

Advent Lessons and Carols with Procession

Organ Prelude Chorale Prelude on "Nun komm' der Heiden Heiland" (BWV 659)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Chorale Prelude on "Es ist ein Ros' entprungen" (Op. 122)

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Please note that during the yellow phase of re-opening, mask wearing continues to be required, and congregational singing is permitted if masked.

The Service begins in darkness.

Matin Responsory

Versicle Arise, O God, maintain thine own cause : For all the earth is full of darkness. Response

Collect for Advent

Celebrant 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. Amen.

Hymn

Creator of the starry height (sung by the choir)

Hymn

Veni Redemptor Gentium Descant: D. Willcocks

Verse 1 is sung alone by the choir, as the congregation's candles are lit.

- 2 Begotten of no human will, But of the Spirit, thou art still The Word of God in flesh arrayed, The promised fruit to man displayed.
- 3 Forth from his chamber goeth he, That royal home of purity, A giant in twofold substance one, Rejoicing now his course to run.
- 4 From God the Father he proceeds, To God the Father back he speeds: His course he runs to death and hell, Returning on God's throne to dwell.

The Procession moves to the entrance to the Chancel.

Bidding Prayer

Celebrant Beloved in Christ, the season of Advent bids us prepare ourselves both for the celebration of Christ's nativity as also for the day when he shall come to judge the hearts of us all. So, in sorrow

Music by G.P. da Palestrina

Plainsong

- 5 O equal to the Father, thou! Gird on thy fleshly mantle now: The weakness of our mortal state With deathless might invigorate.
- 6 Thy cradle here shall glitter bright, And darkness breathe a newer light. Where endless faith shall shine serene, And twilight never intervene.
- 7 All laud, eternal Son, to thee Whose advent sets thy people free, Whom with the Father we adore And Holy Ghost for evermore.

and penitence, let us confess our failures and shortcomings, and renew in ourselves the vision of God's perfect kingdom, which is the end of all our strivings and the consummation of God's loving purposes for us.

In word and music we will give voice to the hope set forth in the scriptures, that God's kingdom will come; and, with John the Baptist and the Blessed Virgin Mary, we will prepare for its coming, celebrating its dawning in the birth, life and death of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

But first let us pray for those who, by reason of their adversity, yearn especially for its coming: the hungry and the homeless, the sick and the sorrowful, the lonely and the unloved; those who sit in the darkness of despair or who walk in the shadow of death. Let us pray for the leaders of the nations and for all who strive for the establishment of justice, righteousness and peace; and, that it may bear witness to this hope in a world divided by wrath and sorrow, let us pray for the well-being and unity of Christ's body, the Church.

Let us then pray for the coming of God's kingdom, in the words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

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 them that 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.

May the Lord when he comes find us watching and waiting. Amen.

The congregation is seated.

Antiphon O Sapientia (O Wisdom)

Please stand.

Hymn 63

- HARK! a herald voice is sounding; 'CHRIST is nigh,' it seems to say;
 'Cast away the dreams of darkness, O ye children of the day!'
- Wakened by the solemn warning, Let the earth-bound soul arise;
 CHRIST, her Sun, all sloth dispelling, Shines upon the morning skies.
- 3 Lo! the Lamb, so long expected, Comes with pardon down from heaven; Let us all, with tears of sorrow,
 - Pray that we may 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.

The Procession moves to the Sanctuary.

The congregation is seated.

First Lesson : Isaiah 6:1-12

God commissions Isaiah to be the Prophet of the Advent

In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto

Barbara Nimigan

Plainsong

Merton

Descant: W. Warren

another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. Then said I. Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts. Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged. Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.

And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed. Then said I, Lord, how long? And he answered, Until the cities be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate, and the Lord have removed men far away, and there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land.

Reader Here endeth the first lesson.

Carol

People look East (Carol of the Advent)

Besançon Carol, arr. M. Shaw Roger Lucy

Second Lesson : Isaiah 40: 1-8

The Prophet proclaims good news to a people in exile

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins. 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. 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 plain: and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field: the grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

Reader Here endeth the second lesson.

Carol

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come

Third Lesson : Zechariah 2:10-13

The Prophet tells of the coming of the Lord and increase of His kingdom

Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion: for, lo, I come, and I will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the Lord. And many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day, and shall be my people: and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know that the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto thee. And the Lord shall inherit Judah his portion in the holy land, and shall choose Jerusalem again. Be silent, O all flesh, before the Lord: for he is raised up out of his holy habitation.

Reader Here endeth the third lesson.

Carol

Adam lay ybounden

Please stand.

Boris Ord (1897-1961)

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Diane Roussel

Stuttgart

- COME, thou long-expected JESUS, Born to set thy people free;
 From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in thee.
- Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth thou art Dear Desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

The Procession moves to the Lady Altar.

Gospel of the Salutation : Luke 1:26-35, 38

The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary

Born thy people to deliver;
 Born a Child and yet a King;
 Born to reign in us for ever;
 Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4 By thine own eternal SPIRIT Rule in all our hearts alone :By thine all sufficient merit Raise us to thy glorious throne.

The Rev. Deacon Stephen Zytveld

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation is seated.

Carol

There is no rose of such virtue

The Procession returns to the entrance to the Chancel.

Gospel of the Advent : Matthew 1:18-23

Fr Graham Eglington

John Joubert (1927-2019)

St Matthew tells of the coming of the birth of Jesus

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Hymn 548

Thanks be to God. The congregation sits and extinguishes the candles.

Antiphon O Emmanuel (O God with us)

Carol

On Christmas Night (Sussex Carol)

Please stand.

Hymn 60

- LO! he comes with clouds descending, Once for favoured sinners slain; Thousand thousand saints attending Swell the triumph of his train : Alleluia! CHRIST appears on earth again.
- Every eye shall now behold him Robed in dreadful majesty;
 Those who set at nought and sold him, Pierced and nailed him to the tree, Deeply wailing, Shall the true Messiah see.

Plainsong

English trad., arr. P. Ledger

Helmsley

- 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 Now redemption, long expected, See in solemn pomp appear;
 All his saints, by man rejected, Now shall meet him in the air : Alleluia !
 See the day of GOD appear.

5 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.

Vesper Responsory

Versicle	Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;	
Response	Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.	
Versicle	Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord;	
Response	Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.	
Versicle	Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;	
Response	Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.	
Versicle	The Lord be with you;	
Response	And with thy spirit.	

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All kneel.

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 them that 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.

Versicle Response	We wait for thy loving kindness, O Lord; In the midst of thy temple.			
Collect for Christmas				
Celebrant	O God, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that as we joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold him when he shall come again to be our Judge; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. Amen .			
Blessing				
Celebrant	Open wide, O Lord, the gates of heaven and visit thy people in peace; send forth thy Spirit from on high that their hearts may be uplifted unto thee. O Lord, who for our sake wast of a virgin born, make holy thy people, and bless thine heritage; And the blessing of God Almighty, \bigstar the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and abide with you forever. Amen.			
Hymn 62		Veni Emmanuel Descant: P. Ledger		
	1 O COME, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the SON of GOD appear. Rejoice ! Rejoice ! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.	 O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer Our spirits by thine Advent here; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice ! Rejoice ! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel. 		
	 O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny; From depths of hell thy people save, And give them victory o'er the grave. Rejoice ! Rejoice ! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel. 	 4 O come, thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heavenly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery. Rejoice ! Rejoice ! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel. 		
5 O come, O come, thou LORD of might, Who to thy tribes, from Sinai's height, In ancient times didst give the law In cloud, and majesty, and awe. Rejoice ! Rejoice ! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.				
Organ PostludeFuga sopra il Magnificat (BWV 733)J.S. Bach (1685-1750)				



St. Barnabas, Apostle and Martyr

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