



Welcome to Messiah Lutheran

*New Year's Day Worship
January 1, 2023
10:30 a.m.*

The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and song that dates to the late 19th century. In this service, we listen to nine Scripture lessons which recount the Fall, the promise of a Messiah, the Incarnation, and the Great Commission to preach the Good News. Each lesson is followed by a carol or other song that reflects the lesson's message and a brief prayer.

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Song: "Angels From the Realms of Glory"

ELW 275



Lessons and Carols Service



We gather to recall the mystery of our redemption. Though sin drew us away from God, God never stopped loving us. The prophets told of the coming of a Messiah who would initiate a reign of justice and peace. This promise was fulfilled in the incarnation of Jesus Christ. We reflect with joy on this wondrous mystery!



First Lesson **The First Sin and Its Punishment**

Reading: Genesis 3:1-15

Song: "Lost in the Night" *Sung by Pastor Dave and Deacon Joanne*

Prayer:

**Lord of mercy, despite our sinfulness, you never stopped loving us.
Fill our hearts with your mercy, that we may forgive others. Amen.**



Second Lesson
The Righteous Branch of David

Reading: Jeremiah 23:5-8

Song: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

ELW 257, Verses 1, 4

Prayer:

Lord, you promised that your reign would bring a justice that would never end. May we seek to bring the justice of your kingdom here to this time and place. Amen.



Third Lesson
The Peaceful Kingdom

Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Song: “Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

ELW 272, Verses 1, 2

Prayer:

Lord, we wait for the day of your everlasting peace. May we work to make your peace reality in our families, our communities, and our world. Amen.



Fourth Lesson
The Righteous Reign of the Coming King

Reading: Isaiah 9:1-6

Song: “Bright and Glorious is the Sky”

ELW 301, Verses 1, 2, 5

Prayer:

God, you are always with us, shining as brightly as the brightest star. May we always trust in your presence and share it with everyone around us. Amen.



Fifth Lesson
The Birth of Jesus Foretold

Reading: Luke 1:26-38

Song: "Once in Royal David's City"

ELW 269, Vs 1, 2

Prayer:

Lord, you asked Joseph and Mary to trust in you. May we come to share in their trust and always rely on you. Amen.



Sixth Lesson
The Birth of Jesus

Reading: Luke 2:1-14

Song: "The First Noel"

ELW 300, Verses 1, 2

Prayer:

Lord, you came to us in humility and vulnerability. May we never tire in showing your love and care to those around us, especially those in most need. Amen.



Seventh Lesson
The Visit of the Magi

Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

Song: "As with Gladness Men of Old"

ELW 302 1, 2, 3

Prayer:

Lord, you are the giver of all good gifts. May we always remember to share our gifts with others for the glory of your name. Amen.

OFFERING



Eighth Lesson
The Light Shining in the Darkness

Reading: John 1:1-5

Song: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" *ELW 815, Verses 1*

Prayer:

Lord of light and love, you are beyond all time and space. May we never fail to recognize your presence with us and give you praise in all we do. Amen.



Ninth Lesson
The Good News is Proclaimed

Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

Song: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" *ELW 288*

Closing Prayer:

Lord, you call us to be your witnesses to the ends of the earth. Fill our words with power that we may proclaim your good news and draw all people to you! Amen.

BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace, proclaim the good news! Thanks be to God!