



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
Vancouver, BC • *Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds*



Advent Lessons & Carols

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025

4:00 P.M.

Choral Eucharist | In-Person & Livestream

Christ Church Cathedral Choir
The Clergy of Christ Church Cathedral

This liturgy of readings and carols symbolizes the birth of Christ bringing light to the world as Advent invites us to anticipate the mystery and splendour of the incarnation. As the service opens, the total darkness is broken by the lighting of the paschal candle.

ATTENTION

Incense will be used at this service.

Please use caution if you suffer from asthma or have a fragrance allergy or sensitivity.

Please do not leave valuables unattended.

This worship takes place on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) nations, in the heart of Vancouver.

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Advent Lessons & Carols

Welcome & kindling of the Advent light.

Please remain seated.

Opening Responsory

Neil Cockburn

Sung by the choir

*Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;
Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.*

*Will you not give us life again,
That your people may rejoice in you?*

*Show us your mercy, O Lord,
And grant us your salvation.*

*Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.*

Deus Misereatur Nostri (Psalm 67)

Orlando di Lasso (1532-1594)

Sung by the choir

O God, be merciful to us and bless us,
show us the light of your countenance and come to us.
Let your ways be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.
Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.
The earth has brought forth its increase; may you, O God our God, bless us.
May you bless us, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of you.

A Bidding for Advent

The Dean: My sisters and brothers in Christ, in these days of shadow and of hope
let it be our duty and delight to listen to the story of our faith,
and hear again the prophets' words of blessing and doom.
And, as we prepare to celebrate again the birth of Jesus Christ as a baby,
let us remember that he also comes to judge the just and the unjust,
and to establish the reign of equity and peace
As we hear the reading of God's holy word, let us reflect on the time of our rebellion
[Genesis 3] respond to the call to prepare the way of the Lord [Isaiah 40]
join with the prophet as he calls out to God to rend the heavens and come down [Isaiah
64] find hope in the promise that the blind will see, the deaf hear, the lame dance, and the
silent burst into song [Isaiah 35] receive with joy the promise of the coming of the one
who will judge with righteousness and equity Isaiah 11 await with eagerness the creation
of the new heaven and the new earth. [Isaiah 65.1]

The bidding continues.

Let us remember that the Lord of Glory experienced the pain of life and death, and pray for the sick, the poor, the oppressed, the anxious, the weary, and the bereaved.

And remembering the promise that he shall reign for ever and ever, let us pray for the rulers of the nations,

for peace and justice on earth,

for the unity and mission of the Church,

that we may be a sign of the age to come.

With longing in our hearts for God's reign of peace,

let us hear again the story of Christ's coming,

and join with Mary and Joseph,

and all our forebears in faith,

in offering our worship.

Hymn

Christ be our Light

(SNC 2)

Text and music: Bernadette Farrell (1957-); desc. Neil Cockburn

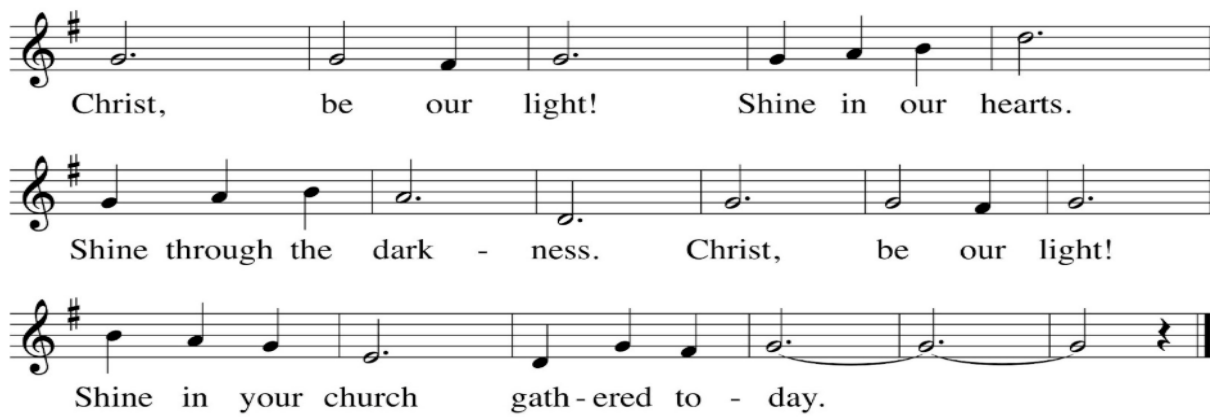
We stand to sing the hymns and sit for the readings and prayers. The candles are lit during the singing of the hymn.

1. Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness.
 2. Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled.
 3. Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry.
 4. Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less.
 5. Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple,

Long - ing for truth, we turn to you.
 Long - ing for hope, man - y de - spair.
 Long - ing for wa - ter, man - y still thirst.
 Long - ing for warmth, man - y are cold.
 man - y the hearts that yearn to be - long.

Make us your own, your ho - ly peo - ple,
 Your word a - lone has pow'r to save us.
 Make us your bread, bro - ken for oth - ers,
 Make us your build - ing, shel - ter - ing oth - ers,
 Let us be ser - vants to one an - oth - er,

light for the world to see.
 Make us your liv - ing voice.
 shared un - til all are fed.
 walls made of liv - ing stone.
 mak - ing your king - dom come.



Text: Bernadette Farrell, b.1957
Tune: Bernadette Farrell, b.1957
© 1993, 2000, Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications.

Reading 1

Genesis 2.4b–9,15–25

Prayer

Creating God, you call us to live in harmony
with nature, one another, and with you.

Now fix our eyes upon the one in whom your purpose for the world has been revealed,
Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever.

All

Amen.

CAROL

Adam Lay Ybounden

Philip Ledger (1937-2012)
Anonymous 15th cent.

Adam lay ybounden,
bounden in a bond;
four thousand winter
thought he not too long.

Ne had the apple taken been,
the apple taken been;
ne had never our lady
a-been heavené queen.

And all was for an apple,
an apple that he took,
as clerkes finden written
in their book.

Blessed be the time
that apple taken was,
therefore we moun singen,
deo gracias!

Reading 2

Isaiah 40.1–11

Prayer

God our hope, hear again the cry of exiles,
imprisoned in a dark land of war, hunger, and intolerance.
Come among us with strength and healing
and bring us back to the world
of your just and holy purpose.
We ask this through Jesus Christ the Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever.

All

Amen.

ANTHEM

Prepare ye the way (Isaiah 40.3-9)

Michael Wise (c.1647-1687)

Prepare ye the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be exalted,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low:
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough places shall be made plain.

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
and all flesh shall see it together.

And the voice said cry. What shall I cry?
All flesh is grass, and the goodliness thereof
is as a flower that is in the field.
The grass withereth, the flower fadeth,
but the word of the Lord shall stand fast for ever.

O Zion, that bringest glad tidings,
get thee up into the mountains.
O Jerusalem, that bringest glad tidings,
lift up thy voice with strength
and say unto Judah, behold thy God!

Reading 3

Isaiah 64.1–9a

Prayer O just Judge of all the world,
when the dark power of evil threatens your creation,
may we, through your strength within us,
maintain the sure knowledge of your love and mercy,
which we see in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

ANTHEM

Rorate Caeli Desuper (Advent Prose)

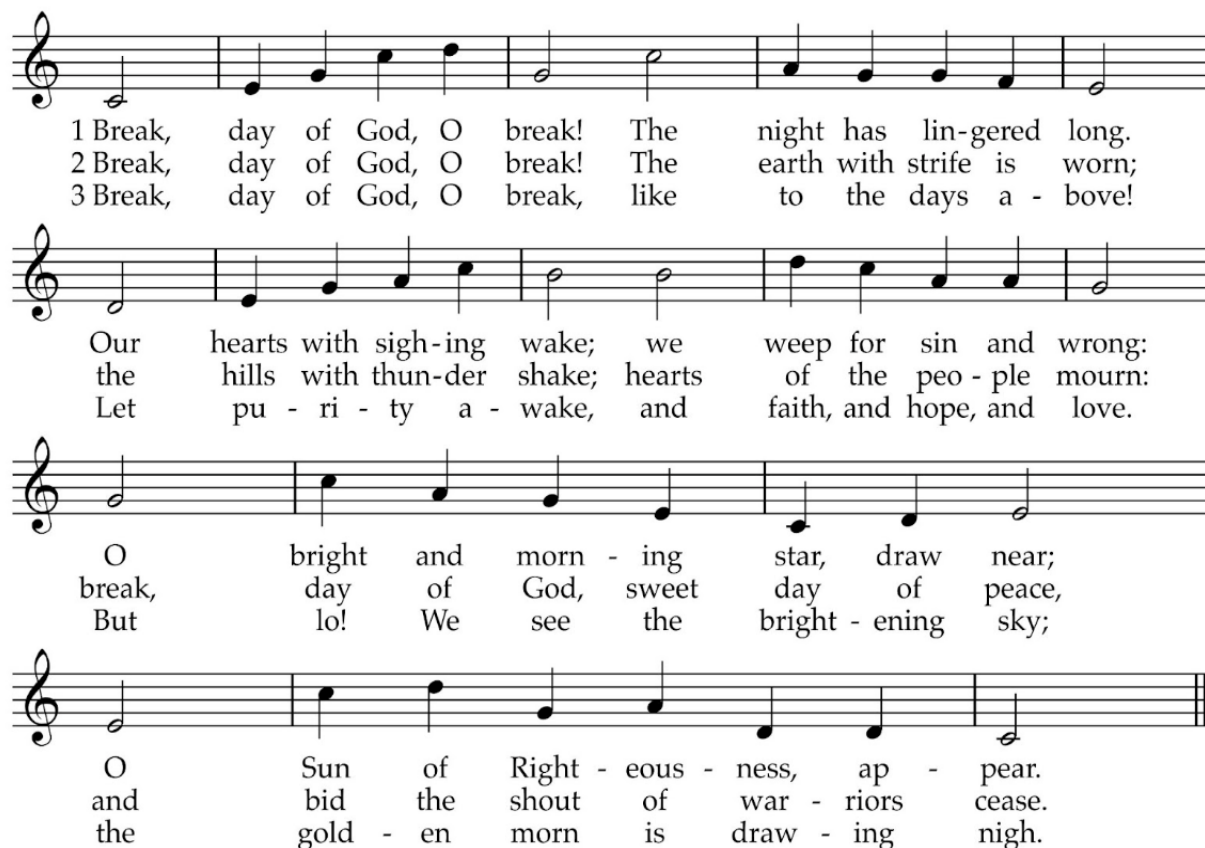
Felice Anerio (c. 1560-1614)

Drop down, ye heavens, from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness:
let the earth open, and let it bring forth a Saviour.
May the rising sun shine upon us,
and guide our feet in the way of peace.
Arise, arise, Jerusalem, shake thyself from the dust;
loosen the bonds of thy faith, for the glory of the Lord has arisen,
and the Saviour of the world reigns over thee.

HYMN

Break, Day of God, O Break

(CP 99)

Text: Henry Burton (1840-1930).
Music: CHRISTCHURCH, Charles Steggall (1826-1905).


1 Break, day of God, O break! The night has lin-gered long.
 2 Break, day of God, O break! The earth with strife is worn;
 3 Break, day of God, O break, like to the days a - bove!

Our hearts with sigh-ing wake; we weep for sin and wrong:
 the hills with thun-der shake; hearts of the peo - ple mourn:
 Let pu - ri - ty a - wake, and faith, and hope, and love.

O bright and morn - ing star, draw near;
 break, day of God, sweet day of peace,
 But lo! We see the bright - ening sky;

O Sun of Right - eous - ness, ap - pear.
 and bid the shout of war - riors cease.
 the gold - en morn is draw - ing nigh.

Reading 4

Isaiah 35.1-10

Prayer

Creating and renewing God, giving life in all its fullness,
 bring, we pray, all the children of this earth to the freedom of your holy purpose.
 May we see your beauty and glory in seas and lakes washed clean,
 in fields of plenty and forests strong, and in humanity made whole
 in body, mind, and mutual care, in the pattern of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All

Amen.

Anthem

The Wilderness (Isaiah 35. 1-6, 8-10)

John Goss (1800-1880)

The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice,
 and blossom as the rose.
 It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon
 shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the
 Lord, and the excellency of our God.
 Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.
 Say to them that are of a fearful heart, be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come
 with vengeance, even God with a recompense; he will come and save you.
 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.
 Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing. For in the
 wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.
 And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness; the
 unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools,

shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransom'd of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.
Amen.

Reading 5

Isaiah 11.1-9

Prayer God our salvation,
who by water and the Holy Spirit delivered us from sin
and raised us to the new life of grace,
give us an inquiring and discerning heart,
the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy
and wonder in all your works. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

All Amen.

HYMN

Wind Upon the Waters

(CP 408)

Text and music: WIND UPON THE WATERS, Marty Haugen (1950-).

1 Wind up - on the wa - ters, voice up - on the deep,
2 Show - ers from the heav - ens, wa - ter from the earth,
3 Rock and hill and gar - den, wood and des - ert sand,
4 Blaz - ing light of won - der, flame that pierc - es night,
5 Wind up - on the wa - ters, rains up - on the sand,
rouse your sons and daugh - ters, wake us from our sleep, breath - ing
gift so whol - ly giv - en, source of ev - ery birth, joy of
prai - rie, field, and mead - ow shaped by Love's own hand, Love that
burst the dark a - sun - der, fill our souls with light. Lord of
grace your sons and daugh - ters, new - born by your hand. Come, O
life in - to all flesh, breath - ing love in - to all
ev - ery liv - ing thing, mak - ing all cre - a - tion
fills the world a - round, spring - ing up from bar - ren
glo - ry, fill the skies, make an end to ha - tred's
Spir - it, and re - new all the life that comes from
hearts, liv - ing wind up - on the wa - ters of my soul.
sing, show - er down up - on the dry earth of my soul.
ground, grow your love with - in the gar - den of my soul.
cries, be the bla - zing sun of jus - tice in our lives.
you, send your winds up - on the wa - ters of my soul.

A tender shoot hath started
up from a root of grace,
as ancient seers imparted
from Jesse's holy race.
It blooms without a blight,
it blooms without a blight,
blooms in the cold bleak winter,
turning our darkness into light.

This shoot Isaiah taught us
from Jesse's root should spring.
The Virgin Mary brought us
the branch of which we sing.
Our God of endless might,
our God of endless might,
gave her his child to save us,
thus turning darkness into light.

Reading 6

Zephaniah 3.14–20

Prayer

God of our exile, we pray for peace in a world of war,
for health in a world of hunger, for harmony in a world of discord.
Bring us home to the world as you would have it be,
subject to the reign of your love and grounded in the mutual care of your children.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

*All***Amen.**

HYMN

Let Streams of Living Justice

(CP 575)

Text: William Whitla (1934-).

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934), *The Planets*; harm. adapt. *Hymns for Church and School*, 1964.

1 Let streams of liv-ing jus-tice flow down up-on the earth;
 2 For heal-ing of the na-tions, for peace that will not end,
 3 Your ci-tty's built to mu-sic; we are the stones you seek;
 give free-dom's light to cap-tives, let all the poor have worth.
 for love that makes us lov-ers, God grant us grace to mend.
 your har-mo-ny is lan-guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun-gry's hands are plead-ing, the work-ers claim their rights,
 Weave our var-ied gifts to-geth-er; knit our lives as they are spun;
 Our faith we find in ser-vice, our hope in oth-er's dreams,
 the mourn-ers long for laugh-ter the blind-ed seek for sight.
 on your loom of time en-roll us till our thread of life is run.
 our love in hand of neigh-bour: our home-land bright-ly gleams.

Make lib-er-ty a bea-con, strike down the ir-on power;
 O great Weav-er of our fab-ric, bind church and world in one;
 In-scribe our hearts with jus-tice; your way—the path un-tried;
 a-bol-ish an-cient ven-geance: pro-claim your peo-ple's hour.
 dye our tex-ture with your ra-diance, light our col-ours with your sun.
 your truth—the heart of stran-ger; your life—the Cru-ci-fied.

Reading 7

Luke 1.5–25

Prayer

Almighty God,
 you called John the Baptist to give witness to the coming of your Son
 and to prepare his way.
 Give your people wisdom to see your purpose,
 and openness to hear your will,
 that we too may witness to Christ's coming
 and so prepare his way; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
 who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

All

Amen.

ANTHEM

This is the record of John (John 1.19-23)

Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

This is the record of John,
when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him,
Who art thou?
And he confessed and denied not, and said plainly,
I am not the Christ.

And they asked him, What art thou then? Art thou Elias?
And he said, I am not.
Art thou the prophet?
And he answered, No.

Then said they unto him,
What art thou? That we may give an answer unto them that sent us.
What sayest thou of thyself?
And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,
Make straight the way of the Lord.

HYMN

On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry

(CP 103)

Text: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. John Chandler (1806-1876), alt.

Music: WINCHESTER NEW, melody *Musicalisches Hand-buch*, Hamburg, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.; desc. Neil Cockburn.

1 On Jor - dan's bank, the Bap - tist's cry an - noun - ces that the
2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make straight the way for
3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our ref - uge, and our
4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the fal - len
5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee whose ad - vent doth thy
Lord is nigh; a - wake and hear - ken,
God with - in. Pre - pare we in our
great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
peo - ple free, whom with the Fa - ther
for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
hearts a home, where such a might - y guest may come.
waste a - way, like flowers that wi - ther and de - cay.
light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
we a - dore and Ho - ly Ghost for ev - er - more.

Reading 8

Luke 1.26–38

Prayer Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord,
that we who have known the incarnation
of your Son Jesus Christ,
announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary,
may by his cross and passion
be brought to the glory of his resurrection;
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

ANTHEM

Ave Generosa

Ola Gjeilo (1978-)
Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179).

Hail, girl of a noble house, shimmering and unpolluted,
you pupil in the eye of chastity, you essence of sanctity, which was pleasing to God.

Reading 9

John 1.1–14

Prayer Eternal Wisdom, creating, ordering, and saving,
we give thanks that we have seen you
in the selfless love of Jesus Christ.
Now reign within our minds and hearts,
and mobilize our wills,
that by your power and through our hands
this world may be re-made
to be the garden and the city of your glory.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

ANTHEM

Thou Shalt Know Him

Mark Sirett (1952-)
Anonymous, 15th cent.

Thou shalt know him when he comes,
not by any din of drums,
nor his manners, nor his airs,
nor by anything he wears.

Thou shalt know him when he comes,
not by his crown or by his gown,
but his coming known shall be,
by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.

Thou shalt know him when he comes. Amen.

Advent Litany

(In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, "Lord Jesus, come soon!")

O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

Collect

Officiant

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

All

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

RESPONSORY

We Wait for Thy Loving Kindness

William McKie (1901-1984)

We wait for thy loving kindness, O God:
in the midst of thy temple.

Alleluia.

O God, according to thy Name,
so is thy praise unto the world's end.
Thy right hand is full of righteousness.

Alleluia.

We wait for thy loving-kindness, O God:
in the midst of thy temple.

O Lord, send us now prosperity.

Amen.

Blessing

Officiant

Be steadfast in faith, joyful in hope,
and untiring in love all the days of your life;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

(CP 89)

Text: Latin (9th cent.?); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.
 Music: VENI EMMANUEL, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale (15th cent.); arr. Healey Willan (1880-1968), alt. ref. desc. and altern. harm.
 David Willcocks (1919-2015); arr. Neil Cockburn.

[All] 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,
[High Voices] 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high,
[Low Voices] 3 O come, O come, great Lord of might,
[All] 4 O come, O Rod of Jes - se's stem,
 and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el
 who or - ders all things might - i - ly;
 who to your tribes on Si - nai's height
 from ev - ery foe de - liv - er them
 that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 to us the path of know - ledge show,
 in that an - cient times once gave the law,
 that trust your might - y power to save,
 un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 and teach us in her ways to go.
 in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 and give them vi - tory o'er the grave.
[All] Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
 shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

[High Voices] 5 O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

[All] Rejoice...

[Low Voices] 6 O come, O Dayspring from on high and cheer us by your drawing
 nigh; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.

[All] Rejoice...

[All] 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of humankind;
 O bid our bitter conflict cease, and be for us our Prince of Peace.

[All] Rejoice...

Postlude

Toccata on "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Andrew Carter (1939-)



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

Vancouver, BC • Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds

Participants in the Service

The Very Reverend Christopher A. Pappas



The Clergy of Christ Church Cathedral

Music

Christ Church Cathedral Choir & Friends
Neil Cockburn, Organist & Director of Music
Angelique Po, Director of Music and Organist, St. Andrews-Wesley United Church

Readers

Emma Jang, John Innes, Neil Cockburn, Michael Law, Farid Rohani, Hope Sealy, Bernard Cuffling,
Susan Alexander, The Very Reverend Christopher A. Pappas

Servers

Terry Love, Dana Osborne, Myriam Beaugé, Matthew Nichiporuk, Jane Callen, Megan Otton

Welcoming Team

Jane Dittrich, James Conklin, Nafiseh Pirasteh, Jim Nesbitt, David Beirsto & Juan Carlos Riano Jaimes

Offertory



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