Trinity Presbyterian Church Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols December 21, 2014

PRELUDE Recorder Duo: Petrea Brenckle & Jane Dykema Joy to the World!: Hark the Harold Angels Sing: Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head: Silent Night: Twas The Moon of Wintertime

BIDDING HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Congregation Trinity Hymnal #151 (vs 1, 2)

BIDDING PRAYER

FIRST LESSON

Matthew Leskinen

God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head. Genesis 3:15

SECOND LESSON

Caleb Dykema The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour. Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

CAROL

Wonderful Counselor

Beth Nagle

Congregation sings refrain: Sing hallelujah to the wonderful Counselor, Sing halleluiah to the mighty God: Sing halleluiah to the Father forever, Sing hallelujah to the true Prince of peace

THIRD LESSON

Parker Zitzke

The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour. Isaiah 9:2, 6 &7

CAROL O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Brass Ensemble from Grace Notes Community Orchestra

FOURTH LESSON

Darwin Greenwald The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown. Isaiah 11:1-10

CAROL Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming

Brass Ensemble from Grace Notes Community Orchestra

FIFTH LESSON

Steve Reich

The prophet foretells the birthplace of the Redeemer. Micah 5:2-5a

HYMN O Little Town of Bethlehem

Congregation Trinity Hymnal, # 152 (v 1, 4)

SIXTH LESSON Justin Dykema The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary. St Luke 1:26-38

CAROL

Mary Did You Know? O Beautiful Star

Burie Family

SEVENTH LESSON

Jeff & Ezra Pennington

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus. St. Luke 2:1-12

Candle lighting – As the light is passed from each one, please keep the lighted candles upright to avoid dripping wax. Tip the unlit candle to receive the light.

HYMN Silent Night

Beth Nagle & Congregation

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!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light; Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace. Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Extinguish candles

CAROL

Some Children See Him

Beth Nagle

EIGHTH LESSON

Jim Hummel & Alex Ruchti The army of heaven and sheep herders praise God and announce the Christ's *birth.* St. Luke 2:13-20

HYMN Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Trinity Hymnal, **# 168** (v 2, 3)

NINTH LESSON

Dale Dykema

The psalmist declares joy to the earth for the Savior reigns. Psalm 98:4-9

HYMN Joy to the World! Brass Ensemble from Grace Notes Community Orchestra

PRAYER & BLESSING

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is a service of Christian worship celebrating the birth of Jesus. The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus is told in nine short Bible readings, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols and hymns.

The service is of British origin. As we might break out the fine china for Christmas dinner, the British embellish this service with everything they've got, to make it worthy of so noble a festival. The readings (lessons) are normally proclaimed in a strict order, and by a hierarchy of readers, beginning with the humblest reader (perhaps a young chorister) and progressing through the bishop (if done in a cathedral), who always reads from Saint John's Gospel. The best-known version is broadcast annually from King's College, Cambridge on Christmas Eve. King's College first held this service in 1918. In 1919, the present arrangement of lessons and use of the beginning hymn, "Once in Royal David's City" was established. This festival service has since been adapted and used by other churches all over the world. Whether the music is provided by choir or congregation, the pattern and strength of the service derives from the lessons and not the music. "he main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God" ... "seen 'through the windows and words of the Bible."

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