

CONNECTING MEOTA December 13th, 2023

This newsletter is meant to inspire, engage, and encourage everyone in the Meota Parish to seek God and reach out to one another throughout the week.

Our next church service will be

Sunday Dec 17 is ONE SERVICE
at St George's Diamond Valley. 10:30 am

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE CHRISTMAS CAROL????

Does your friend or neighbour like Christmas carols?
This would be a great time to invite them to church!

The Power of an Invite:

Why people came to church:

6-8%	Came by own initiative
8-10%	Liked the clergy
3-4%	Had a need met by the church
1-2%	Were evangelized
75-85%	Were invited by a friend

The average is that 83% of people came to church because a friend invited them to come.



Invite a neighbour to hear Christmas carols; they will likely say No, but they might say Yes.

COME PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR ADVENT
JOIN US ONLINE FOR THE GENTLE EVENING SERVICE OF COMPLINE
DEC 7, 14, 21 & 28 , 7 PM

CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR THE ZOOM LINK FROM MEOTA PARISH
Or request the link by emailing meotaparish@gmail.com



Meota Christmas Service 2023
Join us for the holidays!

Lessons & Carols (Sunday Dec. 17th)
Single Service @ St. George's 10:30am

Christmas Eve (Sunday Dec. 24th)
Single Service @ Christ Church 10:30am
St. George's 4:00pm
St. James 6:30pm
Christ Church 9:00pm

Christmas Day (Monday Dec. 25th)
Single Service @ St. George's 10:30am

New Year's Eve (Sunday Dec. 31st)
Single Service @ Christ Church 10:30am



A PRAYER VIGIL



Come join us to pray for peace in
Ukraine, Russia, Israel & Palestine
Wednesday December 20th 7-9pm
St George's, Diamond Valley



CHRISTMAS EVE IS A SUNDAY

Sunday morning service will be a SINGLE SERVICE

10:30 am **CHRIST CHURCH** not St George's, that was an error. It's at Christ Church.

Christmas Eve services:

4:00 pm St. George's Diamond Valley

6:30 pm St. James Priddis

9:00 pm Christ Church

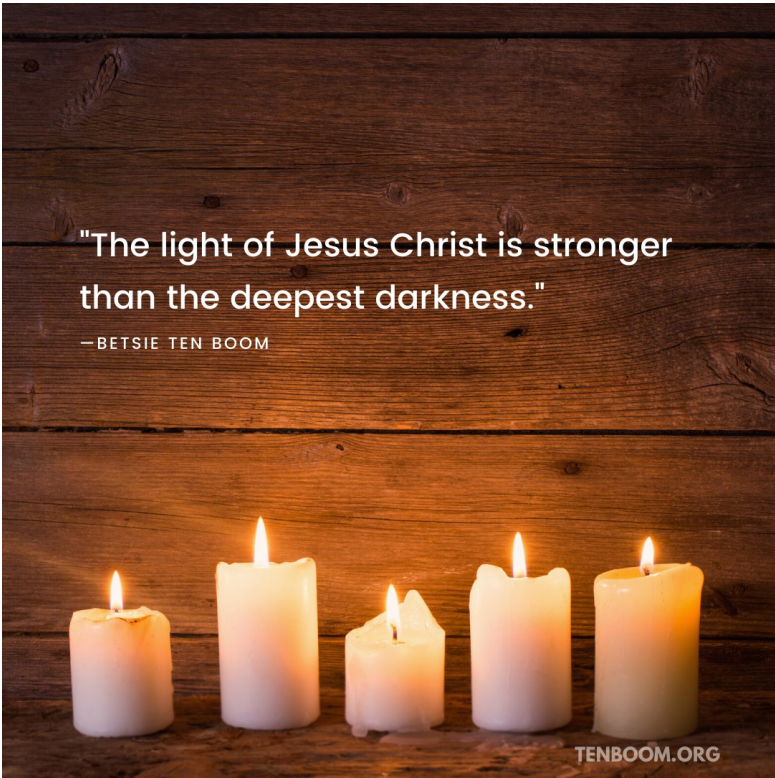
Just a reminder, that at every Christmas Eve service, each household will receive a special gift for their tree from Ven. Alan, Kim and their family. I have attended Christmas Eve services over the years and have quite growing collection. Thank you, Getty family !!

Invite a friend for songs, candles and Christmas peace!

CHRISTMAS MORNING Monday DECEMBER 25

Single Service at St. George's Diamond Valley 10:30 am





Third Sunday in Advent – JOY

What Is the Candle of Joy for The Third Week of Advent?

Otherwise known as the Shepherd Candle, this candle reflects the joy that comes through Jesus' arrival, and through the salvation he has gifted us.

During this third week of advent, this Sunday celebrates the passage [Philippians 4:4-5](#), its verses extolling readers to “rejoice” for “indeed the Lord is near.”

In other words, this week celebrates the joy of Christ's coming to earth.

let's dive into what Scripture says about joy:

- **God fills us with joy ([Romans 15:13](#))**. We cannot will ourselves to experience joy. It comes from God alone.
- **It's a fruit of the Spirit ([Galatians 5:22](#))**. We experience more joy when we spend time with God. We have to keep in mind that joy only comes from God, but when we spend more time with him, we allow him to fill us with it.
- **No one can take joy from us ([John 16:22](#))**. Given to us by God himself, no one has the ability to rob us of our joy. No matter what circumstances we encounter, no one can take this away.
- **Joy rests in things from God such as salvation and righteousness ([Psalm 51:12](#))**.

Depending on the translation, joy appears more than [100 times](#) in the Bible.

Third Sunday of Advent

"REJOICE IN
THE LORD!"

Let us look for moments of light and joy around us this week wherever we can; they might be nearer to us than we think!

Let us keep each other in our prayers and thoughts these days and soon we will be able to celebrate and pray with courage and conviction, that (we) the people in darkness have seen a great light.

Sunday Reflections



The
OBLATES
ALWAYS CLOSE to the PEOPLE

SUNDAY DECEMBER 17, St. George's 10:30 am
SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Nine Lessons and Carols: A Rookie Anglican Guide

By [James Manley](#) | December 21st, 2019 THE ANGLICAN COMPASS

The Anglican tradition has inherited many ancient pieces of liturgy, so it may be a bit surprising to learn that the Festival/Service of Nine Lessons and Carols (traditionally held on or near Christmas Eve) is a fairly recent invention, celebrating its one-hundredth birthday only last year in 2018. It was constructed out of the grief and horror of the First World War, which had ended only 6 weeks before Christmas Eve in 1918.

The author of Nine Lessons and Carols was **The Rev. Eric Milner-White**, a graduate of King's College who was appointed chaplain at the college in 1912, four years after his ordination as a priest.

When the war broke out in 1914, he volunteered as a military chaplain, and witnessed the horrors of trench warfare on the Western front. "Most of life is at night," he wrote in a letter back home,

"and the nights are filled with prolonged terror—a horrid, weird, furtive existence. . . . Battle is indescribable, unimaginable. A continuous firework of light balls goes up from the German trenches. But most awesome is the noise. We feel powerless against those splitting cracks and roars, and dream of the metal tearing its way into the bodies of poor men."

Decorated for courage under fire in combat, he was released after what he called "a battle of special horror" in early 1918 and returned to King's College, where he was appointed Dean.

After the end of the war on November 11, Milner-White set out to create a special Christmastide service "as a gift to the city of Cambridge" that would serve two purposes.

First, he wanted to grieve the loss of young men from the city, and especially from his own college.

Twenty-three percent of the members of King's College had died during the war, including Milner-White's roommate. Today in the chapel of King's College is a list of the names of the dead on an engraved plaque; a much later dean of King's College noted that this list was assembled long after the

first Lessons and Carols service. This is because on Christmas Eve, 1918, it was not even known exactly who among the members was alive or dead.

Second, Milner-White wanted to reform liturgical practices so that the simple beauty of Christian worship would shine through and attract those who had lost their faith in the horrors of the war, whether serving in it or watching it take place.

There is intellectual depth to the service. In Milner-White's own words, "the main theme is the development of the loving purposes of God" as viewed "through the windows and the words of the Bible." Yet he aimed at simplicity rather than complex explication of God's purposes in human history. Rather than a lecture, he designed the service to focus on "colour, warmth, and delight."

Drawing upon a lessons and carols tradition that stretched at least back to Edward White Benson at Truro Cathedral in Cornwall in 1880, **Milner-White established the tradition of Nine Lessons and Carols at King's College on Christmas Eve in 1918.**

READINGS FOR DECEMBER 17 – LESSONS AND CAROLS

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

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

Second Lesson from Genesis 22: 15–18

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

Third Lesson from Isaiah 9: 2; 6–7

The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

Fourth Lesson from Isaiah 11: 1–3a; 4a; 6–9

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

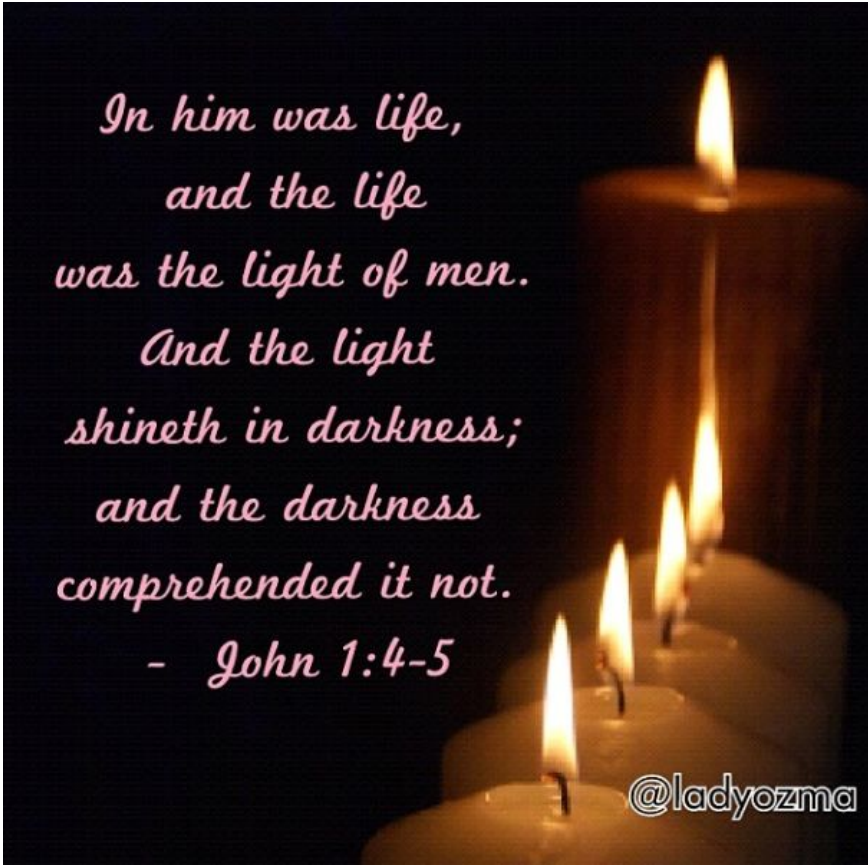
Fifth Lesson from the Gospel of Luke 1: 26–35; 38
The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Sixth Lesson from Luke 2: 1; 3–7
St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

Seventh Lesson from Luke 2: 8–16
The shepherds go to the manger.

Eighth Lesson from the Gospel of Matthew 2: 1–12
The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

Ninth Lesson from the Gospel of John 1: 1–14
St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.



*In him was life,
and the life
was the light of men.
And the light
shineth in darkness;
and the darkness
comprehended it not.
- John 1:4-5*

@ladyozma

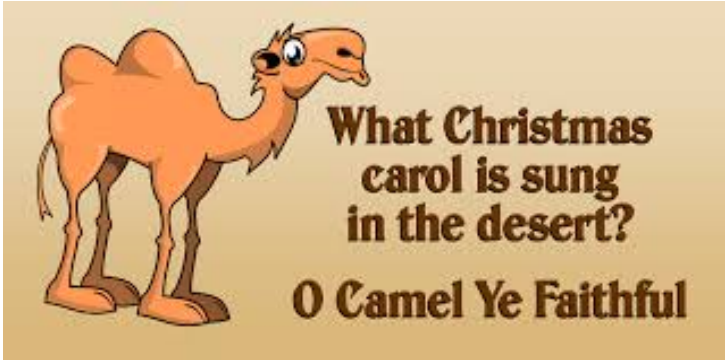
Advent word search

R	Y	A	W	A	H	S	A	W	R	T	O	T	N
E	D	S	K	R	E	S	W	G	L	H	N	S	E
H	R	C	I	E	C	T	G	R	O	T	I	S	V
Y	Y	H	N	D	A	S	E	K	V	A	G	C	A
M	T	O	G	E	R	S	E	R	E	I	H	E	E
E	R	L	U	M	I	O	P	R	N	R	O	H	H
C	I	Y	S	P	N	R	P	I	I	I	S	W	Y
I	N	S	W	T	G	C	A	S	H	E	T	L	O
G	I	P	A	I	A	G	T	U	E	S	I	Y	N
O	T	I	N	O	S	R	R	S	H	C	R	P	T
D	Y	R	G	N	O	P	H	E	N	I	H	O	G
R	R	I	E	I	N	A	N	J	O	R	O	W	W
R	E	T	L	L	M	A	N	G	E	R	P	E	R
O	R	I	S	H	F	A	I	T	H	S	E	R	I

HEAVEN
 ETERNITY
 REDEMPTION
 GOD
 POWER
 ANGELS
 HOPE
 TRINITY
 LOVE
 FAITH
 WASH AWAY
 HOLY SPIRIT
 STAR
 WORSHIP
 CHRIST
 KING
 MANGER
 CROSS
 JESUS
 CARING

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1785476/>

FUNNY BONES





GO IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD!

ADVENT WEEK 3: *A Prayer of Joy*

Lord, I have to admit that sometimes I let the world steal my joy. Fill me with your joy again today! I know this joy is beyond just a momentary happiness, it is a joy that surpasses every situation and circumstance in life. God fill me with this joy. A joy no one can steal from me. When I think of heaven and your gift of salvation, I am so grateful. This world is but a small moment and then we get to be with you. I will rest in the Joy of what is to come! Thank you, Jesus.



Alleluia!!!