Thursday December 3, 2020 | 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Lisa Thomas, Organ
The Austin College A Cappella Choir | Dr. Wayne Crannell, Director


Dr. Lisa Thomas

Welcome ................................................................. Dr. John Williams, Chaplain Alumnus, Class of 1984

Choral Introit — “Plainchant” .............................................. A Cappella Choir Dr. Wayne Crannell, Director

Prayer of Invocation ...................................................... Elizabeth Parker
Sallie Majors Religious Life Intern, Class of 2021

First Lesson — Genesis 22:15-18 ........................................ Clemon White Class of 2024

Carol #49 — “Once in Royal David’s City” .................. Chandler Le ’21, Conductor

Once, in royal David’s City, stood a lowly cattle shed
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child

He came down to earth from heaven Who is God and Lord of all
And his shelter was a stable and his cradle was a stall
With the poor, oppressed, and lowly
Lived on earth our Savior holy

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love
For that child so dear and gentle, is our Lord in heaven above
And he leads his children on
To the place where he has gone

Second Lesson — Isaiah 9:2–7 ........................................ Dr. Jeremy Posadas
Associate Professor of Religious Studies

Third Lesson — Isaiah 11:1-9 ............................................ Anika Chand Class of 2023
CAROL #44 — “O Little Town of Bethlehem”……Emily McMillan ’21, Conductor

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love
O morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all the earth

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in

FOURTH LESSON — Luke 1:26-38 ......................................... Dr. Kelly Reed
Professor of Biology

FIFTH LESSON — Luke 1:46-55.............................................. Ti’Anna Smith
Class of 2022

CAROL — “Canticle of the Turning”.........................Dr. Wayne Crannell, Director

My soul cries out with a joyful shout
That the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things
That you bring to the ones who wait.

You fixed your sight on your servant’s plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.

Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain: My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.

Though I am small, my God, my all,
You work great things in me,
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past
To the end of the age to be.

Your very name puts the proud to shame,
And to those who would for you yearn,
(“Canticle of the Turning” continued)

You will show your might, put the strong to flight,
For the world is about to turn.
(Refrain)

From the halls of power to the fortress tower,
Not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
Ev’ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
For the food they can never earn;
There are tables spread, ev’ry mouth be fed,
For the world is about to turn.
(Refrain)

Though the nations rage from age to age,
We remember who holds us fast:
God’s mercy must deliver us
From the conqueror’s crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
Is the promise which holds us bound,
‘Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
Who is turning the world around.
(Refrain)

SIXTH LESSON — Matthew 1:18-23 ................................. Amy Allen Parker
Alumna, Class of 1995

SEVENTH LESSON — Luke 2:1-20 ................................. Nancy Pineda Gama
Class of 2021

CAROL #2 — “O Come All Ye Faithful” ..................... Dr. Wayne Crannell, Director

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!

Yea, lord we greet thee, born this happy morning
Jesus, to thee be all glory given
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!

Sing, choirs of angels! Sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
(“O Come All Ye Faithful” continued)
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!

EIGHTH LESSON — John 1:1-14 ..................................... Steven P. O’Day, J.D. President

CAROL #60 — “Silent Night”..............................Dr. Wayne Crannell, Director

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon virgin mother and child; Holy infant, so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing “Alleluia:
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!”

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light,
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light.
With the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King.
Christ the Savior is born. Christ the Savior is born.

BENEDICTION............................................................... Dr. John Williams
Alumnus, Class of 1984

LIGHTING OF THE COLLEGE CHRISTMAS TREE........... Nicole DeLuna ’22
Student Assembly President

CAROL — Joy to the World .................................Dr. Wayne Crannell, Director
Joy 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.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns; Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains. Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

POSTLUDE — “Join the Triumph of the Skies!” .......... arr. by Douglas E. Wagner
TUNE: MENDELSSOHN, by Felix Mendelssohn
TUNE: ADESTE FIDELES, by John Francis Wade
Dr. Lisa Thomas