

Hope Publishing Company

EMMANUEL God With Us!

A CONTEMPORARY LESSONS & CAROLS

for SATB voices with optional solos and unison choir

Arranged & Composed by

Lloyd Larson

Code No.

8250 Score

8251 Listening CD

8252 Accompaniment CD

8253 Full Instrumental Parts -- Conductor's Score, Flute,
Oboe, Clarinet, French Horn, 2 Trumpets,
2 Trombones, Percussion, Violin 1 and 2, Viola,
Cello, Bass (Electric or Arco)

Cello, bass (Electric of Arco

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Foreword

The incarnation message is central to the Christmas story: God becoming human and living among us. The gospel of John says it best: "The Word (meaning God) became flesh and lived among us." (John 1:14) What a powerful statement of love and devotion! God loved us enough that we became the recipients of more than a letter; more than a phone call; even more than a visit from a special friend. We were chosen to be the recipients of the Creator's greatest gift—a portion of the very being of God himself. And then we were invited into a personal relationship with God through Jesus.

In the celebration of Christmas, we all enjoy the meaningful family traditions, inspiring programs and pageantry, the beloved carols, and all of the sights, sounds and smells of the season. But in the midst of it all, there is one basic and central message which pervades all that transpires in this holy season: **Emmanuel—God with Us!** May that message be clear as you read these timeless scriptural passages and as you sing the songs of the season—both old and new. This personal gift from God is truly the greatest of all Christmas gifts!

-Lloyd Larson

The History of Lessons and Carols

The service of Lessons and Carols dates back to 1918 when the first such service was held at King's College in Cambridge, England. The origin, however, actually goes back to 1880 when a service of carols and related scriptures was developed by the Bishop of Truro Cathedral (England) for Christmas Eve. Over the years the basic format has been adapted and utilized by churches around the world over and over again. **Emmanuel—God with Us** is another in a succession of Christmas works to employ the effective medium of word and song. It blends historic carols with newer compositions along with the Bible to tell the ageless story of Christmas.

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THE BIDDING (OPENING PRAYER)

Dear people of God, we come to this service with joy and anticipation to hear the message of the angels and to again return in heart and mind to Bethlehem to experience the loving kindness of our God in the form of a baby lying in a manger. In our worship, the Word of God as well as music old and new will draw us again to the heart of the Christmas message—a message filled with eternal hope and joy. Let us pray. (An Invocation prayer and/or "The Lord's Prayer" may be offered at this time.)

1. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

with Come, Messiah King

Latin 9th c; tr. John M. Neale

French melody, 15th c. Arranged by LLOYD LARSON

LESSON I

A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. *[music begins]* The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, a spirit of wisdom and understanding, a spirit of



counsel and strength, a spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he



shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. (Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6)





