

The English Community Outreach Project
Protestant Deanery of Wiesbaden in the Bergkirche

January 2, 2022



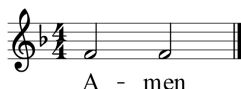
A Service of Lessons and Carols

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning! We are glad you are here with us. Here are a few things to help orient you during the service.

- We are thrilled to have our choir back with us for worship today! The choir is 2G+. Each participant has tested negative for COVID before singing with us today.
- Hymnals are available at the entrance to the sanctuary. Please wear a mask while singing.
- In the bulletin, items marked with a star* indicate that you should stand in body or spirit, as you are able. During the Prayers of the People, you may remain seated until Rev. Cranbury invites you to stand for the Lord's Prayer.
- Wenn Sie eine deutsche Übersetzung der Predigt wünschen, finden Sie manche auf dem Tisch am Eingang.

Greeting

Invocation: We gather today in the love of God, the compassion of Jesus, our Christ, and of the Holy Spirit –



A - men

Opening Song (Choir)

A New Year Carol

Benjamin Britten

Responsive Reading - Isaiah 11:1-6

A shoot will come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from its roots will bear fruit.

***The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of advice and power,
the Spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord.***

He will gladly bear the fear of the Lord.
He will not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear.

***He will judge the poor justly.
He will make fair decisions for the humble people on earth.***

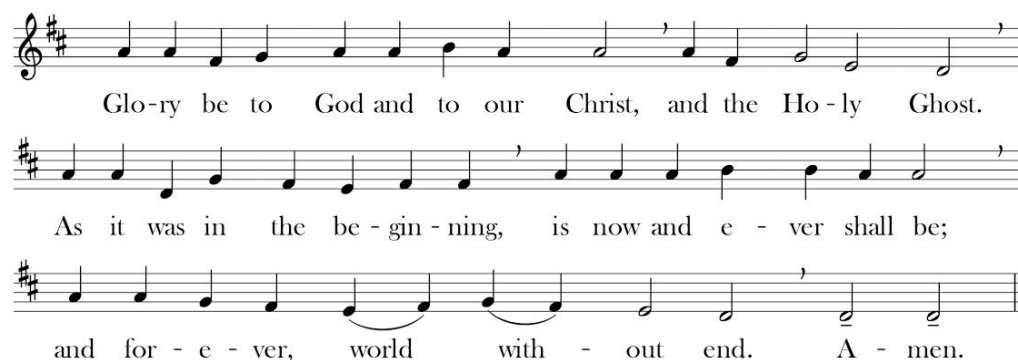
He will strike the earth with a rod from his mouth.
He will kill the wicked with the breath from his lips.

***Justice will be the belt around his waist.
Faithfulness will be the belt around his hips.***

Wolves will live with lambs.
Leopards will lie down with goats.

***Calves, young lions, and year-old lambs will be together,
and little children will lead them.***

Reader - Come, let us worship!



Introduction to the Lessons and Carols

Everyday Grace by Stella Nesanovich

It can happen like that:
meeting at the market,
buying tires amid the smell
of rubber, the grating sound
of jack hammers and drills,
anywhere we share stories,
and grace flows between us.

The tire center waiting room
becomes a healing place
as one speaks of her husband's
heart valve replacement, bedsores
from complications. A man
speaks of multiple surgeries,
notes his false appearance
as strong and healthy.

I share my sister's death
from breast cancer, her
youngest only seven.
A woman rises, gives
her name, Mrs. Henry,
then takes my hand.
Suddenly an ordinary day
becomes holy ground.

Song

O Little Town of Bethlehem

#180 (Verse 1 & 3)

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Song (Choir)

There Is No Rose

Benjamin Britten

Wildpeace by Yehuda Amichai

Not the peace of a cease-fire,
not even the vision of the wolf and the lamb,
but rather
as in the heart when the excitement is over
and you can talk only about a great weariness.
I know that I know how to kill,
that makes me an adult.
And my son plays with a toy gun that knows
how to open and close its eyes and say Mama.
A peace
without the big noise of beating swords into ploughshares,
without words, without
the thud of the heavy rubber stamp: let it be
light, floating, like lazy white foam.
A little rest for the wounds—
who speaks of healing?
(And the howl of the orphans is passed from one generation
to the next, as in a relay race:
the baton never falls.)

Let it come
like wildflowers,
suddenly, because the field
must have it: wildpeace.

Song

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

#185 (Verses 1 & 3)

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’” Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and

paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.



Song (Solo)

That Yongë Child

Benjamin Britten

[Traveler, your footprints] by Antonio Machado

Traveler, your footprints
are the only road, nothing else.
Traveler, there is no road;
you make your own path as you walk.
As you walk, you make your own road,
and when you look back
you see the path
you will never travel again.
Traveler, there is no road;
only a ship's wake on the sea.

Song (Choir)

Balulalow

Benjamin Britten

John 1:1-14

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 into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he 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 into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Message

In the Beginning

Rev. Hannah Cranbury

Prayers of the People and the *Lord's Prayer

You are invited to say the Lord's prayer in whatever language or translation is most familiar or comfortable for you. If you are unfamiliar with this prayer, you may read the following words:

*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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever.
Amen.*

***Sending Song**

Come All Ye Faithful

#182

***Benediction**

Postlude

Halleluja

Händel

Choir Director: *Rhodri Britton*

Soloist: *Kim Ertl*

Organ: *Dirk Putzek*

Technology: *Jörg Müller*

Donations placed in the plate near the exit will be used to support this ministry, the English Community Outreach Project.

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!

We hope you will join us for our other activities.

First Sunday: Worship at the Bergkirche and Livestream at 11AM
Second Sunday: Dinner Church at 6PM
Third Sunday: No Gathering
Fourth Sunday: Walking Church at 11AM (location announced via email)

For more information or to be added to the email list, please contact Rev. Hannah Cranbury.

Fundraising Update

We are a ministry that can only exist because of the generosity of those who attend. If you feel moved to financially support this ministry, you may give an offering as you exit the church at the end of the service or make a transfer to the following account:



Spenden englischsp. Gottesdienst
IBAN DE75 5206 0410 0104 0077 78
BIC GENODEF1EK1

Thank you for your ongoing support and your faith in this project!

Are you on Facebook? If so, check us out at “English Outreach - A Ucc-Ekhn Church Partnership” (<https://www.facebook.com/getinvolved2015>).

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Rev. Hannah Cranbury - Protestant Deanery of Wiesbaden
Email: hannahcranbury@gmail.com Tel: +49 176 75 971 916