



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, VICTORIA, BC

# The Advent Procession

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A

Sunday, November 30, 2025 4.00 p.m.



CHRIST CHURCH  
**CATHEDRAL**  
A CATHEDRAL FOR THE CITY



ANGLICAN DIOCESE  
OF ISLANDS AND INLETS  
RENEWED HEARTS, RENEWED SPIRITS, RENEWED PEOPLE

**W**elcome to Christ Church Cathedral. We acknowledge that we gather for this service on Lekwungen territory, and that for thousands of years the Songhees and Esquimalt peoples have walked gently on the unceded land where we now work and worship. We seek the advent of a new relationship with the first peoples here, one based in honour and respect, and we will actively work toward that reconciliation.

### **A note about this evening's readings and procession**

Advent is a season of preparation, a type of active waiting. We wait for hope to be born anew in a world that too often seems dark and is getting darker as the days move deeper into December. As a people of faith, our response is to light candles, increasing every Sunday until Christmas. It reminds us that to actively increase the light present in our world and our own souls is holy work and prepares the way for the Christ Child.

The other thing we do is tell the stories of our faith tradition, stories of loss and lostness, stories of faith and God's continued faithfulness to us. Through this narrative we are reminded that there is an order and plan to salvation history, even when we cannot perceive it, and that often when the world seems dark and the way lost, we are, in fact, closest to God and on the precipice of love appearing from the most unexpected place. Let the beauty of this service do its work in your heart, that you might leave here strengthened for the days ahead, and longing for the coming of Christ again this Christmas season.

### **A note about the Antiphons**

This service is based upon the ancient Advent "O Antiphons." An antiphon is a sentence of scripture or other sacred text which is sung before and then repeated after a canticle or psalm. While their authorship is unclear, from as early as the 8th century, on each of the seven days preceding Christmas, monks sang these particular antiphons at Vespers before and after the Magnificat, or "Song of Mary."

They are referred to as the "O Antiphons" because each addresses Christ with a name or ascription for the Messiah, beginning with the salutary word, "O." Each of these salutations has its roots in the prophecy of Isaiah. So entrenched is this practice, that the days preceding Christmas are often called by the name of their "O Antiphon." It will also be clear that the beloved Advent hymn, "O come, O come, Emmanuel" is based upon the O Antiphons.

### **Organ music before the service**

*Played by Marianne Robinson, Organ Scholar*

Jeanne Demessieux (1921-1968) *Rorate Caeli*, Op. 8, No. 1

*Played by Oriel Chapman, Organ Scholar*

Cecilia McDowall (b. 1951) *O Antiphon Sequence*

No. 2 "O Adonai"

No. 3 "O Radix Jesse"

No. 4 "O Clavis David"

No. 5 "O Oriens"

No. 7 "O Emmanuel"

*Played by Mark McDonald, Assistant Director of Music*

John Behnke (b. 1953) *Chant & Meditation on 'Veni Emmanuel'*

*This service is being broadcast live on the Internet. By attending this afternoon, you acknowledge and consent to the fact that video images of you may appear there.*

*The congregation gathers in expectant silence as the lights are dimmed. All remain seated as the choir sings:*

## **Introit**

*Matin responsory / sung by the choir*

I look from afar:  
and lo, I see the power of God coming,  
and a cloud covering the whole earth.  
Go ye out to meet him and say:  
Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?  
High and low, rich and poor, one with another.  
Go ye out to meet him and say:  
Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel,  
thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.  
Tell us, art thou he that should come?  
Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come  
to reign over thy people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
I look from afar...

*Text: The First Matins Responsory for Advent Sunday  
Music: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (d. 1594)*

## **The Bidding and Entrance**

*Officiant* As we enter, eager and expectant, into the season of Advent,  
let us in prayer and praise, thanksgiving and song,  
give voice to the hope set forth in the Scriptures,  
that Christ's reign of love and light  
will indeed come among us.  
Let us offer ourselves anew as witnesses  
to the advent of Christ's glory,  
seeking to bring Christ's light and love  
to those who sit in darkness.  
May we become a new creation,  
redeemed by Christ, and bringing to fulfilment  
God's will for all.

*People* **Come, Redeemer of the earth.**

## Entrance Hymn

*All stand and sing as the procession moves to the crossing.*



Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,  
and manifest thy virgin-birth:  
let every age adoring fall;  
such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will,  
but of the Spirit, thou art still  
the Word of God, in flesh arrayed,  
the Saviour, now to us displayed.

O equal to thy Father, thou!  
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,  
the weakness of our mortal state  
with deathless might invigorate.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,  
and darkness glow with new-born light,  
no more shall night extinguish day,  
where love's bright beams their power display.

O Jesu, virgin-born, to thee  
eternal praise and glory be,  
whom with the Father we adore  
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

*Text: St. Ambrose (340-397). tr. J.M. Neale (1818-1866).*

*Music: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR; Melody Trier MS (15th cent.);  
adapt. Michael Praetorius (1826-1893), alt.*

## The Lord's Prayer

*remain standing*

*Officiant* Let us pray.

*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.

## WISDOM OF GOD

Antiphon

*all seated*

*O Sapientia,  
 quae ex ore Altissimi prodisti,  
 attingens a fine usque ad finem,  
 fortiter suaviterque disponens omnia:  
 veni ad docendum nos viam prudentiae.*

O Wisdom,  
 coming forth from the mouth of the Most High,  
 reaching from one end to the other, mightily and  
 sweetly ordering all things:  
 Come and teach us the way of prudence.

Reading

Sirach 24.1-9

Wisdom praises herself  
 and tells of her glory in the midst of her people.  
 In the assembly of the Most High she opens her mouth,  
 and in the presence of his hosts she tells of her glory:  
 "I came forth from the mouth of the Most High  
 and covered the earth like a mist.  
 I encamped in the heights,  
 and my throne was in a pillar of cloud.  
 Alone I compassed the vault of heaven  
 and traversed the depths of the abyss.  
 Over waves of the sea, over all the earth,  
 and over every people and nation I have held sway.  
 Among all these I sought a resting place;  
 in whose inheritance should I abide?  
 Then the Creator of all things gave me a command,  
 and my Creator pitched my tent.  
 He said, 'Encamp in Jacob,  
 and in Israel receive your inheritance.'

Before the ages, in the beginning, he begat me,  
and for all the ages I shall not cease to be”.

Reader      The Word of the Lord.  
People      **Thanks be to God.**

### Anthem

When I consider your heavens, even the works of your fingers,  
the moon and stars you have set in their courses,  
what is man that you should be mindful of him?  
And the son of man that you should seek him out?  
You have made him but little lower than the angels,  
you adorn him with glory and honour,  
when I consider your heavens, even the works of your fingers,  
the moon and stars you have set in their courses.  
Amen.

*Text: Psalm 8.4-6*

*Music: Mark McDonald (b. 1987)*

## SACRED LORD OF ANCIENT ISRAEL

### Antiphon

*O Adonai, et Dux domus Israel,  
qui Moysi in igne flammae rubi apparuisti,  
  
et ei in Sina legem dedisti:  
veni ad redimendum nos in brachio extento.*

O Adonai, and leader of the House of Israel,  
who appeared to Moses in the fire of the  
burning bush,  
and gave him the law on Sinai:  
Come and redeem us  
with an outstretched arm.

### Reading

Exodus 3:1-10, 15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, “I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up.” When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” And he said,

“Here I am.” Then he said, “Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” He said further, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, “I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.”

God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you:

This is my name forever,  
and this my title for all generations”.

<i>Reader</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>

## Anthem

Let the coming of the One  
who arranges Orion and the Pleiades  
begin in darkness.  
Let the night be cold, with drifts of snow.  
Let there be one lily blooming,  
and whispered messages, and kneeling.

The fierce earth spins in expectation  
beneath the long night’s moon.  
Like the restless fox crossing frosted meadows,  
the silvered owl in focused, silent flight,  
each of us is hungry.  
In rooms of untold longing,  
we sing our seasoned carols.  
We watch. We wait.

Let the coming of the One  
 who kindles fires of hope,  
 whose faithfulness runs far beyond our sight,  
 be like the coming of a child.  
 Let there be milk, forgiveness, quiet arms.  
 Come quickly, Love, our dearest deep  
 and sweetest dawning.  
 Come, fill us with your light.

*Text: Angier Brock, 2013*  
*Music: Cecilia McDowall (b. 1951)*

## Hymn

*All stand and sing as the procession moves to the head of the South aisle.*



When the King shall come again, all his power revealing,  
 splendour shall announce his reign, life and joy and healing;  
 earth no longer in decay, hope no more frustrated,  
 this is God's redemption day, longingly awaited.

In the desert, trees take root fresh from God's creation;  
 plants and flowers and sweetest fruit join the celebration;  
 rivers spring up from the earth, barren lands adorning.  
 Valleys, this is your new birth; mountains greet the morning!

Strengthen feeble hands and knees; fainting hearts, be cheerful!  
 God, who comes for such as these, seeks and saves the fearful.  
 Deaf ears, hear the silent tongues sing away their weeping;  
 blind eyes, see the lifeless ones, walking, running, leaping.



There God's highway shall be seen where no roaring lion,  
nothing evil or unclean walks the road to Zion:  
ransomed people homeward bound all your praises voicing,  
see your Lord with glory crowned, share in his rejoicing!

*Text: Christopher Idle (1938-). © 1982 Hope Publishing Co.  
Music: TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM; Melody Piaae Cantiones, 1582.*

## THE JESSE TREE

Antiphon

*all seated*

*O radix Jesse,  
qui stas in signum populorum,  
super quem continebunt reges os suum,  
quem Gentes deprecabuntur:  
veni ad liberandum nos, jam noli tardare.*

O Root of Jesse,  
standing as a sign among the peoples;  
before you kings will shut their mouths,  
to you the nations will make their prayer:  
Come and deliver us, and delay no longer.

Reading

Isaiah 11.1-9

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the 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 for the poor  
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.  
The wolf shall live with the lamb;  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;  
the calf and the lion will feed together,  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.  
*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

### Anthem

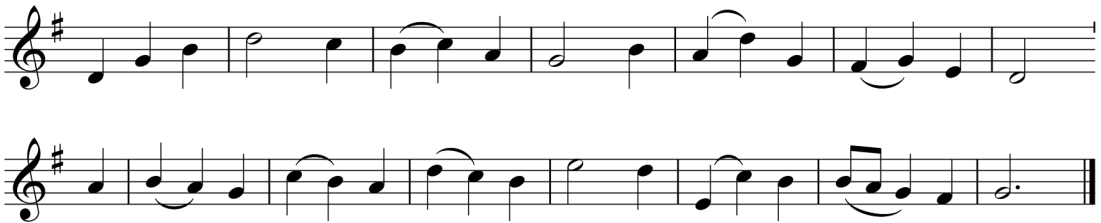
A tender shoot has started up from a root of grace,  
as ancient seers imparted from Jesse's holy race:  
It blooms without a blight, blooms in the cold bleak winter,  
turning our darkness into light.

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 gave her this child to save us,  
Thus turning darkness into light.

*Text: Otto Goldschmidt (d. 1907), trans. William Bartholomew (d. 1867)*  
*Music: Otto Goldschmidt (d. 1907)*

### Hymn

*All stand and sing as the procession travels to the Chapel of Reconciliation.*



Hark! the glad sound! The Saviour comes,  
the Saviour promised long:  
let every heart prepare a throne,  
and every voice a song.

Christ comes, the prisoners to release  
in Satan's bondage held;  
the gates of brass before him burst;  
the iron fetters yield.

Christ comes, the broken heart to bind,  
the bleeding soul to cure;  
and with the treasures of grace  
to bless the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
thy welcome shall proclaim;  
and heaven's eternal arches ring  
with thy beloved Name.

*Text: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751), alt.*

*Music: RICHMOND; Thomas Haweis (1734-1820); adapt. Samuel Webbe the younger (1770?-1843).*

## THE KEY OF DAVID

Antiphon

*all seated*

<i>O Clavis David et sceptrum domus Israel;</i>	O Key of David and sceptre of the House of Israel;
<i>qui aperis, et nemo claudit;</i>	you open and no one can shut;
<i>claudis, et nemo aperit:</i>	you shut and no one can open:
<i>veni, et educ vinctum de domo carceris,</i>	Come and lead the prisoners from the prison
	house,
<i>sedentem in tenebris et umbra mortis.</i>	those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of
	death.

Reading

Revelation 3.7-13

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:

"These are the words of the Holy One, the True One,  
who has the key of David,  
who opens and no one will shut,  
who shuts and no one opens:

"I know your works. Look, I have set before you an open door that no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. I will make all come to you, and they will learn of my love. Because you have kept my word of endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial. I am coming soon; hold fast to what you have, so that no one takes away your crown. I will make you a pillar in the temple of my God; you will never go out of it. I will write on you the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem that comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches."

Reader      The Word of the Lord.  
People      **Thanks be to God.**

Motet

*Locus iste, a Deo factus est, inaestimabile sacramentum, irreprehensibilis est.*

This place was made by God, a sign of inestimable value, irreproachable.

*Text: Gradual for the Dedication of a Church  
Music: Anton Bruckner (d. 1896)*

## CHRIST THE MORNING STAR

Antiphon

O Oriens,  
*splendor lucis aeternae,  
et sol iustitiae:  
veni, et illumina sedentes in tenebris,  
et umbra mortis.*

O Morning Star,  
splendour of light eternal  
and sun of righteousness:  
Come and enlighten those who dwell in  
darkness and the shadow of death.

Reading

Paradiso XXX, 61-75 from *The Divine Comedy* by Dante Alighieri

And light I saw in fashion of a river  
Golden and shimmering, between two banks,  
Depicted with an admirable Spring.

Out of this river issued living sparks,  
And on all sides sank down into the flowers,  
Like unto rubies that are set in gold;

And then, as if inebriate with the odours,  
They plunged again into the wondrous torrent,  
And as one entered issued forth another.

“The high desire, that now inflames and moves thee  
To have intelligence of what thou seest,  
Pleaseth me all the more, the more it swells.

But of this water it behoves thee drink  
Before so great a thirst in thee be quenched.”  
Thus said to me the sunshine of mine eyes.

Here ends the reading.

## Anthem

*Christe qui lux es et dies,  
Noctis tenebras detegis,  
Lucisque lumen crederis,  
Lumen beatum praedicans.*

*Precamur Sancte Domine,  
Defende nos in hac nocte,  
Sit nobis in te requies,  
Quietam noctem tribue.*

*Ne gravis somnus irruat,  
Nec hostis nos surripiat,  
Nec caro illi consentiens,  
Nos tibi reos statuatur.*

*Oculi somnum capiant,  
Cor ad te semper vigilet,  
Dextera tua protegat  
Famulos qui te diligunt.*

*Defensor noster aspice,  
Insidiantes reprime,  
Guberna tuos famulos,  
Quos sanguine mercatus es.*

*Memento nostri Domine  
In gravi isto corpore,  
Qui es defensor animae,  
Adesto nobis Domine.*

*Deo Patri sit gloria,  
Eiusque soli Filio,  
Cum Spiritu Paraclito,  
Et nunc et in perpetuum. Amen.*

Christ, who art the light and day,  
You drive away the darkness of night,  
You are called the light of light,  
For you proclaim the blessed light.

We beseech you, Holy Lord,  
Protect us this night.  
Let us take our rest in you;  
Grant us a tranquil night.

Let our sleep be free from care;  
Let not the enemy snatch us away,  
Nor flesh conspire within him,  
And make us guilty in your sight.

Though our eyes be filled with sleep,  
Keep our hearts forever awake to you.  
May your right hand protect  
Your willing servants.

You who are our shield, behold;  
Restrain those that lie in wait.  
And guide your servants whom  
You have ransomed with your blood.

Remember us, O Lord,  
Who bear the burden of this mortal form;  
You who are the defender of the soul,  
Be near us, O Lord.

Glory be to God the Father,  
And to his only Son,  
With the Spirit, Comforter,  
Both now and evermore. Amen.

*Text: Office hymn for Compline  
Music: William Byrd (d. 1623)*

## Hymn

*All stand and sing as the procession travels to the head of the north aisle.*



Break, day of God, O break!  
The night has lingered long.  
Our hearts with sighing wake;  
we weep for sin and wrong:  
O bright and morning star, draw near;  
O Sun of Righteousness, appear.

Break, day of God, O break!  
The earth with strife is worn;  
the hills with thunder shake;  
hearts of the people mourn:  
break, day of God, sweet day of peace,  
and bid the shout of warriors cease.

Break, day of God, O break,  
like to the days above!  
Let purity awake,  
and faith, and hope, and love.  
But lo! We see the brightening sky;  
the golden morn is drawing nigh.

*Text: Henry Burton (1840-1930).*

Music: CHRISTCHURCH; Charles Steggall (1826–1905).

## GOD, THE RULER OF ALL PEOPLES

## Antiphon

*all seated*

O Rex Gentium, et desideratus earum,  
lapisque angularis, qui facis utraque unum:  
veni, et salva hominem,  
quem de limo formasti.

O King of the nations, and their desire,  
the cornerstone making both one:  
Come and save the human race,  
which you fashioned from clay.

In days to come  
 the mountain of the LORD's house  
 shall be established as the highest of the mountains  
 and shall be raised above the hills;  
 all the nations shall stream to it.  
 Many peoples shall come and say,  
 "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
 to the house of the God of Jacob,  
 that he may teach us his ways  
 and that we may walk in his paths."  
 For out of Zion shall go forth instruction  
 and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.  
 He shall judge between the nations  
 and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
 they shall beat their swords into plowshares  
 and their spears into pruning hooks;  
 nation shall not lift up sword against nation;  
 neither shall they learn war any more.  
 O house of Jacob,  
 come, let us walk  
 in the light of the LORD!

*Reader*  
*People*

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Anthem

Come ye, and let us go up to the mountains of the Lord,  
 to the house of the God of Jacob;  
 and he will teach you his ways, and we will walk in his paths:  
 for out of Zion shall go forth the law,  
 and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.  
 He shall judge among the nations,  
 and shall rebuke many people  
 and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,  
 and their spears into pruning hooks:  
 nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
 neither shall they learn war any more.  
 O house of Jacob, come ye,  
 and let us walk in the light of the Lord.

*Text: Isaiah 2.3*  
*Music: Bernard Rose (d.1996)*

## GOD WITH US

### Antiphon

<i>O Emmanuel, Rex et legifer noster,</i>	O Emmanuel, our king and our lawgiver,
<i>exspectatio Gentium, et Salvator earum:</i>	the hope of the nations and their Saviour:
<i>veni ad salvandum nos, Domine, Deus noster</i>	Come and save us, O Lord our God.

### Reading

O Emmanuel by Malcolm Guite

O come, O come, and be our God-with-us  
O long-sought With-ness for a world without,  
O secret seed, O hidden spring of light.  
Come to us Wisdom, come unspoken Name  
Come Root, and Key, and King, and holy Flame,  
O quickened little wick so tightly curled,  
Be folded with us into time and place,  
Unfold for us the mystery of grace  
And make a womb of all this wounded world.  
O heart of heaven beating in the earth,  
O tiny hope within our hopelessness  
Come to be born, to bear us to our birth,  
To touch a dying world with new-made hands  
And make these rags of time our swaddling bands.

Here ends the reading.

### Anthem

I sing of a maiden  
That is makeless.  
King of all kinges  
To her son she ches.

He came all so stille  
There his mother was,  
As dew in Aprille  
That falleth on the grass.

He came all so stille  
To his mother's bowr,  
As dew in Aprille  
That falleth on the flower.



He came all so stille  
there his mother lay,  
As dew in Aprille  
That falleth on the spray.

Mother and maiden  
Was never none but she;  
Well may such a lady  
Goddes mother be.

*Text: 15th Century English  
Music: Lennox Berkeley (d. 1989)*

### Hymn

*All stand and sing as the procession travels to the high altar*



Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
from tender stem hath sprung,  
of Jesse's lineage coming  
as seers of old have sung.  
It came, a blossom bright  
amid the cold of winter,  
when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
the Rose I have in mind;  
with Mary we behold it,  
the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
she bore to us a Saviour,  
when half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender  
with sweetness fills the air,  
dispel in glorious splendour  
the darkness everywhere;

true man, yet very God,  
from sin and death now save us,  
and share our every load.

*Text: St. 1-2, German (15th cent.); tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934).*

*St. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859); tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925).*

*Music: ES IST EIN' ROS; Melody Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng Köln, 1599; harm.*

*Michael Praetorius (1571-1621).*

## MARY, GOD-BEARER

Antiphon

*all seated*

*O Virgo virginum, quomodo fiet istud?  
Quia nec primam similem visa es nec habere  
sequentem.*

*Filiae Jerusalem, quid me admiramini?  
Divinum est mysterium hoc quod cernitis.*

O Virgin of virgins, how shall this be?  
For neither before thee was any like thee, nor  
shall there be after.

Daughters of Jerusalem, why marvel ye at me?  
The thing which ye behold is a divine mystery.

Reading

Luke 1.26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

*Reader*      The Word of the Lord.  
*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

## Canticle (Sung in Latin)

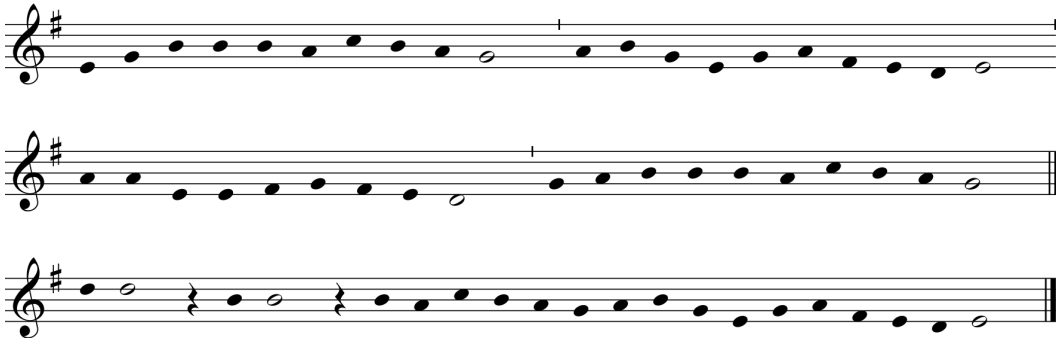
My soul doth magnify the Lord,  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.  
For he hath regarded  
the lowliness of his handmaiden.  
For behold, from henceforth  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me;  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him  
throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm;  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things;  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy  
hath holpen his servant Israel;  
As he promised to our forefathers,  
Abraham and his seed for ever.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be.  
World without end. Amen.

*Text: Magnificat (Luke 1.46-55)*

*Music: Giles Swayne (b. 1946)*

## Offertory Hymn

*All stand and sing the hymn which follows, during which a basket is passed to receive monetary gifts which support the work of Christ Church Cathedral. Our easy to use Tap machines are available at the Quadra St. and Burdett Ave doors. Thank you!*



O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

*Refrain:*

Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
who orders all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show,  
and teach us in her ways to go.

*Refrain*

O come, O come, great Lord of might,  
who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times once gave the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe.

*Refrain*

O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem,  
from every foe deliver them  
that trust your mighty power to save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave.

*Refrain*

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.

*Refrain*

O come, O Dayspring from on high  
and cheer us by your drawing nigh,

disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

*Refrain*

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.

*Refrain*

*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. © 1996 Concordia Publishing House. Used with permission. Ref. desc. and altern. Harm. © 1970 Oxford University Press.*

## The Vesper Responsory & Concluding Prayers

*remain standing*

<i>Officiant</i>	Judah and Jerusalem fear not, neither be dismayed.
<i>People</i>	<b>Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord God will be with you.</b>
<i>Officiant</i>	Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	<b>Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord God will be with you.</b>
<i>Officiant</i>	Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
<i>People</i>	<b>Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord God will be with you.</b>

*All keep silence for a space.*

<i>Choir</i>	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.
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*Text: Vesper Responsory*

*Music: William McKie (d. 1984)*

## Collect

<i>Priest</i>	Let us pray.  O God, who makest us glad with the yearly expectation of thy coming; grant that we, who with joy receive thy only begotten Son as our Redeemer, may without fear behold him when he shall come to be our Judge: even thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.
<i>People</i>	<b>Amen.</b>

## The Blessing

*Officiant* Take with you the glorious music of Advent as you leave this holy place.  
Let it sing to you of the gifts this Holy time can bring.  
The gift of Love for you to share:  
The gift of Joy in all you do:  
The gift of Peace awake and at rest:  
The gift of Faith to strengthen your resolve:  
The gift of Hope for each new day.  
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit  
be with you and those you love, this day and always.

*People* **Amen.**

*Text: The Reverend Canon Herbert O'Driscoll (d. 2024)*

## Concluding Hymn



Lo, he comes with clouds descending,  
once for favoured sinners slain;  
thousand thousand saints attending  
swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him,  
robed in dreadful majesty;  
all who set at nought and sold him,  
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,  
deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply grieving,  
shall the true Messiah see.

Now redemption, long expected,  
 see in solemn pomp appear;  
 all his saints, on earth rejected,  
 thrill the trumpet sound to hear:  
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
 See the day of God appear!

Yea, amen, let all adore thee,  
 high on thine eternal throne;  
 Saviour, take the power and glory;  
 claim the kingdom for thine own:  
 O come quickly! O come quickly, O come quickly,  
 Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

*Text: John Cennick (1718-1755); Charles Wesley (1707-1788), Martin Madan (1726-1790), alt.  
 Music: Melody attrib. Thomas Olivers (1725-1799) and Martin Madan (1726-1790).  
 Descant: David Cooper (1939-2008).*

*Please remain standing as the chancel party and choir depart.*

Voluntary: Passacaglia and Fugue in C minor, BWV 582

J. S. Bach (d. 1750)



### **Assisting with the Service**

*Sidespersons*      Sidespeople of Christ Church Cathedral

*Verger*            Bob Fearnley

*Musicians*        The Christ Church Cathedral Guild of Bell Ringers  
                          The Cathedral Choir and Young Choristers  
                          Mark McDonald, *Assistant Director of Music*  
                          Donald Hunt, *Director of Music*

*Readers*           Crystal Harvey; David Collins; Michele Waters;  
                          Mary Hendy, MDBC; Canon Ian Alexander, AAM, ODBC;  
                          Margaret Ketchen; Susanna Longridge; Caroline Stigant

*Clergy*            The Very Reverend Jonathan Thomas  
                          The Reverend Canon Ian Powell

*Camera and Tech Team*      The Cathedral Technical Team

## CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

Friday, December 5 / 6.30 p.m. & 8.30 p.m.

### **Candlelight Concerts**

*Tickets at [feverup.com](http://feverup.com)*

Wednesday, December 10 / 12.00 p.m.

### **Blue Christmas: A Service of Healing and Hope**

Thursday, December 11, Friday, December 12 / 7.30 p.m. & Sunday, 14 December / 2.30 p.m.

### **Victoria Symphony Presents: Messiah by Candlelight**

*Tickets at [christchurchcathedral.bc.ca](http://christchurchcathedral.bc.ca)*

Friday, December 19 / 5.00 p.m.

### **Community Carol Sing-along**

*Freewill offering*

Sunday, December 21 / 4.00 p.m.

### **Christmas Lessons and Carols\***

*Freewill offering*

Monday, December 22 & Tuesday, December 23 / 7.30 p.m.

### **CapriCCio Vocal Ensemble: Illuminare (Night Before Light)**

*Tickets at [capriccio.ca](http://capriccio.ca)*

Wednesday, December 24 / 4.30 p.m.

### **Peopling the Creche: A family Eucharist for Christmas Eve**

*Freewill offering*

Wednesday, December 24 / 10.00 p.m.

### **Procession & Solemn Eucharist of the Nativity (incense will be used)\***

*Freewill offering*

Thursday, December 25 / 10.30 a.m.

### **Christmas Day: Cathedral Eucharist\***

*Freewill offering*

*The cathedral will be closed on Fri, Dec 26 to Thurs, Jan 1, apart from advertised services and concerts. There will be no Morning or Evening Prayer or midweek Eucharist during this period. The office will be closed Dec 24 to Jan 1.*

Sunday, December 28

8.00 a.m.—Holy Communion

10.30 a.m.—Cathedral Eucharist\*

4.00 p.m.—Olivier Messiaen's 'La Nativité du Seigneur': An Organ Meditation played by Donald Hunt\*

Thursday, January 1 / 2.30 p.m.

### **Old Music for the New Year\***

*Admission by donation*

Saturday, January 4 / 4.00 p.m.

### **The Year of the Organ: Opening Concert**

*Admission by donation*

Monday, January 6 / 7.00 p.m.

### **Solemn Eucharist for the Feast of Epiphany**

*Freewill offering*

(\*livestreamed)