Offspring of the favored one.  
Veil'd in flesh, the Godhead see;  
Hail, th' incarnate Deity:**

**Pleased, as man, with men to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

The Second Lesson: Isaiah's prophesy of a new-born king is fulfilled in Jesus Christ

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

**The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
Upon those who lived in a land of gloom  
a light has shone.  
You have brought them abundant joy  
and great rejoicing;  
They rejoice before you as people rejoice at harvest,  
as they exult when dividing the spoils.  
For the yoke that burdened them,  
the pole on their shoulder,  
The rod of their taskmaster,  
you have smashed, as on the day of Midian.  
For every boot that tramped in battle,  
every cloak rolled in blood,  
will be burned as fuel for fire.  
For a child is born to us, a son is given to us;  
upon his shoulder dominion rests.  
They name him Wonder-Counselor,  
God-Hero,  
Father-Forever,  
Prince of Peace.  
His dominion is vast  
and forever peaceful,  
Upon David's throne, and over his kingdom,  
which he confirms and sustains  
By judgment and justice,  
both now and forever.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!**

Isaiah 9: 1-6

♪ **Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.**

**Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love.**



The Third Lesson: Isaiah stirs hope for a just leader from the descendants of King David

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

**But a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse,  
and from his roots a bud shall blossom.  
The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him:  
a spirit of wisdom and of understanding,  
A spirit of counsel and of strength,  
a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD,  
and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD.  
Not by appearance shall he judge,  
nor by hearsay shall he decide,  
But he shall judge the poor with justice,  
and decide fairly for the land's afflicted.  
He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked.  
Justice shall be the band around his waist,  
and faithfulness a belt upon his hips.  
Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat;  
The calf and the young lion shall browse together,  
with a little child to guide them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze,  
together their young shall lie down;  
the lion shall eat hay like the ox.  
The baby shall play by the viper's den,  
and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair.  
They shall not harm or destroy on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD,  
as water covers the sea.**

**On that day,  
The root of Jesse,  
set up as a signal for the peoples—  
Him the nations will seek out;  
His dwelling shall be glorious.**

Isaiah 11:1-10



**♪ O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
who ordered all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show  
and teach us in its ways to go.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**O come, O Branch of Jesse's stem,  
unto your own and rescue them!  
From depths of hell your people save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**



The Fourth Lesson: Jeremiah predicts the rise of a just shepherd

*A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah.*

**See, days are coming—oracle of the LORD —  
when I will raise up a righteous branch for David;  
As king he shall reign and govern wisely,  
he shall do what is just and right in the land.  
In his days Judah shall be saved,  
Israel shall dwell in security.  
This is the name to be given him:  
“The LORD our justice.”  
Therefore, the days are coming—oracle of the LORD —  
when they shall no longer say,  
“As the LORD lives,  
who brought the Israelites  
out of the land of Egypt”;  
but rather,  
“As the LORD lives,  
who brought the descendants of the house of Israel  
up from the land of the north”—  
and from all the lands to which I banished them;  
they shall again live on their own soil.**

Jeremiah 23:5-8



**♪ 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 is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!**

**So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come peasant king to own Him,  
The King of kings, salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.**

**This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!**



The Fifth Lesson: With great faith, Mary says *yes*, for nothing is impossible for God

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.*

**In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God  
to a town of Galilee called Nazareth,  
to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David,  
and the virgin's name was Mary.**

**And coming to her, he said,**

**“Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you.”**

**But she was greatly troubled at what was said  
and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.**

**Then the angel said to her,**

**“Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.**

**Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,  
and you shall name him Jesus.**

**He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High,  
and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father,  
and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever,  
and of his kingdom there will be no end.”**

**But Mary said to the angel,**

**“How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?”\***

**And the angel said to her in reply,**

**“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 called holy, the Son of God.**

**And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,**

**has also conceived a son in her old age,**

**and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren;**

**for nothing will be impossible for God.”**

**Mary said,**

**“Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.**

**May it be done to me according to your word.”**

**Then the angel departed from her.**



Luke 1: 26–38

# HAIL MARY, GENTLE WOMAN

Carey Landry

Intro: Cantor

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.  
Blessed are you among women and  
blest is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners now  
and at the hour of death. Amen.

Refrain: All

Gen-tle wom-an, qui-et light, morn-ing  
star, so strong and bright, gen-tle  
Moth-er, peace-ful dove, teach us  
wis-dom; teach us love.

Verses: All

1. You were cho - sen by the Fa-ther;  
2. Bless-ed are you a-mong wom-en,  
1. you were cho - sen \_\_\_\_\_ for the Son. You were Bless-ed  
2. blest in turn \_\_\_\_\_ all wom-en, too.  
1. cho - sen \_\_\_\_\_ ♪ from all wom-en and for Bless-ed  
2. they \_\_\_\_\_ ♪ with peace - ful spir - its.  
1. wom-an, \_\_\_\_\_ shin-ing one.  
2. they \_\_\_\_\_ with gen - tle hearts.

to Refrain

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The Sixth Lesson: Jesus – the Savior, Messiah, and Lord of *all* – is born in Bethlehem

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.*

**In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus  
that the whole world should be enrolled.**

**This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria.**

**So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town.**

**And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea,  
to the city of David that is called Bethlehem,  
because he was of the house and family of David,  
to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.**

**While they were there, the time came for her to have her child,  
and she gave birth to her firstborn son.**

**She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger,  
because there was no room for them in the inn.**

**Now there were shepherds in that region  
living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock.**

**The angel of the Lord appeared to them  
and the glory of the Lord shone around them,  
and they were struck with great fear.**

**The angel said to them,**

**“Do not be afraid; for behold,**

**I proclaim to you good news of great joy  
that will be for all the people.**

**For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you  
who is Messiah and Lord.**

**And this will be a sign for you:**

**you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes  
and lying in a manger.”**

**And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel,  
praising God and saying:**

**“Glory to God in the highest  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”**

**When the angels went away from them to heaven,  
the shepherds said to one another,**

**“Let us go, then,  
to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place,  
which the Lord has made known to us.”**

**So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph,  
and the infant lying in the manger.**

**When they saw this,**

**they made known the message that had been told them about this child.  
All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds.**

Luke 2: 1-18



**♪ Silent night, holy night  
All is calm, all is bright  
‘Round yon Virgin Mother and Child  
Holy Infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight  
Glories stream from heaven afar  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior is born  
Christ, the Savior is born.**

Seventh Lesson: The magi honor a newborn king, while Herod is worried about a new rival

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.*

**When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod,  
behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,  
“Where is the newborn king of the Jews?  
We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.”**

**When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled,  
and all Jerusalem with him.**

**Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people,  
he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.**

**They said to him,  
“In Bethlehem of Judea,  
for thus it has been written through the prophet:  
‘And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
since from you shall come a ruler,  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’ ”**

**Then Herod called the magi secretly  
and ascertained from them the time of the star’s appearance.**

**He sent them to Bethlehem and said,  
“Go and search diligently for the child.  
When you have found him, bring me word,  
that I too may go and do him homage.”**

**After their audience with the king they set out.  
And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them,  
until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.**

**They were overjoyed at seeing the star,  
and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother.**

**They prostrated themselves and did him homage.**

**Then they opened their treasures  
and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.**

**And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod,  
they departed for their country by another way.**

Matthew 2:1-12



**♪ We three kings of Orient are  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain  
Following yonder star**

**O Star of wonder, star of night  
Star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding  
Guide us to thy Perfect Light**

**Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign.**

**O Star of wonder, star of night  
Star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding  
Guide us to thy Perfect Light**



The Eighth Lesson: Jesus, the Word, the Creator, the Light of the Human Race, is eternal

*A reading from the beginning of the holy Gospel according to John.*

**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 to be through him,  
and without him nothing came to be.  
What came to be  
through him was life,  
and this life was the light of the human race;  
the light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not overcome it.**

**A man named John was sent from God.  
He came for testimony, to testify to the light,  
so that all might believe through him.  
He was not the light, but 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 to be through him,  
but the world did not know him.  
He came to what was his own,  
but his own people\* did not accept him.**

**But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God,  
to those who believe in his name,  
who were born not by natural generation  
nor by human choice nor by a man's decision but of God.**

**And the Word became flesh  
and made his dwelling among us,  
and we saw his glory,  
the glory as of the Father's only Son,  
full of grace and truth.**

John 1: 1-14

**♪ O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him born the King of angels;  
O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

**Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation  
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God 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 Ninth Lesson: The followers of Jesus are commissioned to make disciples of all

*A reading from end of the holy Gospel according to Matthew.*

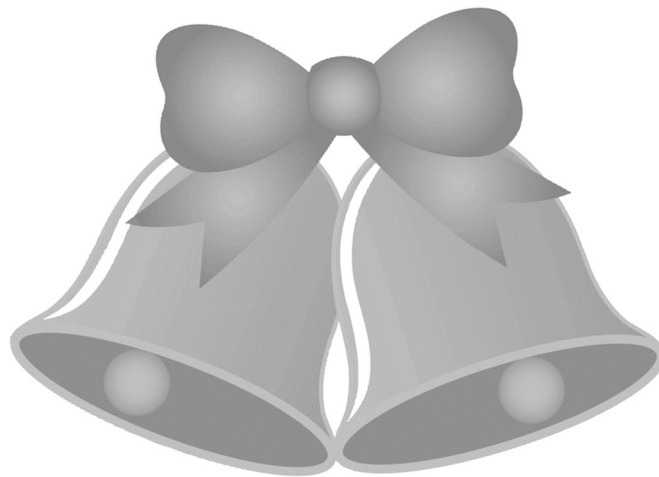
**The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them.**

**When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted.**

**Then Jesus approached and said to them, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me.**

**Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”**

Matthew 28:16-20



# Go Tell It on the Mountain

## Refrain

Go tell it on the moun-tain, O-ver the hills and  
 ev - 'ry-where Go tell it on the moun - tain That  
 Fine  
 Je - sus Christ is born.

## Verses

1. While shep - herds kept their watch - ing O'er  
 2. The shep - herds feared and trem - bled When  
 3. Down in a low - ly man - ger The  
 si - lent flocks by night, Be -  
 high a - bove the earth Rang  
 hum - ble Christ was born, And  
 hold, through - out the heav - ens There  
 out the an - gel cho - rus That  
 God sent is sal - va - tion That  
 shone a ho - ly light.  
 hailed our Sav - iors birth.  
 bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Sponsored by  
Christ the King of East Aurora Council #12829  
Knights of Columbus