

Lessons & Carols

on Advent Sunday

Welcome to St George's Cathedral

Welcome to St George's Cathedral for this service of Lessons & Carols for Advent. We are so glad that you are here, and hope that this service will provide a quiet time of reflection through music, readings and prayer that will help you enter into this Advent season. We hope to welcome you back soon!

About this Service

Advent is a season of both quiet reflection and joyful expectation. This service is intended to be a time of spiritual preparation, as we journey from darkness to light, watching and waiting for the coming of the Saviour. Through our experience of sacred Word and music, the story of the coming of Christ gradually unfolds and deepens our understanding of God's message of love and redemption. The liturgy itself embodies the sense of Advent in the increasingly powerful prophecies and promises of Holy Scripture. May these words and this music propel you quietly toward the true joy of Christmas.

LEADING THE SERVICE

The Very Reverend Douglas Michael
Officiant

Matthew Larkin
Organist

Brad Barbeau
Conductor

READERS

Megan Ariki, *Order of Lay Readers*
George Boland, *Order of Readers*
Heather Buchan, *Flower Guild*
Sarah Earl, *Order of Deacons*
James McBride, Guild of Servers
Gordie Carter, *Member, Church School*

SIDESPEOPLES

Brian Hinchey
Jim Anderson
Ken Whatley
Geoff Hinch

Front cover image: *The Annunciation* – Murillo Bartolomé Estaban

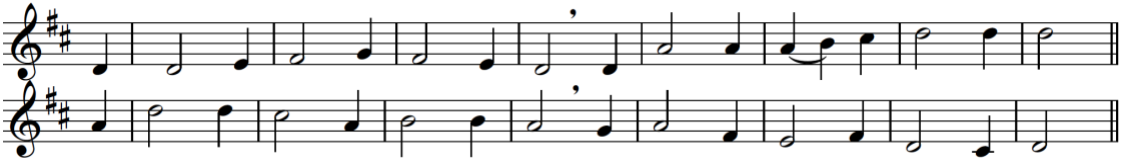
Organ Voluntaries

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 659 J.S. Bach 1685-1755
Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen Johannes Brahms 1833-97

The Matin Responsory | Sung by the choir. Palestrina 1525-94/Willcocks 1919-2015

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 be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
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?

Carol | Sung by all, standing as able.



CHOIR:
Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
Come, manifest thy Virgin-birth:
Let every age adoring fall;
Such birth befits the God of all.

2 Forth from his chamber goeth he,
That royal home of purity,
A giant in twofold substance one,
Rejoicing now his course to run

3 From God the Father he proceeds,
To God the Father back he speeds;
Runs out his course to death and hell,
Returns on God's high throne to dwell.

ALL:
4 O Equal to thy Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now;
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate

5 Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
And darkness breathe a newer light,
Where endless faith shall shine serene,
And twilight never intervene.

6 All laud, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Ghost, for evermore.

Puer Nobis Nascitur St Ambrose c. 340-397
Melody adapted by Michael Praetorius 1571-1621 *tr.* J. M. Neale 1818-66

The Bidding Prayer

Officiant Beloved in Christ, as we await the great festival of Christmas, let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning. Let us hear, in lessons from Holy Scripture, how

the prophets of Israel foretold that God would visit and redeem his waiting people. Let us rejoice, in our carols and hymns, that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled. Let us celebrate the promise that our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, will bring all people and all things into the glory of God's eternal kingdom. The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them.

But first, let us pray for the world which God so loves, for those who have not heard the good news of God, or who do not believe it; for those who walk in darkness and the shadow of death; and for the Church in this place and everywhere, that it may be freed from all evil and fear, and may in pure joy lift up the light of the love of God.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer to God, in the words which Christ himself taught us:

People **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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The people are seated.

The First Lesson | Isaiah 40: 1-8 *read by* Meghan Ariki

The Prophet proclaims good news to a people in exile.

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.' A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Carol | Sung by the choir.

This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love;
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But hearken all both rich and poor.

2 The first thing which I do relate,
Is that God did man create
The next thing which to you I tell,
Woman was made with man to dwell.

3 And we were heirs to endless woes,
Till God the Lord did interpose,
And so a promise soon did run,
That he would redeem us by his Son.

4 And at this season of the year
Our blest Redeemer did appear,
And here did live, and here did preach,
and many thousands he did teach.

5 Thus he in love to us behaved,
To show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way,
Be pleased to hear what he did say.

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
arr. Christopher Robinson (b. 1936)

The Second Lesson | Jeremiah 23: 5-6 *read by* Sarah Earl

The Lord promises to send his people a righteous King.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'

Carol | Sung by the choir.

Adam lay ybounden,
Bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long.

2 And all was for an apple,
An apple that he took,
As clerkes finden
Written in their book.

3 Ne had the apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne had never our lady
A-been heavené queen.

4 Blessed be the time
That apple taken was,
Therefore we moun singen,
Deo gracias!

Boris Ord 1897-1961 Anon., 15th century

Carol | Sung by the choir.

The tree of life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit and always green:
The trees of nature fruitless be
Compared with Christ the apple tree.

2 His beauty doth all things excel:
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see
In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

3 For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly I have bought:
I missed of all; but now I see
'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

4 I'm weary with my former toil,
Here I will sit and rest awhile:
Under the shadow I will be,
Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

5 This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
It keeps my dying faith alive;
Which makes my soul in haste to be
With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

Elizabeth Poston 1905-87 From Divine Hymns or Spiritual Songs compiled by Joshua Smith, New Hampshire, 1784

– CANDLES ARE EXTINGUISHED –

The Third Lesson | Zechariah 9: 9-10 *read by* George Boland

The Lord promises that the King will come to Israel in peace.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the warhorse from Jerusalem; and the battle-bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Carol | Sung by the choir.

Rejoice in the Lord alway,
and again I say, rejoice.
Let your softness be known unto all men:
the Lord is e'en at hand.
Be careful for nothing:
but in all prayer and supplication,
let your petitions be manifest unto God
with giving of thanks.
And the peace of God,
which passeth all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
through Christ Jesu. Amen.

Anon., 16th century (attrib. John Redford) Philippians 4: 4-7

The Fourth Lesson | Haggai 2: 6-9 *read by* James McBride

The Lord's glory is revealed.

For thus says the LORD of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendour, says the LORD of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the LORD of hosts. The latter splendour of this house shall be greater than the former, says the LORD of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the LORD of hosts.

Carol | Sung by the choir.

Let all mortal flesh keep silence
and stand with fear and trembling,
and lift itself above all earthly thought.

For the King of kings and Lord of lords,
Christ our God,
cometh forth to be our oblation,
and to be given for Food to the faithful.

Before Him come the choirs of angels
with every principality and power;
the Cherubim with many eyes, and wingèd Seraphim,
who veil their faces as they shout exultingly the hymn:
Alleluia!

Edward Bairstow 1874-1946 Liturgy of Saint James
Tr. John Mason Neale 1818-66

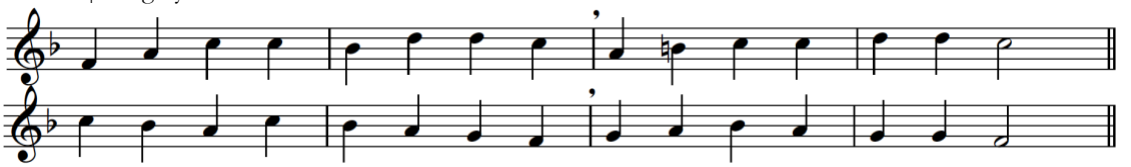
The Fifth Lesson | Isaiah 35: 1-6 *read by* Heather Buchan

The Prophet foretells the glory of the Kingdom of God.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.

During the carol, a collection will be taken. *If you are able, please consider supporting the ministry and mission of St George's Cathedral by giving generously. To give online, you may visit www.stgeorgescathedral.ca/give. Thank you.*

Carol | Sung by all



Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding;
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day.'

2 Wakened by the solemn warning,
Let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.

3 Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from heaven;
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all to be forgiven;

4 That when next he comes with glory,
And the world is wrapped in fear,
With his mercy he may shield us,
And with words of love draw near.

5 Honour, glory, might, and blessing
To the Father and the Son,
With the everlasting Spirit,
While eternal ages run.

Merton
W. H. Monk 1823-1889

Latin
tr. Edward Caswall 1814-78

The Sixth Lesson | St. Luke 1: 26-28 *read by* Gordie Carter

The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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, favoured one! The Lord is with you.'

Carol | Sung by the choir.

A spotless Rose is blowing,
Sprung from a tender root,
Of ancient seers' foreshowing,
Of Jesse promised fruit;
Its fairest bud unfolds to light
Amid the cold, cold winter,
And in the dark midnight.

2 The Rose which I am singing,
Whereof Isaiah said,
Is from its sweet root springing
In Mary, purest Maid;
For through our God's great love and might,
The Blessed Babe she bare us
In a cold, cold winter's night.

Herbert Howells 1892-1983

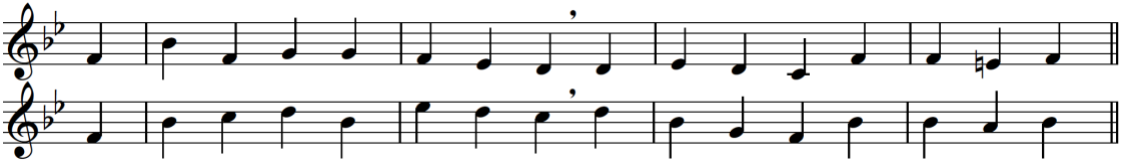
German, 14th century
tr. Catherine Winkworth 1827-78

The Seventh Lesson | St. Mark 1: 1-15 *read by* the Very Reverend Dean Doug Michael

Jesus proclaims the coming of the Kingdom of God.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight"', John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.' In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.' And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.

Carol | Sung by all



On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings.

2 Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
Make straight the way for God within;
Prepare we in our hearts a home,
Where such a mighty guest may come.

3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without thy grace we waste away,
Like flowers that wither and decay.

4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand,
And bid the fallen sinner stand;
Shine forth, and let thy light restore
Earth's own true loveliness once more.

5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Ghost for evermore.

Winchester New
Adapted from a chorale in *Musicalisches Hand-Buch* Hamburg 1690

Charles Coffin 1676-1749
Tr. John Chandler 1808-76

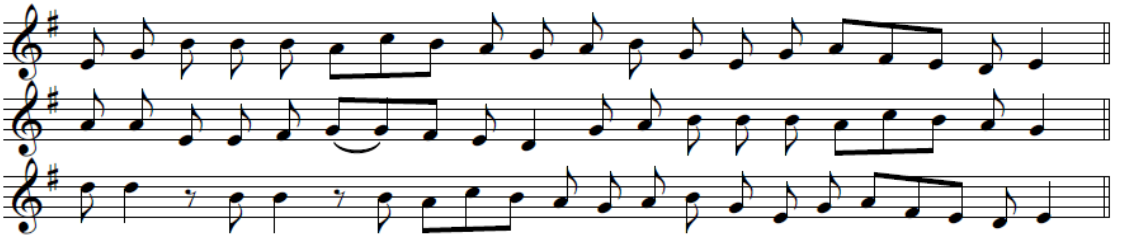
Carol | Sung by the choir.

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.

Mark Sirret b. 1952

Dedicated to "the Gentlemen and Boy Choristers of the Cathedral Church of St George, Kingston, Ontario, Canada."

Carol | Sung by all



O come, O come, Emmanuel!
Redeem thy captive Israel
That into exile drear is gone,
Far from the face of God's dear Son.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

2 O come, thou Wisdom from on high
Who madest all in earth and sky,
Creating us from dust and clay:
To us reveal salvation's way.

3 O come, O come, Adonai,
Who in thy glorious majesty
From Sinai's mountain, clothed with awe,
Gavest thy folk the ancient law.

4 O come, thou root of Jesse, draw
The quarry from the lion's claw;
From the dread caverns of the grave,
From nether hell, thy people save.

5 O come, thou Lord of David's key!
The royal door fling wide and free;
Safeguard for us the heavenward road,
And bar the way to death's abode.

6 O come, O come, thou dayspring bright!
Pour on our souls thy healing light;
Dispel the long night's lingering gloom,
And pierce the shadows of the tomb.

7 O come, desire of nations, show
Thy kingly reign on earth below;
Thou cornerstone, uniting all,
Restore the ruin of our fall

Veni Emmanuel
Melody adapted from a French Missal by Thomas Helmore 1811-90

Latin Advent Antiphons
tr Thomas Alexander Lacey 1853-1931
And the Editors of the New English Hymnal, 1986

The Vesper Responsory

Palestrina 1525-94/arr. Ledger 1937-2012

Cantor Judah and Jerusalem fear not, neither be dismayed.
Choir Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, He will be with you.

Cantor Stand ye still and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.
Choir Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, He will be with you.

Cantor Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost
Choir Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, He will be with you.

Cantor We wait for thy loving kindness, O Lord.
Choir In the midst of thy temple.

The Collect for Advent Sunday

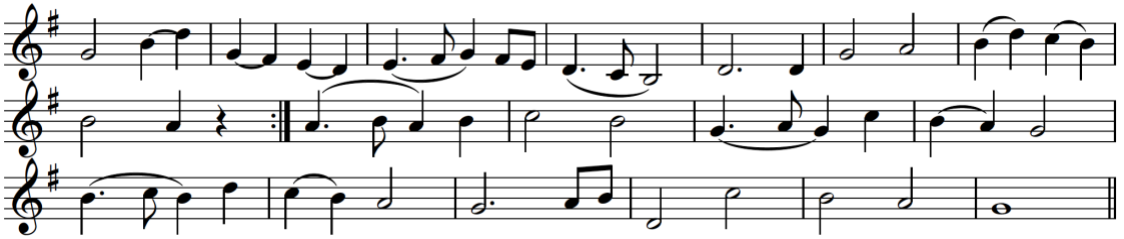
Officiant Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever.
Choir Amen.

The 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.

People **Amen.**

Carol | Sung by all



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

2 Every eye shall now behold him
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the Tree,
Deeply wailing,
Shall the true Messiah see.

3 Those dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshippers:
With what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars!

4 Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,
High on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
Claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

Helmsley
Melody noted by Thomas Olivers 1725-99

Charles Wesley 1707-88
John Cennick 1718-55

Organ Voluntary

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

J.S. Bach 1685-1755

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ADVENT *&* CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL

Learn more at www.stgeorgescathedral.ca/christmas

Choral Evensong | Wednesday 2 December • 7:00pm
Blue Christmas: A Service of Reflection *&* Remembrance | Wednesday 16 December • 12:15pm
Handel's *Messiah* with **Caelis Academy Ensemble |** Wednesday 16 December • 6:00pm
Christmas Lessons *&* Carols | Sunday 20 December • 3:00 pm
Christmas Eve | 4:00pm • 8:00pm
Christmas Day | 10:00am

The Cathedral Church of St George
www.stgeorgescathedral.ca

The Very Rev. Douglas Michael, *Dean & Rector*
Brad Barbeau, *Director of Music*