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### Ouachita to present 22nd annual Service of Lessons and Carols on Dec. 4

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*Ouachita Baptist University*

Ouachita News Bureau

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**OUACHITA**  
BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



**NEWS**

For immediate release

**Ouachita to present 22nd annual Service of Lessons and Carols on Dec. 4**

*By Meagan Woodard*

November 30, 2018

For more information, contact OBU's news bureau at [newsbureau@obu.edu](mailto:newsbureau@obu.edu) or (870) 245-5208



ARKADELPHIA, Ark.—Ouachita Baptist University will present its annual Service of Lessons and Carols on Tuesday, Dec. 4, at 7:30 p.m. in Ouachita's McBeth Recital Hall in Mabee Fine Arts Center. The service is free and open to the public.

A Service of Lessons and Carols is unique among Ouachita's Christmas festivities; its focus is coordinating scripture with music, and the service will feature faculty, staff and students from each of Ouachita's academic schools. The lessons are a series of scripture readings from Exodus, the prophetic books of the Bible and the gospels. In addition to the lessons, the Ouachita Singers, Women's Chorus and Handbell Ringers will lead and perform carols. Those attending are invited to sing the carols at specified times during the service.

"The service calls our campus community to focus on the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ, celebrating the miraculous advent by immersing us in the biblical narrative," said Dr. Rob

Hewell, professor of music, director of the Worship Studies Program and director of online learning initiatives.

“I like Lessons and Carols because the two auditioned choirs and handbells combine to create a beautiful time of worship,” said Emily Siemens, a member of Women’s Chorus and junior musical theatre major from Bentonville, Ark. “We get to celebrate Christmas in a very sweet, joyful manner.”

This year’s student scripture readers include: Charity Curlin, a senior psychology major from Arkadelphia, Ark.; Ruthie Lenards, a junior elementary education major from Jonesboro, Ark.; Mikaela Monahan, a freshman communications and media/strategic communications major from Alexander, Ark.; and Noah Worley, a sophomore biology major from Camden, Ark.

Faculty and staff readers include: Jeanie Curry, assistant professor of accounting; Ray Franklin, professor of Christian missions; Keldon Henley, chief of staff and vice president for institutional advancement; Missy Lewis, compliance officer and IT services project coordinator; and Dr. Ben Sells, president.

Ensembles performing include: Ouachita Singers, directed by Dr. Gary Gerber, dean of the School of Fine Arts, professor of music and director of choral activities; Women’s Chorus, directed by Dr. Becky Morrison, assistant professor of music; and Handbell Ringers, directed by Dr. Arnold Rawls, associate professor of music and artist in residence. The remaining carols will be congregational carols accompanied by organist Bart Morrison.

“It’s always an honor to get to glorify God through song,” said Scotty Scott, a senior musical theatre major from Bentonville, Ark. “With Lessons and Carols, we are able to praise the birth of our Savior and rejoice in its glory. I find that very special.”

For more information, contact Dr. Rob Hewell at [hewellr@obu.edu](mailto:hewellr@obu.edu) or (870) 245-5133.

