

Virtual for 2020

A Celebration
of
Lessons & Carols
in
Kinderhook



Kinderhook Reformed Church
est. 1712

Kinderhook, New York

Note: This first virtual offering of the *Celebration of Lessons and Carols* in Kinderhook is drawn from the music presented and recorded on December 23rd, 2018, except for the opening remarks and the two organ preludes, which were recorded on December 21, 2020. Quite fortuitously the 2018 service, although only its music and not spoken words, was recorded and available to us for 2020.

INTRODUCTION

About lessons & carols, its history and establishment in Kinderhook. [00:01]

David Smith
Music Director and Organist
for the Celebration of Lessons & Carols

Note: As recorded beginning times are indicated in brackets as min:sec.

TWO ORGAN PRELUDES

In dulci jubilo (fantasia), BWV 729 [03:39] J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

In dulci jubilo, op. 28 [06:19] Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

WELCOME AND THE LORD'S GREETING [08:05]

Rev. Rudolph P. Visser
Pastor, Kinderhook Reformed Church

Adam lay ybounden [09:15] Boris Ord
(1897-1961)

O come, O come, Emmanuel [10:39]

The blessed son of God [14:42] Ralph Vaughan Williams
from *Hodie* (This Day) (1953/54) (1872-1958)

What Child is this? [17:19]

A tender shoot has started up [19:45] Oliver Goldschmidt
(1829-1907)

Lo! How a rose e'er blooming [21:30]

Here is the little door [24:07] Herbert Howells
(1892-1983)

Good Christian friends, rejoice [27:20]

Riu, riu, chiu [29:00] Mateo Flecha el Viejo
(1481-1553)

Richard Byrne Baritone

O little town of Bethlehem [31:37] (descant Armstrong)

I saw three ships come sailing in [35:10] English
(17th c.)

O come, all ye faithful [37:00]

(descant Willcocks)

Tollite hostias [40:40]

from *Oratorio de Noël*, op. 12 (1858)

Camille Saint-Saëns

(1835-1921)

Hark! the herald angels sing [42:48]

(descant Willcocks)

THE POSTLUDE

Toccata in F major [45:30]

Charles-Marie Widor

(1844-1937)

from the Symphony for Organ No. 5 in F minor, op. 42/1 (1879)



TRANSLATIONS

Riu, riu, chiu

Refrain: Riu, riu, chiu, the riverbank is protected, God kept the wolf from our lamb,

God kept the wolf from our lamb.

1. The rabid wolf wanted to bite her, but God Almighty could defend her. He wanted to make her so that she couldn't sin; this virgin wouldn't even have the original sin. *Refrain: Riu, riu, chiu, the riverbank is protected . . .*

2. The one who was born is the great monarch, Christ the patriarch made of flesh. He redeemed us by making himself a baby; though he was infinite, he made himself finite. *Refrain: Riu, riu, chiu, the riverbank is protected . . .*

6. Do well to accept what I'd heard, that God couldn't make but a mother of her, He who was her father today is born from her and He who sired her is called her Son. *Refrain: Riu, riu, chiu, the riverbank is protected . . .*

7. Since we now have what we desire, let us all go together and bring presents. We'll all give Him our good will since he came to be our equal. *Refrain: Riu, riu, chiu, the riverbank is protected . . .*

Tollite hostias

Bring offerings, and adore the Lord in his holy place.

Rejoice, heaven, and exult, all the earth, before the Lord, for he comes.

Alleluia.



For making this 2020 video possible thanks are extended to all who performed in 2018, audio/video engineer David Cilberti, and Rev. Rudolph Visser (Pastor) and the Consistory of Kinderhook Reformed Church. Special appreciation is extended to singers Bonnie Cook and Peter Skinner for generous underwriting of this project.

The Lessons and Carols Choir

Soprano: Rose Aulino, Bonnie Cook, Patricia Dillon, Anita Fiorillo,
Patricia Marshall, Ruth Moore, Jan Moseman, *Katie Roppolo,
Rachel Weisman, Christi Wright

Alto: Carol Anderson, Amy Buckner, Susan Bues, Maria Lally Clark,
Cheryl Gilbert, Katherine Delp Gray, Regina Baird Haag, *Vicki Smith,
Lyn Van Alstyne

Tenor: *Andrew Becker, Steve Becker, *Alec Hicks, Darryl Lafferty,
*Brian Morris, *David Rudnick, Pete Skinner, *Will Skinner, Mark Wilson

Bass: *Richard Byrne, *Jonathon Comfort, George Jahn, Allan Kirk,
Gary Leggett, Brad Lohrenz, *Noah Palmer, David Palmquist, *Eugene Sit

*soloist

David Smith

Music Director and Organist for the Celebration of Lessons & Carols

Noah Palmer

Assistant



From the service leaflet (2008) of King's College, Cambridge:

The original service [derives] from an Order drawn up by E. W. Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury, for use in the wooden shed, which then served as his cathedral in Truro [England], at 10 p.m. on Christmas Eve 1880. A. C. Benson recalled: "My father arranged from ancient sources a little service for Christmas Eve - nine carols and nine tiny lessons, which were read by various officers of the Church, beginning with a chorister, and ending, through the different grades, with the Bishop." The idea had come from G. H. S. Walpole, later Bishop of Edinburgh. Almost immediately other churches adapted the service for their own use. A wider frame began to grow when the service was first broadcast in 1928 and, with the exception of 1930, it has been broadcast annually, even during the Second World War . . . Sometime in the early 1930s the BBC began broadcasting the service on overseas programs. It is estimated that there are millions of listeners . . ., for example, in the West Indies or the Far East and these show how widely the tradition has spread. The broadcasts, too, have become part of Christmas for many far from Cambridge [England]. One correspondent writes that he heard the service in a tent on the foothills of Everest; another, in the desert . . . Many of those who took part in the first service [i.e., at King's] must have recalled those killed in the Great War when it came to the famous passage 'all those who rejoice with us, but on another shore and in a greater light.' [Most importantly and regardless of specific beliefs or style,] the centre of the service is still found by those who 'go in heart and mind' and who consent to follow where the story leads.

- David Smith

Anyone wishing to make a contribution to benefit the annual *Celebration of Lessons & Carols* in Kinderhook may do so either by check to "Kinderhook Reformed Church" at 21 Broad Street, PO Box 638, Kinderhook, NY 12106; or by credit/debit card at <https://www.kinderhookreformedchurch.com/> [using the donate icon in the upper right corner].