

The Loyola University Maryland Community
has gathered every year
since 1989
at the beginning of the
Advent Season
for
The Annual Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

In the stillness of this early winter night
we hear proclaimed once again
the words of prophets and evangelists...
the story of salvation retold
for a new generation of the Loyola Family.

As we approach the great feast of Christmas
and the coming of the Prince of Peace,
our world is torn by conflict and violence.
Let us rediscover, as we hear from Holy Scripture
and listen to carols sung near a brightly-lit tree,
the true meaning of Christmas.

For the Loyola Family here in this Chapel and all those across the country
we embrace the opportunity to share this season
of warmth with you through our music.

From the bottom of our hearts –
Peace to you & yours...

**A Very Happy Christmas
and Blessed New Year!**

Tonight's Lessons & Carols Service

is being streamed **LIVE** via the internet.

In order not to disrupt the service
for other members of the assembly
and internet listeners...

PLEASE TURN OFF

all chiming digital devices and mobile phones,

and

please do not talk

unless it is absolutely necessary.

Thank you!

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

*The assembly is invited to sing all **bold** verses.*

PRELUDE

JOY TO THE WORLD / ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

G.F. Handel, Arranged by Jeanne Cotter

Piano solo by Michael Moseley '26

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

English Traditional Carol (1848), Arranged by Sir David Willcocks (1919-2015)

This carol, which begins the service, has been sung every year.

Soloist: Claire Marino '24

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven – who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.

And through all his wondrous childhood he would honor and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden, in whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as he.

For he is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew:
And he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.

– Please Stand –

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.

OPENING PRAYER

Milton Bravo, Ph.D., Vice President for Mission and Identity

– Please Be Seated –

LESSON I: GENESIS 1:1-5

Thomas Webb, Class of 2027

YOU ARE THE LIGHT

Sarah Hart (2015), Arranged by Scott Soper

This carol is being performed for the first time this evening.

You are the light that stands alone in depth of night and eye of storm.
Where shadows fall, you enter in; ignite with hope what dark has dimmed.

And though our eyes may fail to see, it is the heart that's given sight
Through night and storm, to trust in you. Upon our path you are the light.

You are the word that's written deep within the hearts of all who long
For endless days beyond the skies for peace on earth, a kingdom come.
We sing the name that heals our souls, and share the way, the truth, the life.
For hearts that long, both lost and found, we speak the word: you are the light.

O you are God who spoke the dawn; the savior son who came in flesh
To be a lamp for wand'ring hearts, to steal our darkness by your death.

And as you rose, you gave us peace, your Spirit gift to kindly lead.
Sweet mystery, how true you guide. We look to you; you are the light.

LESSON II: ISAIAH 35: 1-6

Clare O'Brien, Class of 2026

LO, HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING

Text: C. Wesley and J. Cennick – Tune: *Helmsley*, 18th Century English

Arranged by John Rutter (2000)

Sung every year.

– Please Stand –

Lo! He comes with clouds descending, once for favored sinners slain;
Thousand, thousand saints attending, Swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! God appears, on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him. Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him; Pierced and nailed him to a tree.
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, Shall the true Messiah see.

Yea, Amen! Let all adore thee, High on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory, Claim the kingdom for thine own;
O come quickly! O come quickly! O come quickly!
Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

– Please Be Seated –

LESSON III: ISAIAH 9: 2-4, 6-7

Alexander Valencia, Class of 2025

KEEP YOUR LAMPS

Spiritual, Arranged by André J. Thomas (2003)

This carol is being performed for the first time this evening.

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.
Children, don't get weary 'til your work is done.
Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

A note on singing the Spirituals:

What does it mean to sing a Spiritual? Dr. Arthur C. Jones, Professor Emeritus of Music, Culture and Psychology at the University of Denver Lamont School of Music, and Founder and Chair Emeritus of *The Spirituals Project*, writes this of Spirituals:

They are available to all persons who are prepared to open themselves to the unsettling healing power that inhabits these marvelous songs of life... relevant not only to the specific circumstances of slavery but also to [those] struggling with issues of justice, freedom, and spiritual wholeness in all times and places.

To prepare to sing this piece, the choir has engaged with the history of slavery and the origins of Spirituals, through the writings of slave narratives, oral histories, and contemporary scholarship, so that we might perform this song with its original context and authors in our minds and hearts.

In this setting, we hear the timeless Advent theme from the story of the ten virgins and the bridegroom in Matthew 25: keep watch and keep ready, for the time of the coming of the Lord is nigh. We sing this carol intentionally after the lesson from the prophet Isaiah: "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." For the enslaved people who originally created and sang this Spiritual, we can imagine a double meaning: the coming of the Lord, and the coming of their freedom, is drawing nigh.

Our prayer is that this piece inspires us and all in our community to be people for and with others: standing with all who experience oppression, racism, and marginalization in our world today.

LESSON IV: ISAIAH 11:1-9

Lupe Labra Valencia, Class of 2024

GOD REST YOU MERRY GENTLEMEN

16th Century English Traditional Carol

Arranged by Sir David Willcocks (1961)

This carol was last performed at Lessons & Carols in 2021.

– Please Stand –

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray:
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy!

From God our heav'nly Father A blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born The Son of God by name: O tidings of comfort and joy...

The shepherds at those tidings Rejoiced much in mind, and left their flocks a-feeding,
In tempest, storm, and wind, and went to Bethlehem straightway
This blessed babe to find: O tidings of comfort and joy...

But when to Bethlehem they came, where at this infant lay,
They found him in a manger where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling Unto the Lord did pray: O tidings of comfort and joy...

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas all others doth deface: O tidings of comfort and joy...

– Please Be Seated –

LESSON V: LUKE 1: 26-38

Caroline Kovatch, Graduate Student in Clinical Professional Counseling

AVE MARIA

Text: *Hail Mary*, Music and additional text by Daniel Kantor

Arranged by Daniel Kantor and Rob Glover

This carol was last performed at Lessons & Carols in 2021.

Flutist: Elizabeth Ogletree '27

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum.

Benedicta tu in mulieribus,

Et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.

Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus,

Nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with you.

Blessed are you among all women; Blest is the fruit of your womb.

Jesus, formed in your faith. Ave Maria, Alleluia.

Jesus, born in your love, Ave Maria, Alleluia.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, the Lord is with you.

Pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

LESSON VI: LUKE 2:1-7

Ejuma Adoga, Case Manager, Student Support and Wellness Promotion

THIS SILENT NIGHT

Music and lyrics by Steven Bartoszewicz '14

Including *Lasst Uns Erfreuen, Geistliche Kirchengänge*, 1623

This carol, dedicated to the 2023 Loyola Chapel Choir, is being performed for the first time this evening.

Quiet night, a silent night, no familiar sound,
Frightened, weary, unprepared, they crossed the foreign ground.
To Bethlehem to bear a child, a future most unknown.
Surrounded by the grace of God, yet feeling so alone.

Darkest night and darkest hour, faint stars glow overhead.
Wand'ring through the streets they went to find the babe a bed.
A sordid stable, cattle kept amid the evening gloam.
Unsure of what would come to be so far away from home.

Then like the morning's dawn, a ray of light shone through,
And for a moment time stood still with peace and hope anew.
Through the dark, be our light, bring us home this silent night.

Quiet night this silent night, the journey's now our own.
A choice to make, a chance to take, a flight from what we've known.
The time is nearing, can't go back, the present's now the past.
With doubt and with uncertainty we see the die is cast.

Darkness may cover us, grim shadows of the night.
Though as that eve in Bethlehem, love will be our light.
Through the dark, be our light, bring us home this silent night.
Grant us peace, give us sight, make us whole this silent night.

LESSON VII: LUKE 2: 8-14

Danny Esposito, Sustainability Coordinator, Facilities and Risk Management

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

18th Century French Carol, *Les Anges dans nos Campagnes*, first published in 1855
Arranged by William Atwood
This carol was last performed at Lessons & Carols in 2018.

– Please Stand –

(Women & Higher Voices)
Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echo back their joyous strains:
ALL: Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

(Men & Lower Voices)
Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song...

(Choir only)
Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King...

(All)
See Him in a manger laid,
Whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
While our hearts in love we raise...

– Please Be Seated –

LESSON VIII: MATTHEW 2: 1-11

Cheryl Moore-Thomas, Ph.D., Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Gifts from "Presents for Christmas" are placed under the tree.

THE FIRST NOWELL

18th Century Cornish Carol, First published in 1823

Arranged by Sir David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Sung every year.

(Men & Lower Voices)

The first Nowell the angel did say

Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay

In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,

On a cold winter's night that was so deep:

ALL: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

(Women & Higher Voices)

They looked up and saw a star,

Shining in the east beyond them far;

And to the earth it gave great light,

And so it continued both day and night:

ALL: Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

(Choir)

And by the light of that same star, three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

(All)

Then let us all with one accord,

Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,

That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,

And with his blood mankind hath bought:

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

REFLECTION

– Please Stand –

LESSON IX: JOHN 1:1-14

Terrence Sawyer, J.D., President

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

English Carol, John Francis Wade, 1751

Adeste Fideles attributed to St. Bonaventure, 13th cent.

Arranged by Sir David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Sung every year.

Organist: Michael Moseley '26

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.

(Choir)

God of God, Light of Light, Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, Begotten not created;

ALL: 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 heav'n 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.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning.
Jesu, to Thee be all glory giv'n
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

– Please Be Seated –

CLOSING REMARKS

Seán Bray, Assistant Vice President for Mission and Director of Campus Ministry

– Please Stand –

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Rev. Phil Hurley, S.J., University Chaplain

SIGN OF PEACE

FINAL BLESSING

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

English Carols, Hymns & Sacred Poems, 1739

Mendelssohn tune adapted by W.H. Cummings, 1855

Arranged by Sir David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Sung every year.

Hark! the herald angels sing; “Glory to the new-born King;”
Peace on earth, and mercy mild; God and sinners reconciled!
Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark, the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King!”

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin’s womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark, the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King!”

Hail the heav’n born Prince of Peace! Hail the son of Righteousness!
Light and Life to all he brings, Risen with healing in his wing;
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.
Hark, the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King!”

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our Gratitude and Thanks to...

The Loyola University Chapel Choir 2023

Laura McCormack – Director

Midori Ataka – Accompanist

Steven Bartoszewicz – Rehearsal Leader and Accompanist

Grace D’Amico*, Edward McGillicuddy, Caty Galgano, Michael Moseley – Music Interns

Katherine Albert, Nicole Baccallao*, Maura Budd*, Elijah Cervantes, Makayla Chaplinski,
Grace D’Amico*, Evelyn Donovan, Caty Galgano, Lang Gibson, April Gregory*,
Cara Lamina, Martin Le, Samantha Leece, Peter LoPresti*, Claire Marino*, Philip McCaffrey,
Edward McGillicuddy, Judith Menjivar Morales, Michael Moseley, Nikolas Musante,
Benjamin Napolitano, Clare Noone, Taylor Pitts, Conor Reilly, Leah Rottler-Gurley,
Casey Scott, Morgan Sessa, Shiloh Shea, Navaa Shepard, Natalie Tangrea,
Katie Tomassone, Madeline Woltjen

**Members of the Class of 2024*

Loyola Chapel Choir Alumni & Friends

Ryan Andrews, Michael Appello, Steven Bartoszewicz, Anna DeBlasio,
Tina Esser, Maddie Ferrero, Dana Hall, Bonnie Kabara, Mark Lee,
Clay Price, Sara Scalzo, Brendan Sweeney

Lessons & Carols Orchestra 2023

Evan Honse & Ginger Turner – Trumpet

David Perkel & David Dochterman – Trombone

Eric Plewinski – Timpani

Melina Gajger & Christof Heubner – Violin

Jackie Capecci – Viola

Peter Kibbe – Cello

Special Thanks

Katherine Albert, Drew Carrier, Justin Doo, Aubrey Rosario, Erin Ptack

Campus Ministry Professional Staff

Seán Bray, Mark Dushel, Emily Kane, Valentin Mudiay, Saima Sitwat

Campus Ministry Interns and Graduate Assistants

Erin Altenbach, Grace Bankole, Shreya Choudhary*, Luci Fiorini, Reilly Hylton, Caroline Kovatch,
Chahat Kumari, Shannon LaMotta, Emily Metheny, Yulianna Otero Asmar, Zaira Rehman,
Leah Rottler-Gurley, Lupe Labra Valencia*, Myah Wortham

Presents for Christmas

Pat Cassidy – Associate Director, Center for Community Service and Justice
Maeve Walsh – Student Intern, Center for Community Service and Justice
Allison Rimmell – Graduate Assistant, Center for Community Service and Justice

Community Partner Agencies

Govans Elementary School	Catholic Charities
Choice Program	Esperanza Center
Refugee Youth Project	Nexus-Woodbourne

The Office of Event Services

Video & Live-Stream Recording

The Office of Event Services
Joe Bradley, Scott McCabe,
Mike Clark, Pat Durkin, Jason Crebs,
and the entire Events Staff!

Thank you for joining us this evening!