LESSONS & CAROLS 2025 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 9:30AM

Prelude

Carol Prelude from *Come Ye Faithful a Service of Carols* by Hal Hopson

Welcome and Call to Worship

Lighting of the Advent Candle - *LOVE*

Ryan & Jacquelyn Cunningham & Madelyn Jane

*Hymn: "Once in Royal David's City" (see opposite) Vs 1 - Solo, Ruby Good

Please remain seated until the 2nd verse. Sing 2, 4, & 6

Opening Prayer

First Lesson from Genesis 3: 8–15; 17–19

Reader: Ellen Milam

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

Carol - "O Come Emmanuel" by Elaine Hagenberg

Second Lesson from Genesis 22: 15–18

Reader: Ellen Milam

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

*#166 "Let All Mortal Flesh" - vs.3 Choir Alone

Third Lesson from Isaiah 9: 2; 6-7

Reader: Austin Milam

The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

*Carol #180- "What Child Is This"

Fourth Lesson from Isaiah 40:1-11

Reader: Austin Milam

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown. A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

Carol - "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" from *Come Ye Faithful*

Fifth Lesson from the Gospel of Luke 1: 26-35; 38

Reader: Mandy Williams

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

*Carol - "The Angel Gabriel" (see opposite)

Sixth Lesson from Luke 2: 1: 3-7

Reader: Mandy Williams St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus

Carol - Sussex Carol - by Elaine Hagenberg

Seventh Lesson from Luke 2: 8-16

Reader: Dustin Williams
The shepherds go to the manger.

*Carol - #195 "Silent Night, Holy Night" from *Come Ye Faithful* - vs. 2 in German:

verse two

Stille Nacht, heilige Nach! Alles schläft, einsam wacht Nur das traute, hoch heilige Paar. Holder Knabe mit lockigem Haar, Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh' Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh'

Eighth Lesson from the Gospel of Matthew 2: 1-11a

Reader: Dustin Williams
The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

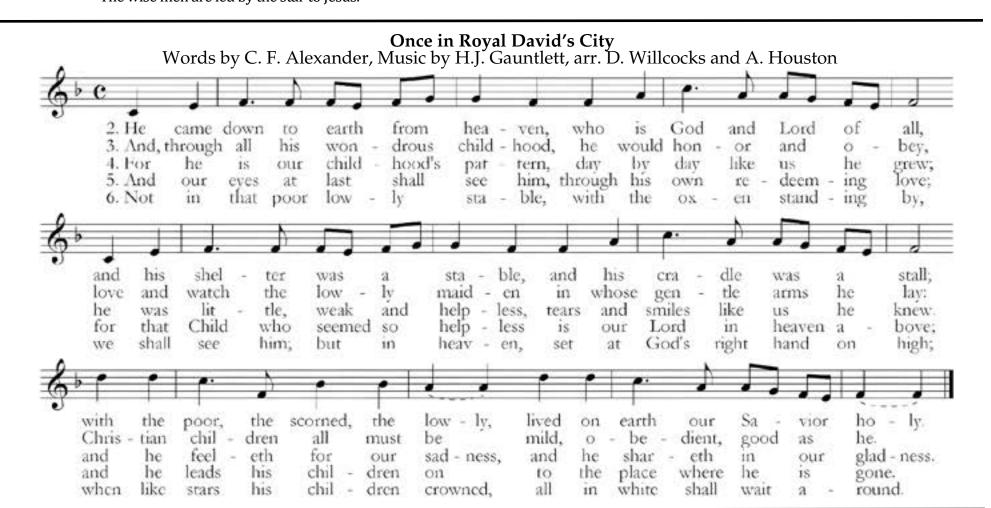
*Hymn #184 - "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing" from Come Ye Faithful

Blessing

Postlude - Postlude from *Come Ye Faithful*

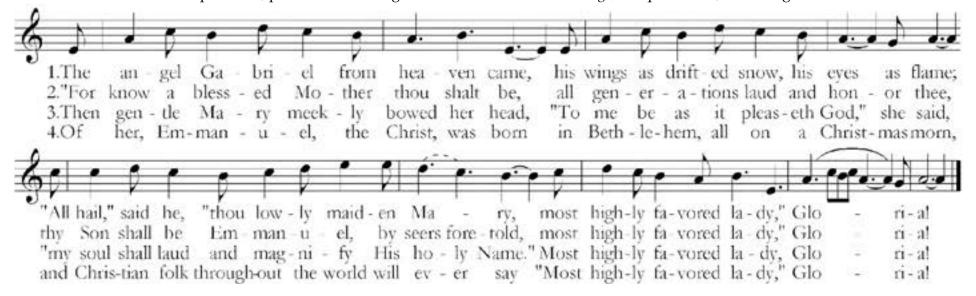
* Denotes to please stand, if able

(See back panel for acknowledgements.)



The Angel Gabriel

Words: Basque Carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould Music: Gabriel's Message, Basque Carole; harm Edgar Pettman



Gift Options to FPC

Calendar year 2025 is soon to end. Do you have tax issues? Would an income tax deduction moderate these issues? If so, please consider a gift to FPC through the following options:

Gifts by Check: When writing a check, the gift is complete when the check is mailed. So, as long as you mail it by Dec. 31st, you can deduct it for the current year even if the charity does not cash it until the next year, as long as it is postmarked the 31st.

Pledges: If you have made a pledge in a given year, or given a personal note, you cannot deduct this as a charitable contribution in that year unless you actually satisfy the pledge by Dec. 31st.

Gifts of Appreciated Property: Gifts of property that would result in a capital gain, if sold, produce even greater benefit for you than gifts made in cash, by check, or by credit card.

Gifts of Loss Property: Loss property is property that would generate a tax-deductible loss if you sold it. When you give the property to charity, you lose your deduction for the loss. However, when you sell the property, you can take the loss as a deduction, and then use the proceeds of the sale to make your deductible charitable gift.

Gifts of Stock: A gift of stock to a charity is considered complete, and thus deductible, when either (1) the stock certificate is endorsed over and mailed to the charity, or (2) ownership of the stock certificate is changed to the charity on the books of the corporation issuing the stock.

For questions or help, please contact Doreen Schaeffer in the church office at 830-609-7729 x 121.





Today's Musicians

Kirsten Boyd, Director of Music & Arts
First Protestant Sanctuary Choir
Robyn Blanchard, conductor
Cristal Martinez, Kate Salinas, Vastian Sitler & Abigail Rios, violin
Ames Asbell & Elizabeth Rojas, viola
Karla Hamelin & Erika Money, cello
Jonathan Rouse, bass
Erin Mallard, oboe
Roe Arteaga, flute
Collin Winters, percussion

Altar Flowers are placed in loving memory of Robert Markgraf Jr's 66th birthday by Suzanne and family.

Today's radio broadcast is given in memory of memory of Claudia & Herb Skoog by their Children, Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren

Sunday School

Sundays, 9:30am Adult Sunday School Classes
The River Rats! (Heritage House, 1st floor) - Rodney Fischer
Sundays, 9:30am Youth Sunday School Classes
Middle School (Bormann Room) Jodi Butler
High School (Bormann Room) Adam Burroughs
Children's Sunday School (The Well) - Lydia Keuer

Sundays, 11:00am Adult Sunday School Classes
Faithful Servants (Heritage House upstairs) – Lynn Herr
Legacy Builders (Heritage House main level) – Celeste Salge
Kingdom Seekers/C.A.L.M. Class (Heritage House upstairs)
Wayne Wise, Chris and Kristi Beabout
Kids' Music & Arts Activities (The Well) - Kirsten Boyd





172 W. Coll Street, New Braunfels, TX 78130 (830) 609-7729
"A spiritual home in the heart of the city."

December 21, 2025 First Service - 9:30 am

Welcome

Today's Lessons & Carols service joins Scripture and song in a tradition dating back to the late 19th century. The Scripture readings interweave with lyrics to recount the Fall, the promise of a Messiah, the Incarnation, and the Great Commission to proclaim the Good News of Christ's redemption. This year's music features works by Hal Hopson and Elaine Hagenberg, along with classic Christmas hymns. With the First Protestant Sanctuary Choir and orchestral guests, this joy filled service will lead you into the heart of the season.

We pray that you are drawn today ever closer to the Christ of Bethlehem, marveling at his great salvation and rejoicing in the hope of eternal life that he brings.

Rev. Dr. Andrew Keuer, Senior Minister



Join us for a heartwarming presentation of the Christmas story, brought to life by our children! The Nativity Pageant will feature all the beloved characters—Mary, Joseph, shepherds, angels, Wise Men, and even the animals of the manger. You won't want to miss this special celebration of the season!

We will then worship in song, followed by Pastor Andrew preaching the final message in the watchful church series.