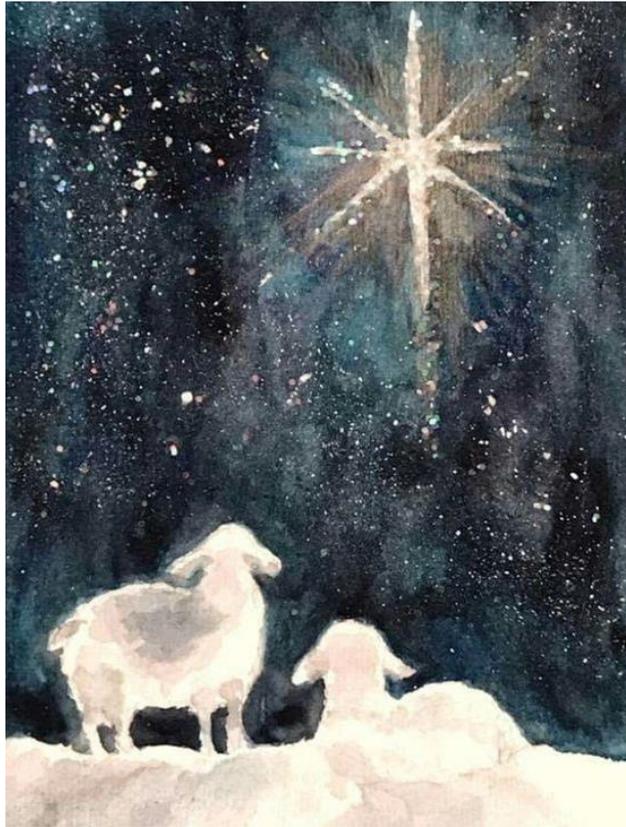


A Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols

*"I will light candles this Christmas...
candles that will burn all the year long."*

- H. Thurman



Cochran Chapel
Phillips Academy
Andover, Massachusetts
December 12, 2021
4:30 p.m.

Prelude

“Silent Night”
(Handbell Choir)

arr. Franz Xaver Gruber

Call To Worship

Processional Hymn 218

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

(Academy Chorus)

Please stand at the sound of the organ
and join in singing the final verse:

*O Come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
O bid our sad divisions cease,
And be for us the Prince of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

Prayer of Invocation

Dr. Mary Kantor

Choral Invocation

“Angeli canunt”
from *Angels! We Have Heard on High*

arr. Saunder Choir
(Academy Chorus)

*Hark!
The herald angels sing:
Joyful we rise -
Joining the triumph of the skies!*

First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Reading

"We Come Expecting Nothing"

by John Butterfield

"O Nata Lux"

Morten Lauridsen

(The Fidelio Society)

*O Light, born of light –
Jesus, redeemer of the world.*

Second Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-5

Reading

"Tonight is the Meeting Place"

by Wild Goose Worship Group

"Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen" arr. Donald Cashmore

and Praetorius

(Academy Chorus)

*This flower so small and slender,
Shines through with radiance bright -
To us so sweet and tender,
Dispels the darkest night.*

Third Lesson

Luke 1:26-33, 38

Hymn 229

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

(verses 1, 2 and 4)

Fourth Lesson

Luke 2:1-16

"I sing of a maiden"

Kevin Siegfried
(The Fidelio Society)

*He came all so still,
Where his mother was -
As dew in April,
That falleth on the grass.*

Fifth Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

Reading

"Star Giving"

by Ann Weems

Hymn 231

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

Sixth Lesson

John 1:1-14

Reading

“Christmas Comes”

by Maren Tirabassi

“Nòel Ayisyen”

Emilel Desamours

(The Fidelio Sociey)

*Shepherds and wisemen bowed down to worship him,
The gave him gifts according to what they had.*

*We'd have brought drums, manniboulas, vaccins, maracas;
With fine banjo strums we'd charm the little baby!*

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthems

Traditional English and American children's carols

“Carol of the Bells”

Mykola Leontovich

“Away In A Manger” arr. Kevin Siegfried, Michael Belcher

from *Black Nativity*

Langston Hughes

(Children's Choir,

with Academy Chorus and Gospel Choir)

And the people sing songs of good cheer:

Christmas is here!

Merry, merry Christmas!

Reading

"I Will Light Candles This Christmas"

by Howard Thurman

Prayers of the People

Choral Response

"Angels We Have Heard on High" arr. Saunder Choir

*Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing:
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

Recessional Hymn 245

"Joy to the World! The Lord is Come"

Benediction

Postlude

Christmas Carols

(Brass Ensemble)



A Note of Welcome

Thank you for joining us this afternoon. The tradition of Lessons and Carols in Cochran Chapel has long been a favorite for the campus and wider community at Andover. We very much missed gathering in this space for ritual, music and readings last December. The virtual version was lovely, but missed a chance for our communities to share the spirit of the season together. So, this year feels extra precious—since we have learned that every opportunity to gather is a gift.

This year, I have interspersed some prose and poetry among the sacred lessons of scripture, familiar carols, and musical selections. With an eye towards opening these rituals to better reflect the diversity of our identities, faith backgrounds and intimate knowledge of this traditional ceremony. It has been my experience that modern poets, theologians and writers can help me hear and know this age-old story in new ways that resonate for my life and the current moment of the world. I hope these additions help you enter into the story of Advent and Christmas in renewed ways as well.

With blessing of hope, peace, love and joy,
Rev. Gina

Musical Notes

Welcome and Merry Christmas! Lessons and Carols comes from a service tradition formed in England, made famous by King's College, Cambridge. In trying to tie this traditional British service to our own community at Phillips Academy, it seems appropriate to create a dialogue between traditional carols and choral arrangements of carols from around the world and contemporary, living composers. We are glad you are here and able to join us for an afternoon of quiet and contemplation, joy and jubilation, tradition and longstanding-Christmas favorites, youthful energy and inspiring new works. Thank you for joining us!



Please note, in the event of an emergency, please exit the Chapel through the doors in the front and rear of the Chapel. For your safety, take a moment to note these exits.