

**A SERVICE OF
LESSONS AND CAROLS
FOR ADVENT**

Sunday, December 9, 2018



THE ANNUNCIATION
Fra Angelico, 1439



ST. THOMAS'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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Prelude

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659
Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen, Op. 122, No. 8

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)
Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

Introit: Advent Message *(sung by the Choristers)*

Martin How (b. 1931)

Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.
O come quickly.
Yea, come quickly.

The voice of Him that crieth in the wilderness,
Prepare ye the way of the Lord,
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Text: Martin How (b. 1931)

At the ringing of the bell, please stand.

O come, O come, Emmanuel *(sung by all)*

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Em-man - u - el, and ran - som cap-tive Is - ra - el,
2. O come, thou Wis - dom from ___ on high, who or - d'rest all things might - i - ly;
LOWER VOICES 3. O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from Sa-tan's ty - ran - ny
UPPER VOICES 4. O come, thou Day-spring from ___ on high, and cheer us by thy draw - ing nigh;
5. O come, O come, Em-man - u - el, and ran - som cap-tive Is - ra - el,
that mourns in lone-ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ___ ap - pear.
to us the path of know - ledge show, and teach us in her ways ___ to go.
that trust thy might y power ___ to save, and give them vic - t'ry o'er ___ the grave.
dis - perse the gloom y clouds ___ of night, and death's dark sha-dows put ___ to flight.
that mourns in lone-ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ___ ap - pear.
Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Bidding Prayer

Priest

Dear People of God: in this season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against our God until the glorious redemption brought to us by God's holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and justice on earth; for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and within this city of New Haven.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless; the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children; as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

Priest and 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 Almighty God bless us with his grace: Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

All are seated.

First Lesson: Genesis 3:1-15

Madison Thompson

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."

He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me,

she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.” Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent tricked me, and I ate.”

The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”

Adam lay ybounden (*sung by the choir*)

Boris Ord (1897-1961)

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 ladie
A-been heav'ne 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!

Text: Anonymous 15th-century English

Second Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-9

Joann Sweasy

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 the poor, and decide with equity for the meek 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 and the fatling 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.

A shoot shall come forth (*sung by the choir*)

Richard Horn (1938–2004)

A shoot shall come forth out of Jesse,
And a bud shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of life shall be with him,
The spirit of wisdom and truth.

Then the lamb shall lie down with the
leopard,
And the lion eat straw with the ox,
For the hand of a Child shall lead them
To the peaceable kingdom of God.

From out of the wells of salvation
 Will he draw us the water of life;
 His waist shall be girdled with justice,
 The heart of his heart shall be Love.

He'll come from the end of his heaven,
 And the earth shall be torn from its place;
 Our lives shall be filled with his radiance
 As floodwaters cover the sea.

Text: Richard Horn, based on Isaiah 11 and 32:18

Third Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10

Kate Ross

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; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

All stand.

"Sleepers, wake!" *(sung by all)*

Wachet auf

1 "Sleep-ers, wake!" A voice a - stounds us, the
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her
 3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let

shout of ram - part - guards sur - rounds us: "A -
 heart with joy - ful hope is spring - ing, she
 saints and an - gels sing be - fore you, as

wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!" Mid - night's peace their
wakes and hur - ries through the night. Forth he comes, her
harps and cym - bals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the

cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum - mons clear - ly spo -
Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in truth vic - to -
ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to join the im - mor -

ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!
rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.
tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.

Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in
Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate
No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de -

sight. Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and
Word, Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and
light: Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to

has - ten there, that you the wed - ding feast may share."
heed your call to come in - to the ban - quet hall.
greet our King; for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

All are seated.

Fourth Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-11

Craig Bottiger

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 forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

All stand.

Comfort, comfort ye my people *(sung by all)*

Psalm 42

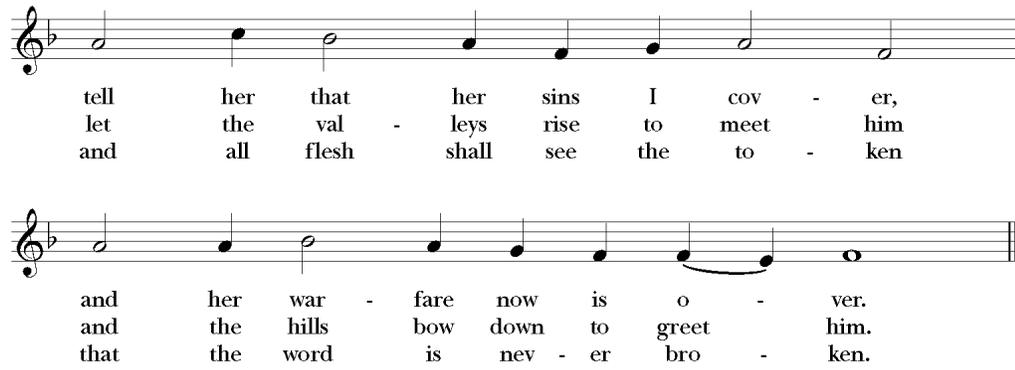
Choir alone

1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er

saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,

mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry

ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,
 let the val - leys rise to meet him
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken

and her war - fare now is o - ver.
 and the hills bow down to greet him.
 that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Psalm 42*, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. *Hymnal 1982*

All are seated.

Fifth Lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9a

Denise Terry

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Never weather-beaten sail *(sung by the choir)*

C. Hubert H. Parry (1848–1918)

Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore,
 Never tired pilgrim's limbs affected slumber more,
 Than my wearied sprite now longs to fly out of my troubled breast:
 O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest!
 Ever blooming are the joys of Heaven's high Paradise,
 cold age deafs not there our ears nor vapour dims our eyes:
 Glory there the sun outshines whose beams the blessed only see:
 O come quickly, glorious Lord, and raise my sprite to Thee!

Text: Thomas Campion (1567–1620)

Sixth Lesson: Zephaniah 3:14-18

Don Edwards

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

O holy Lord *(sung by the choir)*

R. Nathaniel Dett (1882–1943)

O holy Lord,
Done with sin and sorrow;
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord.

Text: Traditional

Seventh Lesson: Isaiah 7:10-15

Judy Thompson

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

All stand.

Rejoice! rejoice, believers *(sung by all)*

Llangloffan

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve-ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark-ened sphere!

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The first system contains three verses of lyrics. The second system contains the final lines of the hymn. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride-groom is at hand!
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt.
 Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Egbwys yng Nghymru*, 1865

All are seated.

Eighth Lesson: Micah 5:2-4

Kyle Holton

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

Laetentur coeli (*sung by Schola Antiqua*)

William Byrd (c1540–1623)

Laetentur coeli et exsultet terra
 jubilate montes laudem
 quia Dominus noster veniet
 et pauperum suorum miserebitur.

Rejoice, O heavens, and be joyful, O earth.
 Give praise, O hills,
 for our Lord shall come
 and show mercy to his humble people.

Text: Isaiah 49:13

All stand for the Ninth Lesson.

Ninth Lesson: Luke 1:26-38

Derek Stefanovsky

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.

All are seated.

Bogoroditse Devo (*sung by the choir*)

Serge Rachmaninoff (1873–1943)

Bogoroditse Devo, raduysia,
Blagodatnaya Mariye,
Ghospod s Toboyu.
Blagoslovenna Tí v zhenah,
i blagosloven Plod chreva Tvoyego,
yako Spasa rodila
yesi dush nashih.

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos,
Mary full of grace,
the Lord is with Thee.
Blessed art Thou among women,
and blessed is the Fruit of Thy womb,
for Thou hast borne
the Savior of our souls.

Text: Angelus (Ave Maria)

All stand.

Vesper Responsory

Deacon: Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed:

People: Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Deacon: Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord:

People: Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Deacon: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

People: Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

A period of silence is kept.

Priest

Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your 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 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. **Amen.**

Lo, he comes, with clouds descending *(sung by all)*

Helmsley

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

The Blessing

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Voluntary Fugue in A minor, BWV 543 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Please remain standing as the procession leaves the church. You may then be seated to enjoy the offering of organ music.

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