

Lessons and Carols 2020

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



Opening Sentences

The first phrase will be spoken by five leaders: Kathryn Threadgill (English), Ralph Su (Mandarin), Rosa Miranda (Spanish), Moongil Cho (Korean), Princeton Abaraoha (Igbo).

**Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth!**

Ps. 96:1–2

Then Bill McConnell (English) will say:

Sing to the Lord and bless God's name;
tell the good news of salvation from day to day.

Hymn

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" (GTG 133)

Gillian Hollis, Bill McConnell

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, all
glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord!

Prayer

The Rev. Dr. Diane Givens Moffett

Lesson: Isaiah 9:2, 6

A great light in the darkness

Princeton Abaraoha (Igbo)

² 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.

⁶ For 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.

Carol "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" / "Jesus, the Light of the World" (GTG 127)

Carter Anderson, Alonzo Johnson, Bill McConnell

Hark! the herald angels sing.
Jesus, the light of the world.
Glory to the newborn King,
Jesus, the light of the world.

(Refrain) We'll walk in the light, beautiful light.
Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.
O, shine all around us by day and by night.
Jesus, the light of the world.

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Jesus, the light of the world.
Hail, the Sun of righteousness!
Jesus, the light of the world.

(Refrain) We'll walk in the light, beautiful light.
Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.
O, shine all around us by day and by night.
Jesus, the light of the world.

Lesson: Isaiah 11:1–4a, 6

A little child will lead them

Ralph Su (Mandarin)

¹¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

² The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

Carol "Dream On, Dream On" (GTG 383)

David Gambrell, So Jung Kim, Bill McConnell

꿈을 꾸세 평화의 자녀
주의 나라 이르도록
양과 늑대 함-께 놀--고
사자들도 풀-을 뜯으며
독사들도 흙을 먹고
상처주지 않는곳
서로 다른 모-든 백-성
평화롭게 살리라

Dream on, dream on, children of peace,
Till on earth God's kingdom come.
Wolf and lamb will feed together;
Lions like oxen will eat straw,
Dust shall be the serpent's food;
No one shall destroy or hurt.
Children of earth in all colors,
Live in peace and harmony.

Lesson: Luke 1:26–31 An angel appears to Mary William McConnell (English)

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.

Carol "Jesus, Jesus, Oh What a Wonderful Child" (GTG 126)

Carter Anderson, Alonzo Johnson, Bill McConnell

Jesus, Jesus, O what a wonderful child.
Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and mild;
new life, new hope the child will bring.
Listen to the angels sing:
"Glory, glory, glory!"
Let the heavens ring.

Lesson: Matthew 1:18–23

An angel appears to Joseph

Rosa Miranda (Spanish)

¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ 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. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.”

Carol

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” (GTG 121)

David Gambrell, Gillian Hollis, Bill McConnell

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us; abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!

Lesson: Luke 2:1–7

Mary gives birth in Bethlehem

Elona Street-Stewart (English)

² In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ 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. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ 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.

Carol

“Jesucito de mi vida”

David Gambrell, Gillian Hollis, Bill McConnell

Jesucito de mi vida,
tú eres niño como yo,
por eso te quiero tanto
y te doy mi corazón.

Buen Jesús, tómallo;
tuyo es, mío no.
Buen Jesús, tómallo;
tuyo es, mío no.

Lesson: Luke 2:8–14

Angels announce the Messiah

Gregory J. Bentley (English)

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

Carol

“¡Gloria, gloria, gloria!” (GTG 584)

Marissa Galván-Valle, David Gambrell

¡Gloria, gloria, gloria,
en las alturas a Dios!
¡Gloria, gloria, gloria,
en las alturas a Dios!

Y en la tierra, paz a la gente
que ama el Señor.

Y en la tierra, paz a la gente
que ama el Señor.

Glory, glory, glory,
glory be to God on high!
Glory, glory, glory,
glory be to God on high!

And on earth peace to all people
in whom God is well pleased.

And on earth peace to all people
in whom God is well pleased.

Lesson: Luke 2:15–16

Shepherds go to see the child

Moongil Cho (Korean)

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Carol

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain” (GTG 136)

Carter Anderson, Gillian Hollis, Alonzo Johnson, Bill McConnell

(Refrain) Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
o’er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light.

(Refrain) Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

The shepherds feared and trembled
when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior’s birth.

(Refrain) Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

Down in a lowly manger
the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn.

(Refrain) Go, tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

Lesson: Matthew 2:1–3, 7–11

Magi come from the East

Kimberly Bracken Long (English)

² In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² 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.”³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him.⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared.⁸ 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.”⁹ 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.¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.¹¹ 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.

Carol

“De tierra lejana venimos” (PH 64)

Marissa Galván-Valle, David Gambrell, Bill McConnell, Flor Vélez-Días

De tierra lejana venimos a verte,
nos sirve de guía la estrella de Oriente.
O brillante estrella que anuncias la aurora
no nos falte nunca tu luz bienhechora.

Al recién nacido que es Rey de los reyes,
oro le regalo para ornar sus sienes.
O brillante estrella que anuncias la aurora
no nos falte nunca tu luz bienhechora.

Como es Dios el niño le regalo incienso,
perfume con alma que sube hasta el cielo.
O brillante estrella que anuncias la aurora
no nos falte nunca tu luz bienhechora.

Al niño del cielo que bajó a la tierra,
le regalo mirra que inspira tristeza.
Gloria en las alturas al Hijo de Dios,
Gloria en las alturas y en la tierra amor.

Lesson: John 1:1–5, 14

And the Word became flesh

Kathryn Threadgill (English)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.² He was in the beginning with God.³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.¹⁴ 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.

Carol

“Silent Night, Holy Night” (GTG 122)

David Gambrell, Gillian Hollis, So Jung Kim, Flor Vélez-Días

고요한밤 거룩한밤
어둠에 묻힌밤
주의부모 앉아서
감사기도 드릴때
아기잘도 잔다
아기잘도 잔다

¡Noche de paz, noche de amor!
Todo duerme en derredor,
entre los astros que esparcen su luz,
bella, anunciando al niño Jesús,
brilla la estrella de paz,
brilla la estrella de paz.

Douce nuit, sainte nuit!
Dans les cieux! L'astre luit.
L'mystère annoncé s'accomplit.
Cet enfant sur la paille endormi,
c'est l'amour infini!
C'est l'amour infini!

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.

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II

Lord's Prayer

Spoken by five leaders: Kathryn Threadgill (English), Ralph Su (Mandarin), Rosa Miranda (Spanish), Moongil Cho (Korean), Princeton Abaraoha (Igbo).

Hymn

"Joy to the World" (GTG 134)

Amantha Barbee, Gillian Hollis, Bill McConnell

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.

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.

Blessing

The Rev. Dr. Diane Givens Moffett