



Easter Lessons and Carols

*June 1, 2025
10:30am*

REID MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
2261 Walton Way, Augusta, Georgia 30904



A Festival of Lessons and Carols for Eastertide

June 1, 2025

10:30AM

SOUNDING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Brandi Casto-Waters

PRELUDE

Rejoice, the Lord is King

Hart Morris

HYMN

Te deum laudamus

Thaxted

All stand to sing.



1 We praise You and ack-nowl-edge You, O God, to be the Lord, The
2 The band of the a - pos - tles in glo - ry sing Your praise; The
3 You, Christ, are King of glo - ry, the ev - er - last - ing Son, Yet
4 You sit in splen-did glo - ry, en - throned at God's right hand, Up -



Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing, by all the earth a - dored. To You all an - gel
fel - low - ship of proph - ets their death-less voic - es raise. The mar - tyrs of Your
You, with bound-less love, sought to res - cue ev' - ry - one: You laid a - side Your
hold - ing earth and heav - en by forc - es You com - mand. We know that You will



pow - ers cry a-loud, the heav - ens sing, The cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim their
king - dom, a great and no - ble throng, Sing with the ho - ly Church through - out
glo - ry, were born of vir - gin's womb, Were cru - ci - fied for us and were
come as our Judge that fi - nal day, So help Your serv - ants You have re -



prais - es to You bring: "O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a -
all the world this song: "O all - ma - jes - tic Fa - ther, Your true and on - ly
placed in - to a tomb; Then by Your res - ur - rec - tion You won for us re -
deemed by blood, we pray; May we with saints be num - bered where prais - es nev - er



oth; Your maj - es - ty and glo - ry fill the heav - ens and the earth!"
Son, And Ho - ly Spir - it, Com - fort - er for - ev - er Three in One!"
prieve You o - pened heav - en's king - dom to all who would be - lieve.
end, In glo - ry ev - er - last - ing. A - men, O Lord, a - men!

Dear People of God: In this joyful Eastertide, it is our joy and delight to hear once more the message of the angel, "He is not here; he is risen," and to go again to the garden sepulcher to see the empty tomb.

Let us hear from Holy Scripture the stories of our Lord's great victory and triumph over our ancient enemies. Sin and death have truly been put to flight and the time of our liberation is at hand.

But first, in the power of the resurrection, let us pray to the Risen Lord, saying Lord, hear our prayer.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Minister For the whole bright earth, so lovingly created yet so compassionately redeemed, that it may speak again of the glory and majesty of God. For all nations and peoples of the earth, to whom God shows no partiality, that all may be transformed by mercy to live together in hope, let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Minister For the holy church, whose life is hid with Christ in God, that in all its diversity witness may be made to one Lord, one faith, one baptism. Let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Minister For all in authority, especially Donald our President, J. D. our Vice-President, the Congress and the Supreme Court; for the representatives to the United Nations; that they might be led to govern with equity and justice, bringing life to those in the shadow of death. Let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Minister For all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit; for all captives and prisoners and those living with illness, for whom Christ is risen with healing in his glorious wings, that they be comforted. Let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Minister For all who have died and for all who grieve, that in Christ who triumphs over death, they may find light perpetual and the blessed assurance of everlasting life. For all gathered in this assembly, that, like Mary Magdalene, the other Mary, and all witnesses to the Resurrection, we may see the tomb empty, and joyfully believing, walk in the newness of life. Let us pray to the Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Minister Rejoicing in the risen presence of our Lord, we commend all for whom we pray and ourselves to Christ. Confident in the victory of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

People For yours is the glory, O Risen Lord, and the praise, now and forever.

Minister Be present, O Risen Lord, in this your Church's Easter praise; that its anthems of joy and its proclamation of your victory may worthily celebrate both the mystery of your redeeming love and the majesty of your eternal glory.

People Amen.

The people are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON

Mary Magdalene and others
go to the tomb.

Mark 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

CAROL

Magdalen, Cease from Sobs and Sighs

Peter Hurford

*Magdalen, cease from sobs and sighs,
Wipe the teardrops from off thine eyes:
Simon the leper's feast is o'er;
Christ today needs thy nard no more.
Now thousand times may'st thou rejoice;
Now thousand times uplift thy voice. Alleluia.*

*Magdalen, bind upon thee now
Garland of gladness o'er thy brow:
Banish'd afar is grief and pain:
Welcome is sunshine after rain.
For Jesu Christ the world hath freed,
Triumphing over Death indeed.
Alleluia.*

THE SECOND LESSON

Jesus appears to the disciples.

Luke 24:36b-48

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

CAROL

Christ the Lord is risen again

Philip W. J. Stopford

*Christ the Lord is risen again,
Christ hath broken every chain!
Hark, the angels shout for joy,
Singing evermore on high,
Alleluia!*

*He who bore all pain and loss
Comfortless upon the cross,
Lives in glory now on high,
Pleads for us and hears our cry.
Alleluia!*

*He who gave for us his life,
Who for us endured the strife,
Is our Paschal lamb today!
We too sing for joy and say
Alleluia!*

*He who slumbered in the grave
Is exalted now to save;
Now through Christendom it rings
That the Lamb is King of kings.
Alleluia!*

*Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed,
Christ, thy ransomed people feed:
Take our sins and guilt away,
Let us sing by night and day,
Alleluia!*

THE THIRD LESSON

That same day on the way to Emmaus.

Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

CAROL

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

Claude Bass

*Jesus, Thou joy of loving hearts; thou fount of life, Thou light of men,
From the best bliss that earth imparts, We turn unfilled to Thee again.*

*Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood; Thou sav-est those that on Thee call;
To them who seek Thee, Thou art good, To them who find Thee all in all.*

*Our restless spirits yearn for Thee, Wher-e'er our changeful lot is cast;
Glad when Thy gracious smile we see, Blest when our faith can hold Thee fast.*

*O Jesus, ever with us stay, Make all our moments calm and bright;
Chase the dark night of sin away, Shed o'er the world Thy holy light.*

THE FOURTH LESSON

Jesus appears to Thomas.

John 20:24-31

Thomas (who was called the Twin) one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

CAROL

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Azmon



1 O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my dear Re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim
3 Je-sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease;
4 He speaks; and lis-tening to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive,
5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice-less ones, your loos-ened tongues em-ploy;
6 Glo-ry to God and praise and love be now and ev-er giv'n



the glo-ries of my God and King, the tri-umphs of his grace!
and spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of thy Name.
'tis mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
the mourn-ful bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.
ye blind, be-hold your Sa-vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!
by saints be-low and saints a-bove, the Church in earth and heav'n.

THE FIFTH LESSON

Jesus appears to Paul.

Acts 26:9-20

Paul said, "Indeed, I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things against the name of Jesus of Nazareth. And that is what I did in Jerusalem; with authority received from the chief priests, I not only locked up many of the saints in prison, but I also cast my vote against them when they were being condemned to death. By punishing them often in all the synagogues I tried to force them to blaspheme; and since I was so furiously enraged at them, I pursued them even to foreign cities. With this in mind, I was traveling to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests, when at midday along the road, your Excellency, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my companions. When we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.' I asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The Lord answered, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But get up and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you. I will rescue you from your people and from the Gentiles to whom I am sending you to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.' After that, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout the countryside of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance.

CAROL

Be Thou My Vision

Slane

1 Be thou my vis - ion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,

all else be nought to me, save that thou art
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Son!

thou my best thought, by day or my night,
 thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;
 Heart of my heart, what - ev - er I be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.
 still be my vi - sion, O Ru - ler of all.

THE SIXTH LESSON

We abide in Christ the true vine.

John 15:1-17

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

CAROL

If Ye Love Me

Philip Wilby

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever, ev'n the spirit of truth.

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Jesus is the Good Shepherd

John 10:11-16

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

CAROL

The Love of God

Allen James

If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not His only son, Shall He not also freely give us all things? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril or sword? Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. For neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creatures shall be able to separate us from the love of God, the love of God which is in our Lord Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY

Rev. Lien

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

All stand to sing and remain standing.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CAROL

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

St. Columba



1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good-ness fail-eth nev - er;
2 Where streams of liv-ing wa - ter flow, my ran-somed soul he lead - eth,
3 Per - verse and fool-ish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, be - side me;
5 Thou spread'st a ta - ble in my sight; thy unc - tion grace be - stow - eth;
6 And so through all the length of days thy good-ness fail-eth nev - er:



I noth - ing lack if I am his, and he is mine for ev - er.
and where the ver-dant pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
and on his shoul-der gent - ly laid, and home re - joic - ing brought me.
thy rod and staff my com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.
and oh, what trans-port of de - light from thy pure chal-ice flow - eth!
Good Shep-herd, may I sing thy praise with - in thy house for ev - er.

PRAYER

Dr. Casto-Waters

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant: Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. *Amen.*

POSTLUDE

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Calvin Hampton

Participating in Worship

Worship Leaders

Dr. Brandi Casto-Waters
Rev. Boyd Lien
Miss Riley Taylor
Miss Ella Chesney

Musicians

Dr. Wayne Lord
Chancel Choir
Master's Ringers

Friendship Pad

Linda McCall

Ushers

Elliott Woodward	Tennant Houston
John Robbins	Ben Kay, IV
Glen Owen	Jennifer Pennington

Liturgy— The liturgy for Easter Lessons and Carols was written by Robert Fain, former Rector of The Church of the Good Shepherd.

Flowers— The flowers are given to the glory of God and in appreciation for the Chancel Choir and the Master's Ringers.

Music— Music is reprinted by permission through OneLicense.net #A-721337

STAFF

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Reverend Nadine Ellsworth-Moran, Associate Pastor, ext. 301
Reverend Boyd Lien, Parish Associate, ext. 314
Dr. Wayne Lord, Organist/Choirmaster, ext. 315
Mrs. Jenny Davison, Children's Music Assistant
Ms. Joy Maple, Director of Christian Education, ext. 305
Mrs. Anna Sanders, Director of Mother's Day Out and Preschool, ext. 309
Mrs. Dawn McCraith, Director of Operations, ext. 302
Mrs. Becky Godbee, Communications Liaison, ext. 300
Mrs. Jenn Harrison, Financial Assistant, ext. 307
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Ms. Helen Moss, Custodian
Ms. Ramona Ballard, Custodian
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ACTIVE STEPHEN LEADERS

Myra Naglich	Mandy Boland
Jones Miller	Paul Luthman

ACTIVE STEPHEN MINISTERS

Jamie Driver	Indee Few
Becky Godbee	Carol Turner
Joy Maple	Kathryn McLeod
Barbara Miller	Ann Overstreet
Sonny Reece	Clay Stallworth



Hearing assistance. Hearing aid wearers with a "T" (telecoil) setting can now hear the service broadcast directly through their hearing aids. Others desiring hearing assistance may check out a portable receiver / headset.

