



“You will seek Me and find Me,  
when you seek Me with all your heart.”

*Jeremiah 29:13*

**O** *Source of all good,*  
*what shall I render to Thee for the Gift of gifts,*  
*Thine own dear Son, begotten, not created,*  
*my redeemer, proxy, surety, substitute,*  
*His self-emptying incomprehensible,*  
*His infinity of love beyond the heart's grasp.*

**Herein is Wonder of wonders:**  
*He came below to raise me above,*  
*was born like me that I might become like Him.*

**Herein is love:**  
*when I cannot rise to Him He draws near on wings of grace,*  
*to raise me to Himself.*

**Herein is power:**  
*when Deity and humanity were infinitely apart*  
*He united them in indissoluble unity,*  
*the uncreated and the created.*

**Herein is wisdom:**  
*when I was undone, with no will to return to Him,*  
*and no intellect to devise recovery,*  
*He came, God-incarnate, to save me to the uttermost,*  
*as man to die my death,*  
*to shed satisfying blood on my behalf,*  
*to work out a perfect righteousness for me.*

(from *Valley of Vision*)

# *Gift of Gifts*

A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS  
*28<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration at First Evan*

**December 11, 2016**

**PRESENTED BY**  
First Evan *Worship Choir*  
with orchestra  
Readers from the Congregation

## Orchestral Prelude

### “CHRISTMAS EVE”

*N. Rimsky-Korsakov*



## Choral Introit

### “SEE AMID THE WINTER’S SNOW”

*(choir)*

**A**lleluia. Alleluia.

See, amid the winter’s snow,  
Born for us on earth below,  
See the tender Lamb appears,  
Promised from eternal years.  
*Hail, thou ever blessed morn,  
Hail redemption’s happy dawn,  
Sing through all Jerusalem:  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem.”  
Alleluia, alleluia.*

Lo, within a manger lies  
He who built the lofty skies,  
He, who, throned in light sublime,  
Sits amid the cherubim.  
*Hail thou ever blessed morn,  
Hail, redemption’s happy dawn,  
Sing throughout Jerusalem:  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem.”  
Alleluia, alleluia!*

Sacred infant, all divine,  
What a tender love was Thine,  
Thus to come from highest bliss,  
Down to such a world as this.  
*Hail thou ever blessed morn,  
Hail, redemption’s happy dawn,  
Sing through all Jerusalem:  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”*

## Carol

*(all, standing)*

**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,  
O sing, all ye citizens of heav’n 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.*

Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,  
With joy we embrace Thee, with awe and love;  
Who would not love Thee, loving us so dearly?  
*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!  
Jesus 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. Amen!*

*(please be seated)*

## Welcome & Opening Prayer

Cole Huffman, Senior Pastor



## Interlude

*A. Glazunov*

LESSON #1  
**The Gift of Mercy**

**Genesis 3:8-15**

**“ALL WE LIKE SHEEP”**

*(choir)*

**All** we like sheep have gone astray,  
Each of us turned to his own way;  
Out in a world so dark and cold,  
Far from safety, far from the fold.

*Send us a Shepherd, send us a Lamb,  
Send a Redeemer, O, great I AM.  
Though we're unworthy, Lord by Your grace,  
Send us a Savior to die in our place.*

For we all have sinned, we're the seed of the fall:  
And the price must be paid once and for all.

*Send us a Shepherd, send us a Lamb,  
Send a Redeemer; O, great I AM,  
Though we're unworthy, Lord by Your grace,  
Send us a Savior to die in our place!*

LESSON #2  
**The Gift of Promise**

**Isaiah 7:14; 9:6-7**

**“EMMANUEL (HALLOWED MANGER GROUND)”**

*(all, standing)*

**What** hope we hold this starlit night:  
**A King is born in Bethlehem.**  
**Our journey long, we seek the light**  
**That leads to the hallowed manger ground.**

**What** fear we felt in the silent age,  
**Four hundred years; can He be found?**  
**But broken by a Baby's cry**  
**Rejoice in the hallowed manger ground.**

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
God incarnate here to dwell.  
Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
Praise His name: Emmanuel.*

**The Son of God, here, born to bleed;**  
**A crown of thorns would pierce His brow.**  
**And we beheld this offering;**  
**Exalted now, the King of kings,**  
**Praise God for the hallowed manger ground.**

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
God incarnate here to dwell.  
Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
Praise His name: Emmanuel.  
Praise His name: Emmanuel.*

*(please be seated)*

LESSON #3  
**The Gift of Hope**

Isaiah 11:1-3a

“LO, HOW A ROSE E’ER BLOOMING” *with*  
“OF THE FATHER’S LOVE BEGOTTEN”

*(choir)*

**L**o, how a Rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse’s lineage coming as saints of old have sung.  
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,  
When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah ’twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.  
To show God’s love aright she bore to us a Savior,  
When half-spent was the night.

Of the Father’s love begotten, e’re the world began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore.

Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung.  
Evermore and evermore. Evermore.

LESSON #4  
**The Gift of Service**

Luke 1:26-27, 30-35, 38

“ALMOST THERE”

*(choir)*

**M**ary, full of innocence, carrying the holy Prince;  
You’re almost there, you’re almost there.  
Mother of the living Word, trusting in the voice you heard;  
You’re almost there, you’re almost there.  
*You’re almost where the angels see Redemption’s plan unfolding.  
All hope is in the Son you’ll bear; you’re almost there.*

A lonely road, a willing heart, pray for strength to do your part;  
You’re almost there, you’re almost there.  
Trust the Father to provide, Bread of heaven prophesied;  
You’re almost there, you’re almost there.  
*You’re almost where the waiting ends, delivering the life within,  
The answered prayer, Emmanuel; you’re almost there.*

*You’re almost where the journey ends,  
Where death will die and life begins.  
The answered prayer, Emmanuel; you’re almost, almost there.*

*You’re almost where the waiting ends, delivering the life within,  
The answered prayer, Emmanuel; you’re almost there.*

*You’re almost where your journey ends,  
Where death will die and life begins.  
The answered prayer, Emmanuel; you’re almost there.*

*You’re almost there.*

LESSON #5  
**The Gift of Joy**

---

Luke 2:1-7

**“JOY TO THE WORLD”**

*(all, standing)*

**J**oy 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.

**J**oy to the earth! The Savior reigns:  
Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

**N**o more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground:  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

**H**e 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!

*(choir)*

And wonders, wonders of His love!

*(please be seated)*

LESSON #6  
**The Gift of Good News**

---

Luke 2:8-12

**“THIS CHRISTMASTIDE”**

*(solo & choir)*

**G**reen and silver, red and gold, and a story born of old.  
Truth and love and hope abide, this Christmastide.

From a simple ox’s stall came the greatest gift of all.  
Truth and love and hope abide, this Christmastide.

Children sing of peace and joy at the birth of one small boy.  
Truth and love and hope abide, this Christmastide.

Let the bells ring loud and clear, ring out now for all to hear.  
Truth and love and hope abide, this Christmastide.

Trumpets sound and voices raise in an endless stream of praise.  
Truth and love and hope abide, this Christmastide.

Green and silver, red and gold, and a story born of old.  
Peace and love and hope abide, this Christmastide.

LESSON #7  
**The Gift of Glory**

---

Luke 2:13-14

**“GLORY TO GOD”**

*(choir)*

**G**lory to God in the highest,  
And on earth peace, good will toward men!

LESSON #8  
**The Gift of Peace**

---

**Luke 2:15-20**

**“WHERE SHEPHERDS LATELY KNELT”**

*(choir)*

**W**here shepherds lately knelt, and kept the angel’s word,  
I come in half-belief, a pilgrim strangely stirred;  
But there is room and welcome there for me.  
But there is room and welcome there for me.

In that unlikely place I find Him as they said:  
Sweet newborn Babe, how frail! and in a manger bed:  
A still small Voice to cry one day for me.  
A still small Voice to cry one day for me.

How should I not have known Isaiah would be there,  
His prophecies fulfilled? With pounding heart I stare:  
A Child, a Son, the Prince of Peace for me.  
A Child, a Son, the Prince of Peace for me.

Can I, will I forget how Love was born and burned  
Its way into my heart unasked, unforced, unearned,  
To die, to live, and not alone for me, for me?  
To die, to live, and not alone for me.

LESSON #9  
**The Gift of Worship**

---

**John 1:1-4,14**

**“WE ADORE YOU”**

*G. da Palestrina*

*(choir)*

**W**e adore You, O Holy Child.  
Incarnate Son of the Father.  
We magnify You, King of Glory.  
Mighty God, our Savior.  
*Hallelujah, hallelujah.*  
*Holy Lord, holy Lord,*  
*We adore You, Jesus.*

LESSON #10  
**The Gift of Life**

---

Hebrews 2:14-17

*(all, standing)*

**F**airest Lord Jesus! Ruler of all nature,  
O Thou of God and man the Son!  
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,  
Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown!

**Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!**  
**Son of God and Son of Man!**  
**Glory and honor, praise, adoration,**  
**Now and forevermore be Thine!**

“COME BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY”

**C**ome behold the wondrous mystery,  
In the dawning of the King.  
He, the theme of heaven's praises,  
Robed in frail humanity.  
In our longing, in our darkness,  
Now the light of life has come.  
Look to Christ, Who condescended,  
Took on flesh to ransom us.

**Come behold the wondrous mystery,**  
**He, the perfect Son of Man.**  
**In His living, in His suffering,**  
**Never trace nor stain of sin.**  
**See the true and better Adam**  
**Come to save the hell-bound man.**  
**Christ, the great and sure fulfillment**

**Of the law; in Him we stand.**  
**Come, behold the wondrous mystery,**  
**Christ the Lord, upon the tree.**  
**In the stead of ruined sinners**  
**Hangs the Lamb in victory.**  
**See the price of our redemption;**  
**See the Father's plan unfold,**  
**Bringing many sons to glory,**  
**Grace unmeasured, love untold.**

**Come behold the wondrous mystery,**  
**Slain by death the God of life;**  
**But no grave could e'er restrain Him,**  
**Praise the Lord! He is alive!**  
**What a foretaste of deliverance,**  
**How unwavering our hope;**  
**Christ in power, resurrected,**  
**As we will be when He comes!**

**What a foretaste of deliverance,**  
**How unwavering our hope,**  
**Christ in power, resurrected,**  
**As we will be when He comes!**

*(please be seated)*



**Message**  
Cole Huffman, Senior Pastor



LESSON #11  
**The Gift of Gifts**

Hebrews 1:1-4, 6

“HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING”

*(all, standing)*

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

**Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, hail th’incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as Man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
*Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”***

**Hail! The heaven born Prince of Peace!**

**Hail! The Son of righteousness!**

**Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.  
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 newborn King!”***

*(choir)*

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King, Newborn King!”



**Benediction**

## *Together for Christmas*

**This Morning**  
*International Brunch*  
10:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, December 18**

### **FESTIVAL OF WONDER**

Sunday School, 9:00–10:15 a.m.

**Children, 9:00–10:30 a.m.**

Nursery open, Preschool/Kindergarten Sunday School  
Elementary *Happy Birthday, Jesus Party, C210*

**Fellowship, 10:15 a.m.–10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall**

**Children, 10:30 a.m.–noon, Nursery open**  
Preschool/Kindergarten *Happy Birthday, Jesus Party, C210*

**One Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.–noon, Sanctuary**  
Elementary students worship with parents  
*No Evening Service*

**Saturday, December 24**

### **FESTIVAL OF JOY**

**Christmas Eve Service, 5:00 p.m., Sanctuary**  
Child care: 2 years old and under only

**Sunday, December 25 — No Service**

**December 23–26, & 31, 2016 & January 1–2, 2017**  
*Church offices closed for Christmas and New Year’s*  
*Finance Office open Saturday, December 31 until 3:00 p.m.*

**January 1, 2017**

### **FESTIVAL OF NEW BEGINNINGS**

*No Adult Sunday School*

**One Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.–noon, Sanctuary**  
Elementary students worship with parents

**Children, 10:45 a.m.–noon**

Nursery open, Preschool/K Sunday School  
*No Evening Service*

## Readers

Lesson	9:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
1.	Francie Leslie, Brazil	Erv Storck
2.	Vivian Danis, Netherlands	Nancy Webb
3.	Graziella Fichthorn, Italy	Joseph Marsh
4.	Marie Fowler, England	Mallory Berry
5.	Laura Christison, Scotland	Jackson Beach
6.	Shweta Duggirala, India	Jean Coleman
7.	Coco Huang, China	Mae Sistrunk
8.	Betty Baird, Jamaica	Lauren Kelly
9.	Margo Varela, Argentina	Mack Riggs
10.	Don Van, Vietnam	Lance Minor
11.	Jalila Kumtor, South Sudan	Jean Hoppe

*The Lord has blessed our church with a wonderful diversity of people, reflected as we honor those in our midst who were born in other countries by having them read the Lessons during the 9:00 a.m. service. We want to also give testimony thereby to the fact that Jesus came into the world for ALL the peoples of the earth. At the 10:45 a.m. service we are using readers from a broad spectrum of age groups in our congregation.*

## Orchestra

**Members of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra and friends**  
**Bob Westbrook, Contractor**

## First Evan Worship Choir

<b>Ron Man, Pastor of Worship/Missionary in Residence, Director</b>		
David Allen	Loren Friesen	Rachel Rogers
Judy Baird	Eric Fuhrman	JemmiLou Rushing Rye
Becky Banks	Beverly Garrison	Kassie Sanborn
Martha Banks	Deborah Graves	Phil Sistrunk
Cindy Beebe	Jeanette Haney	Olivia Grace Sistrunk
Allan Bowden	Nancy Hart	Hugh Spell
Heidi Branam	Glenda Hartmann	Jan Spurlin
David Brumfield	Jamie Henwood	Shirley St. Hilaire
Garry Butler	Chip Hill	Kellye Stelling
Sara Butler	Lorinda Hill	Annette Stevenson
Laura Christison	John Hodges	Barbara Stewart
Sara Coates	Pam Holler	Myrna Storck
Linda Cook	Bernie Housholder	Christie Taylor
Vivian Danis	Eileen Hughes	Greg Thompson
Twyla Dixon	Rick Jordan	Kathy Thompson
Frank Duffy	Linda Lambert	Debora Thurman
Lauren Duffy	Colleen Lipscomb	Dan Torvik
Jeff Fendley	Peggy Massey	Daryl Vrbas
Matt Fenske	Mark McKenzie	Sharon Wappler
Michelle Fenske	John McWhorter	Sharon White
April Fichthorn	Daniel Newman	Susanna Winter
Genalee Findlay	Calvin Ozier	Mindy Wiseman
Barbara Flanagan	Darrell Raber	Sara Wright

## Instrumentalists from First Evan

<b>Bass</b>	Betsy Man	<b>Piano</b>	Jamie Scholik
<b>Bass Guitar</b>	Brian Craddock	<b>Percussion</b>	Bob Westbrook
<b>Cello</b>	Sarah Nowlin	<b>Trumpet</b>	Jeff Findlay
<b>French Horn</b>	Doris Shifflette	<b>Violin</b>	Daniel Gilbert
<b>Guitar</b>	Dan Frazier	<b>Violin</b>	Lori Gilbert
<b>Organ</b>	Trent England		

## Special Thanks

<b>Church Decorations</b>	Amy Person, Kelsey Berry, Carolyn Bowden, Val Gosney, Joan Johnston, Andrea Lopez, Kaye McWhorter, John David Moore, Katherine Moore, Stephanie Moore, Patsy Wheeler, First Evan Maintenance Staff
<b>Cover Artwork</b>	Emily Ozier
<b>Program Design &amp; Layout</b>	Stephanie Johnson
<b>Soloist</b>	JemmiLou Rushing Rye
<b>Sound</b>	Ryan Wiley, Nick Toebbe
<b>Worship Ministry Assistants</b>	April Fichthorn, Jan Spurlin

"See Amid the Winter's Snow," by Caswall/Goss/Forrest; © 2016 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc.; "All We Like Sheep," by Dan Burgess; © 1991 Dan Burgess Music Co.; "Emmanuel (Hallowed Manger Ground)," by Chris Tomlin/Ed Cash; © 2009 worshiptogether.com Songs/sixsteps Music/Vamos Pub., (admin by EMI CMG Pub)/Alletrop Music; "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming," by Jay Rouse; © 2015 and this edition © 2016 Lorenz Pub. Co.; "Almost There," by Grant/King/M. W. Smith/Keveren; © 2014 and this arr. © 2016 This is Your Time Music (admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com)/Grant Girls Music/Lotterhanme Music (admin by The Loving Co.; "Joy to the World," by Watts/Mason/ Wilberg; © 2001 Oxford University Press, Inc.; "This Christmastide," by Jane McCulloch/Donald Fraser; © 1988 Hinshaw Music, Inc.; "Glory to God (from Dona Nobis Pacem)" by Ralph Vaughn Williams; "Where Shepherds Lately Knelt," by Jaroslav Vajda/Craig Courtney; © 1995 Beckenhorst Press, Inc., and © 1986 Concordia Pub. House; "We Adore You (Adoramus Te)" by Palestrina/Mattheson; © 1990 Birdwing Music (admin. by The Sparrow Corp.); "Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery," by Papa/Boswell/Bleecker; © 2013 Love Your Enemies Publishing/McKinney Music, Inc./Bleecker Pub. (admin by Lifeway Worship); "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," by Wesley/Mendelssohn/arr. by Mack Wilberg; © 2001 Oxford University Press; CCLI #47316

