



Advent
LESSONS & CAROLS

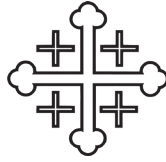
WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

— *Isaiah 7:14*

Welcome to Washington National Cathedral and this service of Advent Lessons & Carols. Advent is a season of both quiet reflection and joyful expectation. This service is intended to be a time of spiritual preparation, as we watch and wait for the coming of the Kingdom of God. 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.



ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

DECEMBER 3, 2023 • 4:00 PM

The people's responses are in bold.

CARILLON PRELUDE

<i>Verbum supernum (Sarum plainsong)</i>	Roy Hamlin Johnson (1929–2020)
<i>Sleepers, Awake, BWV 645</i>	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750); arr. Bernard Winsemius (b. 1945)
“Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland” from <i>III Danziger Choräle für Carillon</i> ; 1784	Johann Eggert (1728–1803)
<i>Blessed Be That Maid, Mary</i>	Traditional English; arr. Robert B. Grogan (b. 1939)
Choral Prelude on “There Is a Rose”	Koen Cosset (b. 1963)
“Prepare the Way, O Zion” from <i>Three Carillon Preludes for Advent</i>	Geert D’hollander (b. 1965)
<i>People, Look East</i>	<i>Besançon</i> ; arr. Frank P. Law (1918–1985)

ORGAN PRELUDE

<i>Advent Fantasia</i>	John Hosking (b. 1976)
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INTROIT

<i>Matin Responsory</i>	June Nixon (b. 1942)
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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 thou that ledest 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?

(First Responsory of Advent Sunday in the Office of Matins, early medieval Roman rite)

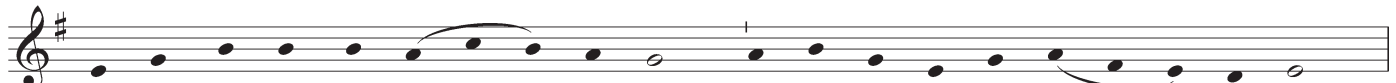
The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION • 56 (STANZAS 1-2, 5-6)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Sung by all.

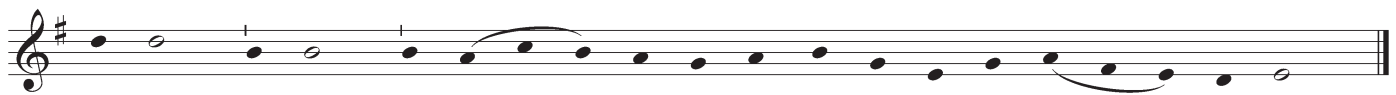
Veni, veni, Emmanuel



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 - derest all things might - i - ly;
5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our heaven - ly home;
6. O come, thou Day-spring from on high, and cheer us by thy draw - ing nigh;



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.
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Dear People of God: In the 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 him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his 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 in this city.

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.

Finally, 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 gather up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us, saying:

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.

Officiant 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.

People Amen.

The people are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON • GENESIS 3:8-14

Adam and Eve rebel against God.

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."

CAROL

Adam Lay Ybounden

Howard Skempton (b. 1947)

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

And all was for an apple,
An apple that he took.
As clerkës finden written
In their book.

Ne had the apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne hadde never Our Lady,
A-been heaven's queen.

Blessed be the time
That apple taken was!
Therefore we may singen,
Deo gratias! (Thanks be to God!)

(Anonymous 15th-century English)

THE SECOND LESSON • ISAIAH 40:1-11

The people of God are comforted and called to prepare for redemption.

"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.

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People**Sung by all.**Psalm 42*

1. Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
 2. Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert far and near,
 3. Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er pla - ces plain;

com - fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load.
 call - ing us to new re - pent - ance since the king - dom now is here.
 let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits his ho - ly reign.

Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;

tell her that her sins I cov - er, and her war - fare now is o - ver.
 let the val - leys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

The people are seated.

THE THIRD LESSON • JEREMIAH 31:31-34

A new covenant is promised.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

CAROL

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Edward Bairstow (1874–1946)

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.

(From the Liturgy of Saint James)

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

THE FOURTH LESSON • BARUCH 4:36–5:9

The Scribe Baruch urges the people to look East because salvation is at hand.

Look toward the east, O Jerusalem, and see the joy that is coming to you from God. Look, your children are coming, whom you sent away; they are coming, gathered from east and west, at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God. Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, “Righteous Peace, Godly Glory.” Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God’s command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

CAROL

Canite tuba

Francisco Guerrero (1528–1599)

Sung in Latin.

Blow the trumpet in Zion;

for the day of the Lord is coming, it is near.

Behold, he is coming to save us.

The uneven ground shall become level,

and the rough places a plain.

Come, Lord, and do not delay.

(after Joel 2:1a, 1d and Isaiah 40:4)

THE FIFTH LESSON • ISAIAH 11:1-9

The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon the Holy One.

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.

CAROL

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen

Jan Sandström (b. 1954), after Michael Praetorius (1571–1621)

Sung in German.

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.

(Anonymous German carol)

THE SIXTH LESSON • ZEPHANIAH 3:14-18

The Lord will be among us; we are summoned to rejoice and sing.

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.

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN • 72

Hark! The Glad Sound!

Sung by all.

Richmond

1. Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior prom - ised long;
2. He comes, the pris - oners to re - lease in Sa - tan's bond - age held;
3. He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing soul to cure;
4. Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come shall pro - claim;

let ev - ery heart pre - pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.
the gates of brass be - fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
and with the trea - sures of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
and heaven's e - ter - nal arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

The people are seated.

THE SEVENTH LESSON • LUKE 1:26-38

The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High.

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.

The people stand as able.

THE VESPER RESPONSORY

J. Nixon

Cantor Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor 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.
Leader We wait for your loving kindness, O Lord.
People **In the midst of your temple.**

THE COLLECT FOR ADVENT

Officiant O God, who makes us glad with the yearly expectation of your coming, grant that we, who with joy receive your only-begotten Son as our Redeemer, may without fear behold him when he shall come to be our Judge, even your son our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.
People **Amen.**

The people are seated.

THE OFFERTORY

An offering is received to support the Cathedral's ministry of sharing God's love. All are invited to make a gift as the plate is passed, at cathedral.org/give, or by scanning the QR code on the back cover of this leaflet.

CAROL AT THE OFFERTORY

O Thou, the Central Orb

Charles Wood (1866–1926)

O Thou, the central orb of righteous love,
Pure beam of the Most High, eternal Light
Of this our wintry world; thy radiance bright
Awakes new joy in faith: hope soars above.

Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine;
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine.

Thy saints with holy luster round thee move,
As stars about thy throne, set in the height
Of God's ordaining counsel, as thy sight
Gives measured grace to each, thy power to prove.

Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin:
Our nature all shall feel eternal day
In fellowship with thee, transforming ray
To souls, erewhile unclean, now pure within. Amen.

(Henry Ramsden Bramley, 1833–1917)

The people stand as able.

THE COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Officiant 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.

People Amen.

THE ADVENT BLESSING

Officiant 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.

People Amen.

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

People Amen.

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

People Amen.

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

People Amen.

HYMN AT THE CLOSING • 57

Lo! He Comes, with Clouds Descending

Sung by all.

Helmsley



1. Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for our sal - va - tion
 2. Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in dread - ful ma - jes -
 3. Those dear to - kens of his pas - sion still his daz - zling bo - dy
 4. Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on thine e - ter - nal



slain; thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph
 - ty; those who set at nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him
 bears, cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed
 throne; Sa - vior, take the power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom



of his train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 to the tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 wor - ship - ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 for thine 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.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Triptych on "Helmsley"

Brenda Portman (b. 1980)

- I. Fanfare
- II. Berceuse
- III. Toccata

CARILLON POSTLUDE

Paraphrase on "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Albert C. Gerken (b. 1938)

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2023

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

Handel's *Messiah* • 7:00 PM (nave) tickets required

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Handel's *Messiah* - Family Concert • NOON (nave) tickets required

Handel's *Messiah* • 4:00 PM (nave) tickets required

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Holy Eucharist • 8:00 AM (St. Mary's Chapel) • 11:15 AM (nave + live webcast)

Handel's *Messiah* • 4:00 PM (nave + live webcast) tickets required

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

Christmas with the King's Singers • 7:00 PM (nave) tickets required

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Holy Eucharist • 8:00 AM (St. Mary's Chapel) • 11:15 AM (nave + live webcast)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

Blue Christmas Service • 7:00 PM (Great Choir + live webcast)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

Gospel Christmas • 6:00 PM (nave + live webcast) passes required

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

Family Christmas Service • 11:00 AM (nave + live webcast) passes required

Christmas Lessons and Carols • 6:00 PM (nave + live webcast) passes required

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24: FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Holy Eucharist • 11:15 AM (nave + live webcast)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24: CHRISTMAS EVE

Christmas Lessons and Carols • 6:00 PM (nave + live webcast) passes required

Festival Holy Eucharist of Christmas Eve • 10:00 PM (nave + live webcast) passes required

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25: CHRISTMAS DAY

Festival Holy Eucharist of Christmas Day • 11:15 AM (nave + live webcast)

Christmas Day Organ Recital • 1:30 PM (nave + live webcast)

Christmas services passes are available at: Cathedral.org/Christmas

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Julie DeBoer
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Dr. Edward M. Nassor
Carillonneur

Thank you for joining us today. Please know that your presence is a blessing.

From the candles used in worship services to the materials used in restoration projects, the ministries of this House of Prayer for All People are funded entirely through gifts from individuals like you. Because the Cathedral receives no operating support from the federal government or national church body, your generosity truly sustains our mission.

All are invited to support the Cathedral's ministry of sharing God's love, hope and peace this Advent season. Make your gift as the plate is passed, online at cathedral.org/give, or by scanning the QR code on the back cover of this leaflet. To use the QR code, open your cell phone or tablet camera and hold it over the shape. Tap the link or small box that appears and you will be taken to our secure donation page.

Thank you for your gift, for your friendship, and for all the ways in which you bring the Christ child afresh into our world.

ADVENT GREENS The Advent greens are given to the glory of God. The Advent wreath in the mid-nave: in loving memory of Sarah Stewart Scarborough. The Advent wreath in St. Mary's Chapel: in Thanksgiving. The greens on the Holy Spirit Chapel altar: in memory of Everett G. Fuller. The Advent wreath in Bethlehem Chapel: in memory of Joan Sager Vandemark.

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All are invited to support the Cathedral's ministry of sharing God's love, hope, and peace this Advent season.



Make your gift as the plate is passed, online at cathedral.org/give, by texting the dollar amount you wish to give to 202-856-9005, or scanning the QR code at left. To use the QR code, open your cell phone or tablet camera and hold it over the shape. Tap the link or small box that appears and you will be taken to our secure donation page.