

HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH

November 30, 2025

The First Sunday of Advent



An Advent Service of Lessons & Carols

Organ Prelude

Please stand at the beginning of the “Matin Responsory”.

The Matin Responsory – Palestrina

Cantor: *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:*

Choir: *Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?*

Cantor: *High and low, rich and poor, one with another,*

Choir: *Go ye out to meet him and say:*

Cantor: *Hear O thou shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep,*

Choir: *Tell us, art thou he that should come? Stir up thy strength O lord and come to reign over thy people Israel*

Cantor: *Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost*

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?*

Veni, Redemptor gentium (A hymn of St. Ambrose), Praetorius/Willcocks (Choir only on Verse 1)

Praetorius/Willcocks

All laud, e - ter - nal Son, to thee Whose ad -

Come, thou Re - deem - er of the earth, And ma - ni -
Be - got - ten of hu - man ther, will, But of on the
O - c - qual to thy fa - ther, thou! Gird on thy
Thy cra - dle here shall glit - ter bright, And dark - ness
All laud, e - ter - nal Son, to thee Whose ad - vent

vent sets thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther we -

fest thy vir - gin - birth; Let ev - 'ry age a - dor - ing
spir - rit thou art still The word of God in flesh ar -
flesh - ly man - le now; The weak - ness of our mor - tal
breathe a new - er light, Where end - less faith shall shine ser -
sets thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther we a -

adore, And Ho - ly Ghost for ev - er - more. A - men

fall; Such birth be - fits the God of all.
rayed, The pro - mised fruit to man dis - played
state With death - less might in - vi - gor - ate
ene and twi - light nev - er in - ter - venc.
dore, And Ho - ly Ghost for ev - er - more. A - men

Welcome

A Bidding Prayer

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 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. **Amen.**

The congregation is invited to be seated for all lessons and carols, and to stand for the congregational hymns.

First Lesson: Genesis 3:1-20 read by Lydia Neufeld

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.' To the woman he said, 'I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.' And to the man he said, 'Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, "You shall not eat of it", cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.' The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all who live.

Choir Carol: Adam Lay Ybounden - John Ireland

*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 clerkes finden written
In their book.*

*Ne had the apple taken been
The apple taken been;
Ne had never our lady
A-been heavene queen.*

*Blessed be the time
That apple taken was,
Therefore we moun singen
Deo gratias!*

Second Lesson: Isaiah 40: 1-11 read by David Arndt

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. 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.

Congregational Hymn: Vox clamantis in deserto, *Henry Hugh Bancroft*

Henry Hugh Bancroft



There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a ____
O ____ Zi - on, that bring - est good ti - dings, get thee
but the word of our ____ God en - dur - eth, the ____



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the de - sert a
up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a de - so - late
arm of the Lord is strong; he ____ stands in the midst of



high - way, a high - way for ____ our God! The ____
peo - ple the com - ing of ____ their King. Like the
na - tions, and he will right ____ the wrong. He shall



val - ley shall be ex - alt - ed, the lof - ty ____ hills brought
flow'rs of the field they ____ per - ish, the works of ____ men de -
feed his ____ flock like a shepherd, and fold the ____ lambs to his



low: make straight all the crook - ed pla - ces where the
cay, the pow'r and ____ pomp ____ of na - tions shall ____
breast; in pas - tures of peace ____ he'll lead ____ them, and ____



Lord our ____ God ____ may go!
pass like a dream ____ a - - way
give to the wea - ry rest.

Third Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-9 *read by David Belke*

A shoot shall come out from the stock 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.

Choir Carol: Come Quickly, Lord Jesus - Mark Schweizer

O come now Lord Jesus, our Dayspring, our Cheer,
And lift up our spirits by your Advent here.
The herald is calling, his cry we obey,
In deserts and valleys, "Prepare God a way."

O come, Root of Jesse, O come now and free
Your people, Your children, from death's tyranny.
The poor and the needy who suffer great wrong
Give strength and give justice and bid them be strong.

O come Key of David, our hearts open wide.
Our path, guard with safety and lead us on high.
Make straight what was crooked and rough places plain,
Make hard hearts be humble for God's holy reign.

Come quickly Lord Jesus, as dawn follows night,
Creator, Redeemer, the people's true light,
Let all things on earth and in heaven adore,
And own you as Savior and King evermore.

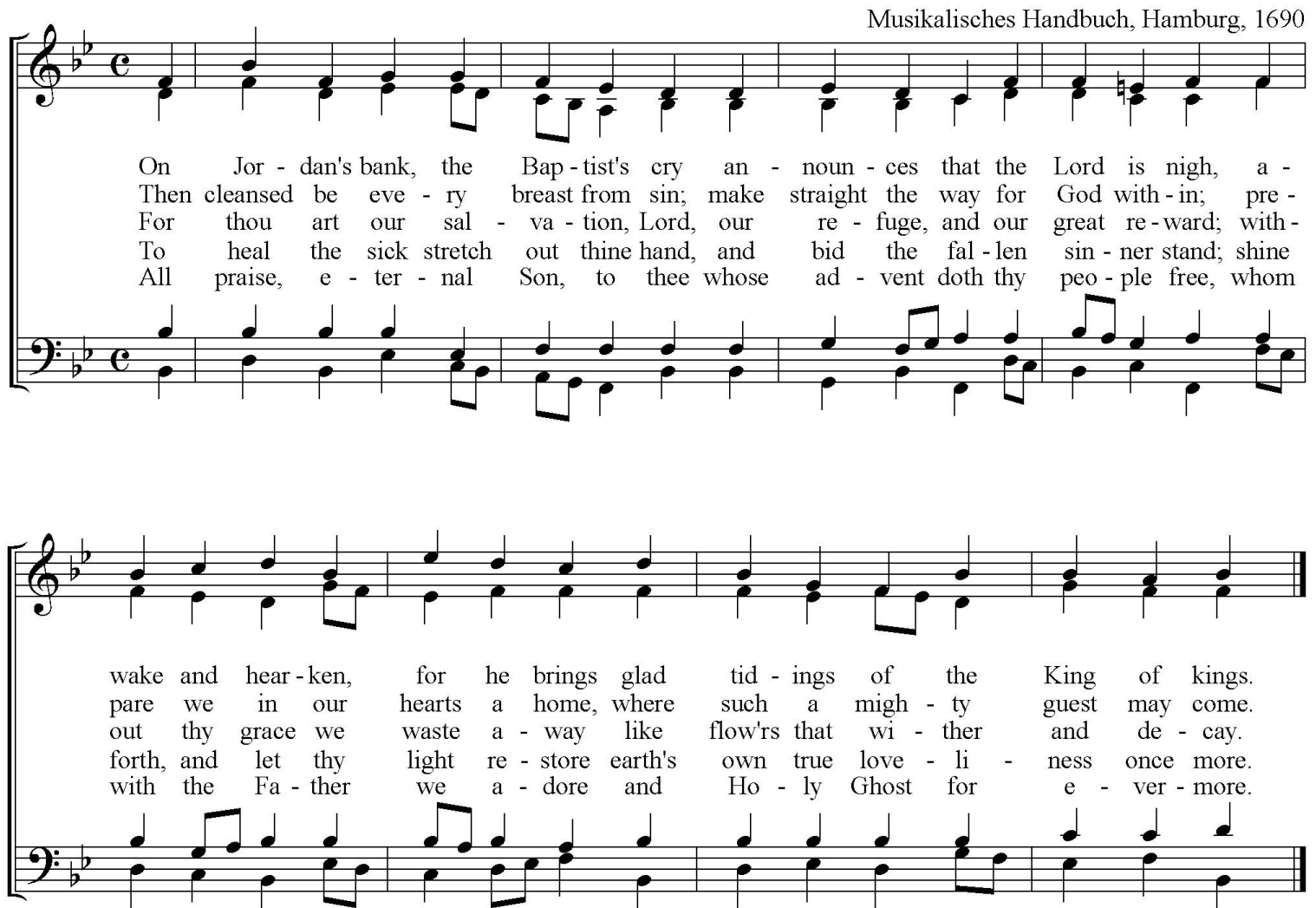
Fourth Lesson: St. Matthew 3:1-12 *read by Diana Crump*

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by

him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

Congregational Hymn: Jordanis oras preabia, *Musikalisches Handbuch*, Hamburg, 1690

Musikalisches Handbuch, Hamburg, 1690



On Jor - dan's bank, the Bap - tist's cry an - noun - ces that the Lord is nigh, a -
 Then cleansed be eve - ry breast from sin; make straight the way for God with - in; pre -
 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with -
 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the fal - len sin - ner stand; shine
 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee whose ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free, whom

wake and hear - ken, for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 pare we in our hearts a home, where such a migh - ty guest may come.
 out thy grace we waste a - way like flow'rs that wi - ther and de - cay.
 forth, and let thy light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 with the Fa - ther we a - dore and Ho - ly Ghost for e - ver - more.

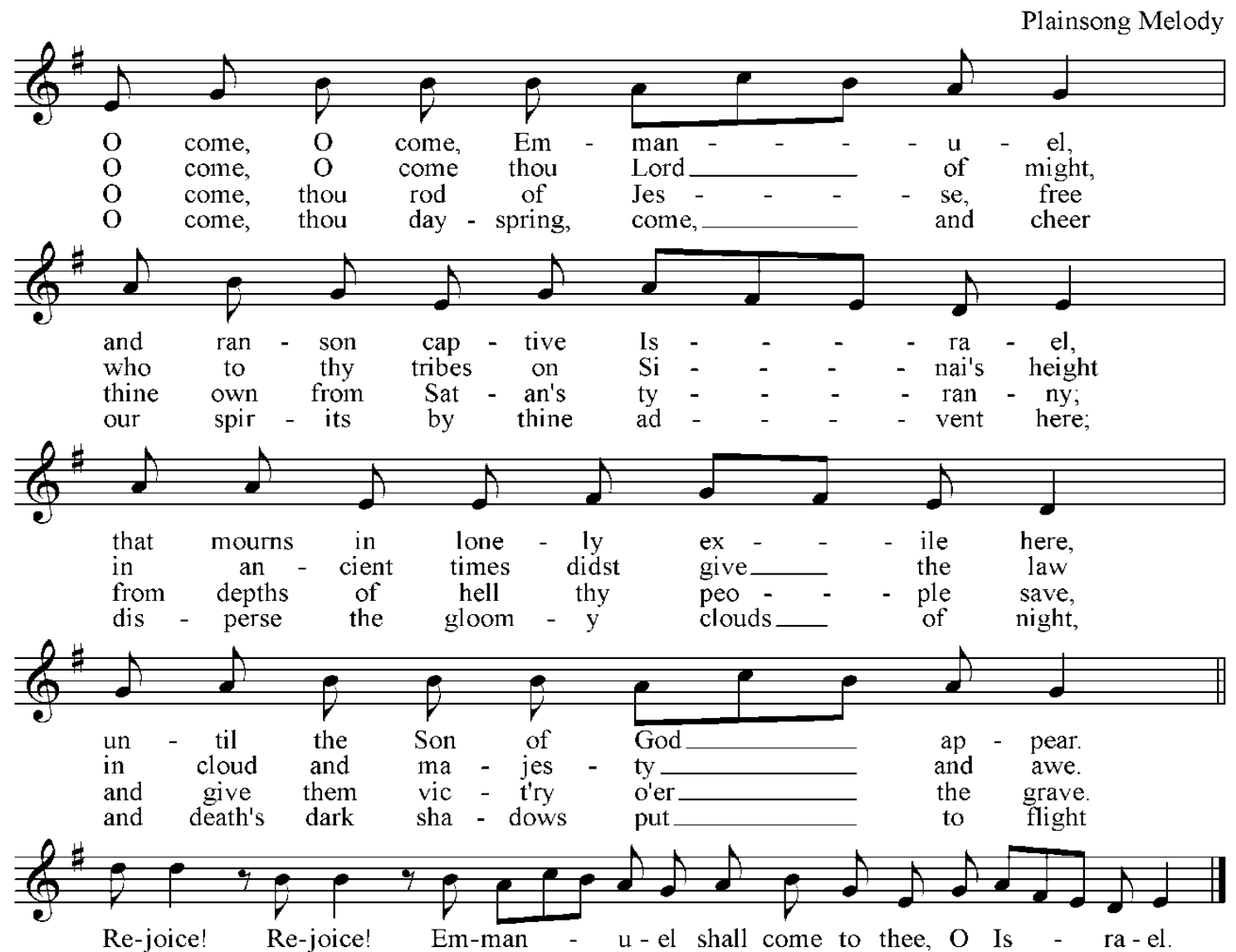
Fifth Lesson: Isaiah 6:1-11 read by the Reverend Robin Walker

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.' The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean

lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!’ Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: ‘Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.’ Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am I; send me!’ And he said, ‘Go and say to this people: “Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.” Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and comprehend with their minds, and turn and be healed.’ Then I said, ‘How long, O Lord?’ And he said: ‘Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is utterly desolate.

Congregational Hymn: Veni, veni, Emmanuel, *Plainsong Melody*

Plainsong Melody



O come, O come, Em - man - - - u - el,
O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
O come, thou rod of Jes - - - se, free
O come, thou day - spring, come, and cheer

and ran - son cap - tive Is - - - ra - el,
who to thy tribes on Si - - - nai's height
thine own from Sat - an's ty - - - ran - ny;
our spir - its by thine ad - - - vent here;

that mourns in lone - ly ex - - - ile here,
in an - cient times didst give the law
from depths of hell thy peo - - - ple save,
dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
in cloud and ma - jes - ty and awe.
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
and death's dark sha - dows put to flight

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

Sixth Lesson: St. Luke 1:26-38 *read by Marian Allen*

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.' 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 favour

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 for ever, 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.

Choir Carol: Blessed Be That Maid Marie - William Ballet's Lute Book, arr. Crawford R. Thoburn

Blessed be that Maid Marie;
Born He was of her body;
Very God ere time began,
Born in time the Son of man.

Eia! Jesus hodie,
Natus est de Virgine.
(Jesus is born today of a virgin.)

Sweet and blissful was the song
Chanted by the angel throng.
Peace on earth, alleluia.
In excelsis gloria. (Glory in the highest)

Fare three kings from far-off land,
Incense, gold and myrrh in hand;
In Bethlehem the babe they see,
Stelle ducti lumine. (Led by the light of a star.)

Seventh Lesson: St. Matthew 1:18-23, *read by the Venerable Jonathan Crane*

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.'

Choir Carol: It Came Upon the Midnight Clear - Neil Harmon

*It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing.*

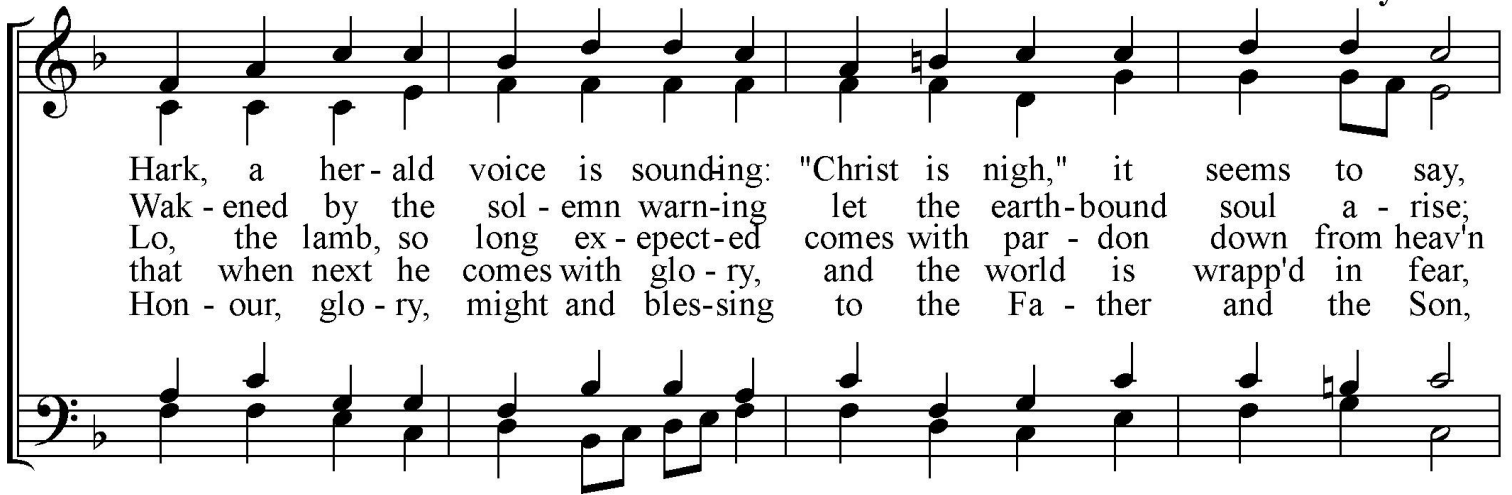
*Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains,
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.*

*And you, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road,
and hear the angels sing!*

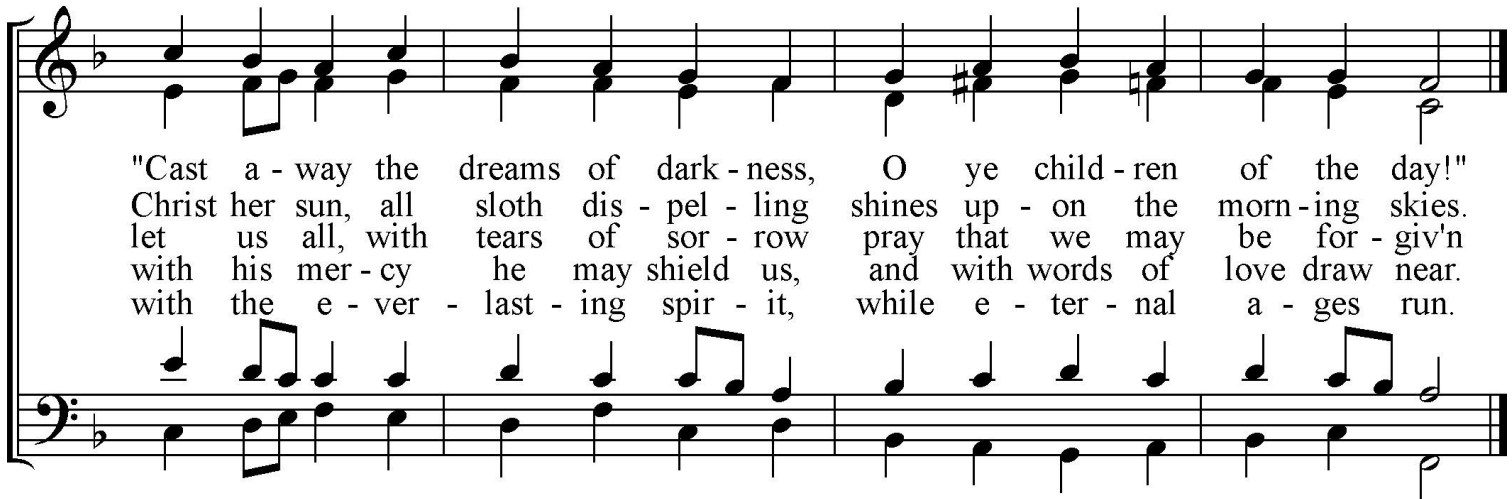
*For lo! the days are hastening on,
by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song
which now the angels sing.*

Congregational Hymn: Vox clara ecce intonate, *William Henry Monk*

William Henry Monk



Hark, a her - ald voice is sounding: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say,
Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing let the earth - bound soul a - rise;
Lo, the lamb, so long ex - expect - ed comes with par - don down from heav'n
that when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapp'd in fear,
Hon - our, glo - ry, might and bles - sing to the Fa - ther and the Son,



"Cast a - way the dreams of dark - ness, O ye child - ren of the day!"
Christ her sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
let us all, with tears of sor - row pray that we may be for - giv'n
with his mer - cy he may shield us, and with words of love draw near.
with the e - ver - last - ing spir - it, while e - ter - nal a - ges run.

Please remain standing:

Vesper Responsory:

- Priest: Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;
People: **Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.**
Priest: 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.**
Priest: 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.**
Priest: Let us pray

Please sit or kneel for a moment of silence, afterwards saying together:

The Lord's Prayer

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. Amen.

Priest: We wait for thy loving kindness, O God;

People: In the midst of thy temple.

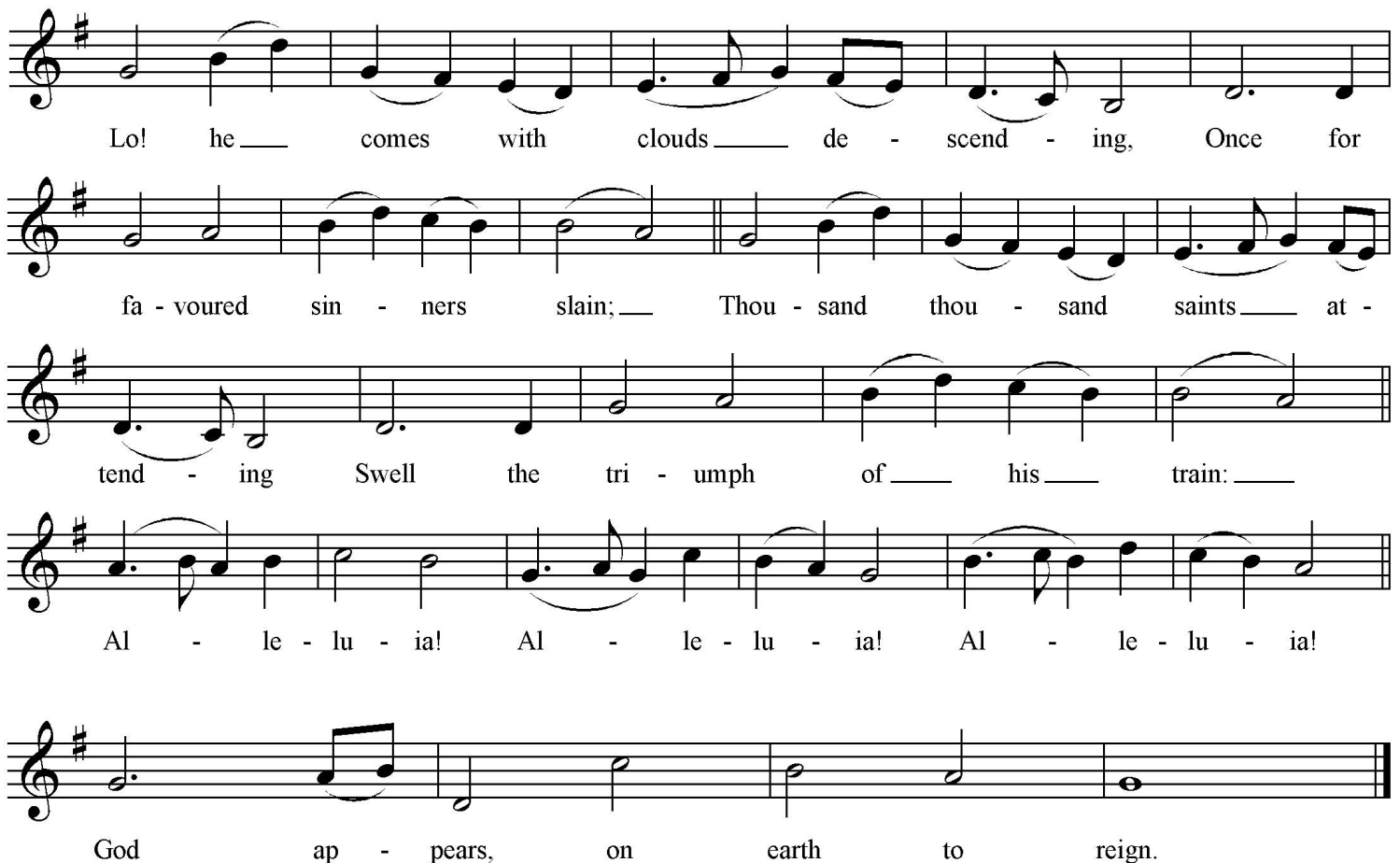
The Collect for Advent

O God, who makest us glad with the yearly remembrance of thy coming, Grant that we, who with joy receive thine 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. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. **Amen**

Recessional Hymn: Ecce Venit



Lo! he comes with clouds descending, Once for
fa-voured sin-ners slain; Thou-sand thou-sand saints at-
tend-ing Swell the tri-umph of his train:
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
God ap-pears, on earth to reign.

2. 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.

3. Those dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshipers;
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!
Alleluia! Come Lord, Come!

Postlude

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The Right Rev'd Stephen London, *Bishop of the Diocese of Edmonton*
The Ven. Johnathan Crane, *Interim Rector*
The Rev'd Robin Walker, *Honorary Assistant*
Dr. John Brough, *Director of Music*
Dr. Cari Astleford, *Organist*