

FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS



Zondag 14 december 2025

Oosterkerk Zwolle

Voorganger Iemke Epema

Lectoren: Rineke Scholten en Iemke Epema

Organist Marijn de Jong

Zwolse Cantorij olv Rudie Altelaar

Processielied

Once in royal David's city

Cantorij:

1. 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.

Allen 2, 3, 4, 5 en 6.

2. He came down to earth from hea - ven, Who is
3. And through all his won - drous child-hood He would

God and Lord of all, And his shel - ter was a
hon - our and o - bey, love, and watch the low - ly

sta - ble, And his cra - dle was a stall;
mai - den, in whose gen - tle arms he lay;

With the poor, and mean, and low - ly,
Chris - tian child - ren all must be —,

Lived on earth our Sa - viour Holy.
mild o - be - dient, good as he.

4. For he is our childhood's pattern

Day by day like us he grew
He was little, weak and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness,

5. 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 is gone

6. Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars his children crowned
All-in white shall wait around

Nodiging

We zijn in dit huis bijeen om op bijzondere wijze uiting te geven
aan ons verlangen,
ons verlangen naar de komst van Christus in onze wereld en in ons
eigen hart.

Tegelijk zijn wij op weg naar het feest waarop we vieren dat God op
bijzondere wijze Zijn ontferming en liefde heeft getoond in de
geboorte van het Kind.

We gaan op weg naar Bethlehem.
En we doen dat zingend, lezend, biddend.

Gebed

1^e lezing: Genesis 2:4 -9 3:8 – 13 en 20-24
'verdrijving uit de tuin'

See amid the winter's snow (Allen: 1,2 6; Cantorij: 3 en 4)

1. See a - mid the win-ter's snow
 2. Lo, with - in a man-ger lies
 6. Teach, o teach us, Ho - ly chuld,
 Born for us on earth be - low;
 He who build the star - ry skies;
 By thy face so meek and mild,
 See the ten - der Lamb ap-pears
 He, who throned in height sub-lime,
 Teach us to re - sem - ble thee,
 Pro - mis'd from e - ter - nal years:
 sits a - mid the che - ru - bim:
 in thy sweet hu - mi - li - ty:

Refrein:

Hail, thou e - ver bless - ed morn!
 Hail, re - dem - tion's hap - py dawn!
 Sing through all Je - ru - sa - lem,
 Christ is born in Beth - le - hem.

(Cantorij)

3. Say, ye holy shepherds, say, what your joyfull news today
Wherefore have ye left your sheep on the lonely mountain steep?
Allen Refrein:

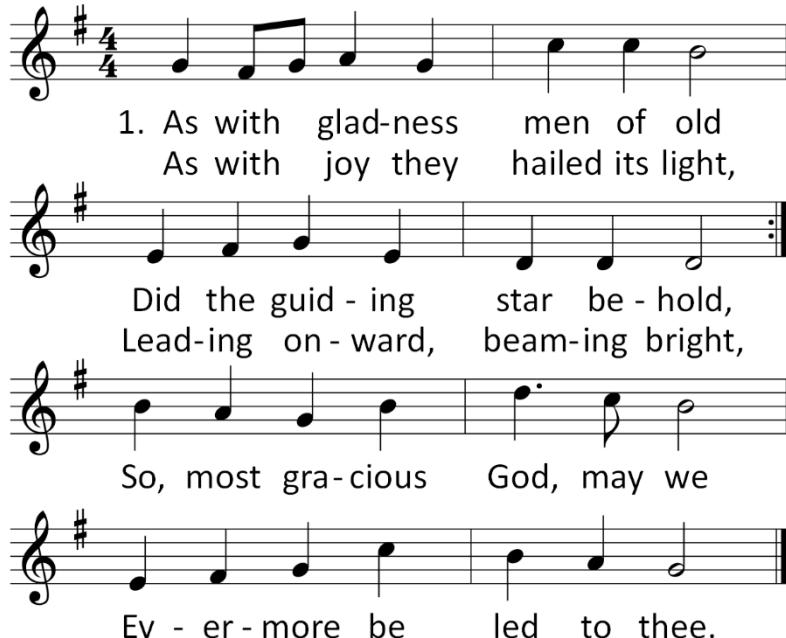
(Cantorij)

4. As we watch'd at dead of night, Lo, we saw a wondrous light;
Angels singing "Peace on earth" Told us of the Saviour's birth."
Allen Refrein:

2e lezing: Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-12 en 15 – 18

'de belofte aan Abraham'

As with gladness (Allen)



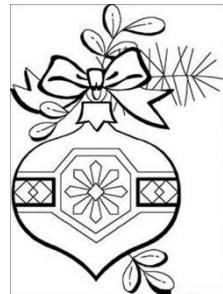
1. As with gladness men of old
As with joy they hailed its light,
Did the guid-ing star be-hold,
Lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright,
So, most gra-cious God, may we
Ev - er - more be led to thee.

2. As with joyful steps they sped
To that lowly manger-bed,
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heaven and earth adore,
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek thy mercy-seat.

3. As they offers gifts most rare
At that manger rude and rare
So may we with holy joy,
Pure, and free from sin's alloy
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee our heavenly King.

4. Holy Jesu, every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds thy glory hide.

5. In the heav'ly country bright
Need they no created light,
Thou its light, its joy, its crown,
Thou its sun which goes not down:
There for ever may we sing
Alleluyas to our King.



3^e lezing: Jesaja 9: 1 – 6 'een helder licht'

A Child this day is born Allen refrein; 6, 7, 8 allen.

1. A child this day is born A child of high renown;
most worthy of a sceptre, a sceptre and a crown.
Refrein: Allen

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,
 Now - ell sing all we may,
 Be - cause the King of all kings
 was born on Christ - mas day.

2. These tidings shepherds heard whilst watching o'er their fold;
 't was by an angel unto them that night revealed and told

Refrain: Allen

3. To whom the angel spoke, and said, "Be not afraid;
 be glad, you blessed shepherds, why are yo uso dismayed?

Refrain: Allen

4. Today I bring you news of gladness and myrth,
 which cometh to all peoples by this holy infants birth.

Refrain: Allen

5. Then was there with the angel a host from God on high;
 an angel throng that sang their song when they to earth drew nigh!

Refrain: Allen



6. They praised the Lord our God,
7. And as the an - gel told them,
8. All glo - ry be to God



6. and our ce - les -tial King: All
7. so to them did ap - pear; They
8. That sit - teth still on high, With



6. glo - ry be in pa - ra - dise,
7. found the young child Je - sus Christ
8. prai - ses and with tri - umph great



6. the heav'n - ly host did sing.
7. with Mary his mo - ther dear
8. and joy - ful me - lo - dy.

Refrain: Allen

4^e lezing: Jesaja 11: 1 – 10
'een telg van Isai'

Away in a manger (Allen)

1. A - way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed,
 2. The cat - tle are low-ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay
 The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
 But lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.
 Close by me for e - ver, and love me, I pray.
 The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
 I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,
 The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a sleep on the hay.
 And stay by my side un - til morn-ing is nigh.
 And fit us for hea-ven, to live with thee there.

5e lezing Lucas 1: 26 -35 , 38

'de aankondiging van de geboorte'

The infant King (Cantorij 1,2 en Allen 3 en 4)

1. Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now reclining, Sing lullaby!
 Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
 Angels are watching, stars are shining
 over the place where He is lying. Sing lullaby!

2. Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a-sleeping, Sing lullaby!

Hush, do not wake the Infant King.
Soon will come sorrow with the morning,
Soon come bitter grief and weeping:
Sing Lullaby!

3. Sing lullaby! Lullaby baby, now a-dozing, Sing lullaby!

Hush, do not wake the Infant King.

Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing,

Then in the grave at last reposing

Sing lullaby!

4. Sing lul - la - by! Lul - la - by!

is the babe a - wa - king? Sing lul - la - by!

Hush, do not stir the In - fant King.

Dream - ing of Eas - ter, glad - some morn - ing.

Con - quer - ing Death, its bond - age break - ing.

Sing lul - la - by!

6e lezing: Lucas 2: 1 – 7

'de geboorte van Jezus'

Nativity carol (Cantorij 1,2,3; Allen 4)

1. Born in a manger so bare, born so long ago;
Born 'neath light of star, he who loved us so
Far away silent lay, born today your homage pay,
For Christ is born for aye, born on Christmas Day.

2. Cradled by mother so fair, tender her lullaby,
Over her son so dear angel hosts fill the sky.
Far away silent lay, born today your homage pay,
For Christ is born for aye, born on Christmas Day.

3. Wise men from distant far land, shepherds from starry hills
Worship this babe so rare, hearts with his warmth he fills.
Far away silent lay, born today your homage pay,
For Christ is born for aye, born on Christmas Day.

4. love in that sta - ble was born
in-to our hearts to flow; In-no-cent dream- - ing babe,
Make me thy love to know. Far a - way
si-lent he lay; Born to - day, your hom- - age pay;
Born on Christ - mas Day

7^e lezing: Lucas 2: 8 – 16
'de herders'

Ring the bells, the Christmas bells (cantorij 1, 2, 3, Allen refrein)

1. Ring the bells, the Christmas bells; Chime out the wondrous story;
First in song on angels' thongues. It came from realms of glory;
Peace on earth, goodwill to men.
Angelic voices ringing, Christ the Lord to earth has come,
His glorious message bringing.

Refrain Allen:

Ring the mer - ry Christ-mas bells;
Chime out the won-drous sto - ry;
Glo - ry be to God on high,
for ev - er-more be glo - ry.

3^e couplet Amen

2. Wise men hastened from the East to bring their richest treasure,
Gold and myrrh and frankincense and jewels without measure.

Him they sought, although a King, they found in birthplace lowly,
there within a manger lay the Babe so pure and holy.

Refrain Allen:

3. Earthly crowns were not for Him; He came, God's love revealing;
on the Cross He died for us, his blood forgiveness sealing. 't Is the
Saviour promised long, ring out your loudest praises; Ev'ry heart
this happy day. Its grateful anthems raises.

Refrain Allen:

8^e lezing Mattheus 2: 1 - 11

'de wijzen'

The first nowell (Allen 1,3 en 6; Cantorij 2)

(Allen:)

1. The first no - well the an - gel did say
3. And by the light of that same star
6. Then let us all with one ac - cord
was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
three wise men came from coun - try far
sing prai - ses to our heav'n - ly Lord,
in fields where they lay, keep-ing their sheep
to seek for a king was their in - tent
that hath made heav'n and earth of naught,
on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
and to fol - low the star where - e - ver it went:
Refrain and with his blood man - kind hath bought:
No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,
Born is the King of Is - ra - ell

(cantorij:)

2. They looked up and saw a star,
Shining in the east, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night: Refrain

Coventry Carol

Refrain Cantorij 1; Allen 2

Lul - ly, lul - la,
thou lit - tle ti - ny child,
by, by, lul - ly lul - lay,
lul - lay thou lit - tle ti - ny child,
By, by, lul - ly lul - lay.

1.O sisters too, how may we do for to preserve this day this poor young ling, for whom we do sing, By by, lully lallay?

2. Herod the king, in his raging, charged he hath this day his men of might, in his own sight, all young children to slay.

3, That woe is me, poor child for thee! And ever more and day, for thy parting neither say nor sing, by by, lully lullay!

Refrein Allen:

9^e lezing Johannes 1: 1 – 14

'het vlees geworden woord'

Candlelight Carol (cantorij 1 en 2; allen 3)

1. How do you capture the wind on the water?
How do you count all the stars in the sky?
How can you measure the love of a mother,
Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?
Candlelight, angellight, firelight and starglow
Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn.
Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Angels are singing; the Christchild is born.

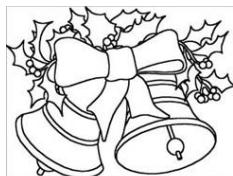
2. Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore him,
Seraphim round him their vigil will keep;
Nations proclaim him their Lord and their Saviour,
But Mary will hold him and sing him to sleep.
Candlelight, angellight, firelight and starglow
Shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn.
Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Angels are singing; the Christchild is born.

3. Find him at Beth-le-hem laid in a man-ger:
 Christ our Re - deem-er a - sleep in the hay,
 God-head in - car-nate and hope of sal - va - tion: a
 child with his mo - ther that first Christ-mas Day.

Can-dle-light, an-gel-light, fire - light and star-glow
 shine on his cra - dle till break-ing of dawn.

Glo-ri - a, glo-ri - a in ex-cel - sis De - o!

An-gels are sing-ing; the Christ-child is born._____



Aankondiging: Inzameling van de gaven aan de uitgang

Slotgebed

Laat ons bidden:

Gij, bron van heil voor alle mensen,
wij danken U voor het Licht door U ontstoken in ons bestaan
met de geboorte van Jezus, de Zoon van Maria.
Verhaast de komst van uw koninkrijk
en laat rechtvaardige vrede heel de wereld vervullen.

Blijf met uw mildheid om ons heen waar wij ook gaan of staan,
alle dagen en nachten van ons leven, totdat Gij alles in allen zult zijn
in de eeuwen der eeuwen. AMEN.

O come, all ye faithful (Allen)

1. 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!

2. God of God, light of light,
Lo! He abhors not the virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore him, o come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

6. Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing al ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God in the highest:
O come, let us adore him, o come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

7. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
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!

Nu hier de avond valt (Voorzang: Cantorij)

voorzang Nu hier de avond valt



allen - Laat uw licht ons lei - den,
wees on - ze vre - de! -

voorzang en wij de nacht ingaan, maar leven in het licht,



allen - Wees on - ze vre - de! -

voorzang laat uw aangezicht over ons opgaan als de zon,

allen - Wees onze vrede! -

voorzang zegen ons en wie ons nastaan

met het licht van uw ogen!

allen Laat uw licht ons leiden,

wees onze vrede!

*U bent allen hartelijk uitgenodigd om na de viering
koffie of iets anders met ons te drinken in de
ontmoetingsruimte !*