

We strongly encourage you to keep your mask on during the entire service, even if you are vaccinated.

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A FESTIVAL OF ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS



Sunday, November 27th, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

A FESTIVAL OF ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

SACRED SPACE AND SACRED TIME

It is the tradition of the Episcopal Church to maintain silence in worship areas so that people may pray. Please help us preserve an atmosphere of quiet reverence before worship. It is especially meaningful in Advent, as we wait in hope and anticipation for the coming of Christ.

Please turn off all mobile phones when you enter the Cathedral, and refrain from photography.

Let go of distractions and let the silence and the music be sabbath gifts as we create sacred space and sacred time together.

ORDER OF SERVICE

All are invited to be seated.

MATIN RESPONSORY

G.P. da Palestrina (1525-1594)

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? [Text, The First Matins Responsory for Advent Sunday (mediaeval Roman rite)]

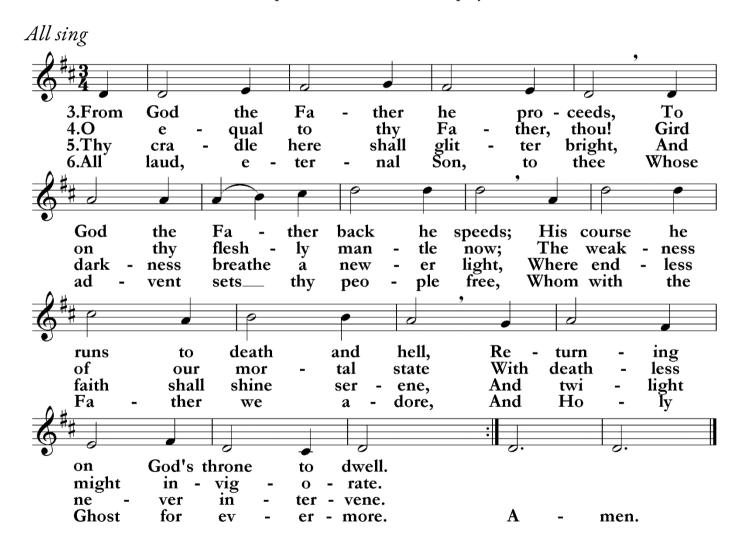
All are invited to stand, as able, as the procession enters.

Puer nobis nascitur Arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Choir sings

Come, thou redeemer of the earth And manifest thy virgin birth: Let ev'ry age adoring fall; Such birth befits the God of all.

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.



[Text: St Ambrose of Milan (340-397) translated by J.M. Neale (1818-1866)]

BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience 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 over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER Said by each in their own language.

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.

Notre Père qui es aux cieux, que ton Nom soit sanctifié, que ton règne vienne, que ta volonté soit faite sur la terre comme au ciel.

Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain de ce jour.

Pardonne-nous nos offenses comme nous pardonnons aussi à ceux qui nous ont offensés.

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.

Et ne nous laisse pas entrer en tentation, mais délivre-nous du mal. Car c'est à toi qu'appartiennent le règne, la puissance et la gloire, pour les siècles des siècles. Amen.

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all.

All are invited to be seated.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 3:1-15

In the beginning... something went wrong. One scholar calls the book of Genesis "a love story gone awry." Why are things not as they should be? Scripture answers that question with the story of Adam and Eve disobeying God's command, and so being cast out of the Garden of Eden—paradise.

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."

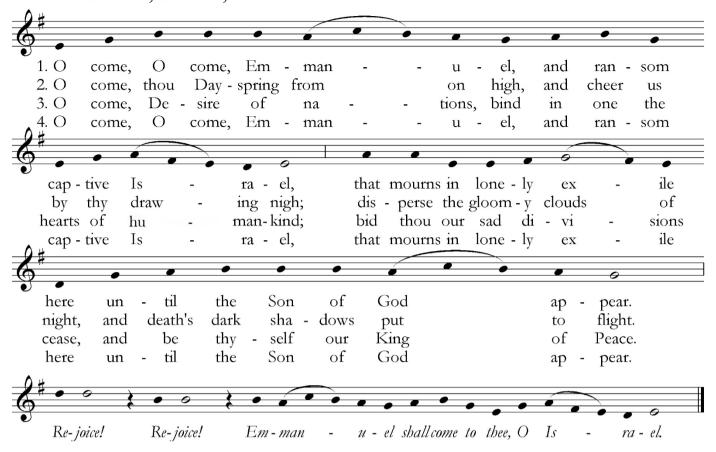
CAROL: Creator alme siderum

Richard Burchard (b.1960)

Sung by the Cathedral Choir in Latin

O generous creator of the stars, everlasting light of believers, O Christ, redeemer of us all, hear now our prayers. Though you suffer the decay of death, the perishing of all, you have saved the suffering world, bringing us your healing balm. As the world turned to evening, like a bridegroom from his chamber you came forth from the most pure cloister of the Virgin mother. Before your mighty power all creatures kneel down—in heaven and on earth, all accept your command. So we pray, O holy judge of all the world to come, that you will keep us safe when we face the armed enemy. Praise, honor, might and glory be to God the Father, the Son and the Holy Comforter, for all eternity. Amen. [7th century Hymn for the First Sunday of Advent, translation by Mick Swithinbank (b.1953)]

All are invited to stand and sing, as able.



All are invited to be seated.

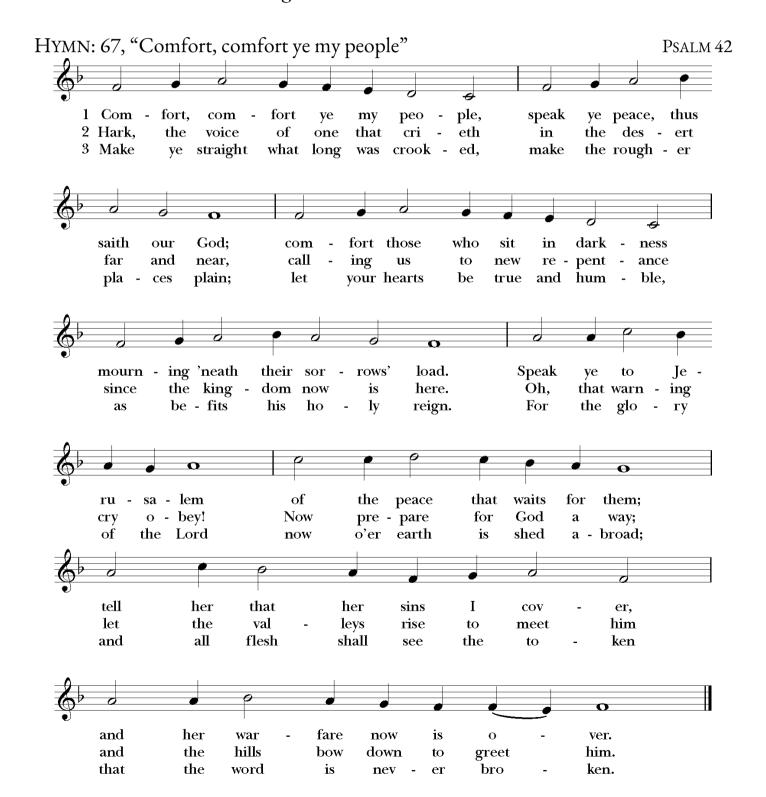
SECOND LESSON: Isaiah 40: 1-11

'By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept...' The people of Israel have been in exile in Babylon. Now God comforts them, tells them they are going home and that God will be with them.

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 are invited to stand and sing, as able.



O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign among the peoples; before you kings will shut their mouths, to you the nations will make their prayer: Come and deliver us, and delay no longer. [Text: from the *O Antiphons*]

All are invited to be seated.

THIRD LESSON: Baruch 4:36-5:9

The Scribe Baruch tells the people to look East, to look and see the joy that is coming. God is bringing the people to Jerusalem, leveling mountains and lifting valleys to make their way smooth.

Look towards 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 for ever 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 towards 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: *People, look East!*Besançon Carol, arr. Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there: give up

your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love, the bird, is on the way. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way. [Text: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)]

FOURTH LESSON: Isaiah 35: 1-10

God is coming, God is coming, God is coming! Even the wilderness and the desert rejoice and blossom.

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.

HYMN: 65, "Prepare the way, O Zion"

Bereden väg fög Herran



All are invited to be seated.

CAROL: O radiant dawn

James MacMillan (b. 1959)

O Radiant Dawn, Splendor of eternal Light, Sun of Justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Isaiah had prophesied, 'The people who walked in darkness have seen the great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.' Amen. [Text: one of the seven traditional "O Antiphons"]

FIFTH LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-9

From the line of David, Israel's greatest king, will come a savior, full of God's own Spirit, who will bring in God's reign of peace and justice. All people will know God, and know creation as it was meant to be.

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: A spotless rose

Ola Gjeilo
(b. 1978)

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. 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. [Text: Catherine Winkworth, 14th century translation]

Please continue to support the Cathedral in this time of need. If you wish to give by card, please scan this QR code or visit amcathparis.com/donate. If you wish to give in cash or check today, please place your offering in the envelope in your pew and leave the envelope in an offering plate on your way out.



SIXTH LESSON: Luke 1: 26-38

And now it begins! The writer Frederick Buechner says 'She struck the angel Gabriel as hardly old enough to have a child at all, let alone this child, but he'd been entrusted with a message to give her, and he gave it. He told her what the child was to be named, and who he was to be, and something about the mystery that was to come upon her. "You mustn't be afraid, Mary," he said. As he said it, he only hoped she wouldn't notice that beneath the great, golden wings he himself was trembling with fear to think that the whole future of creation hung now on the answer of a girl.'

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.

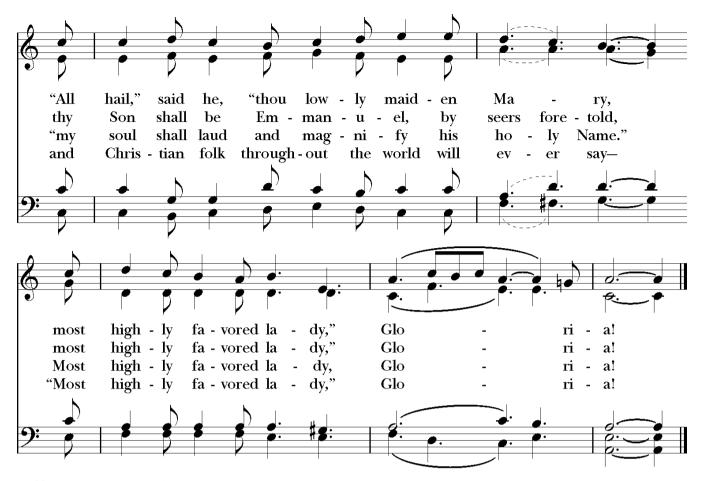
Loving mother of the Redeemer, gate of heaven, star of the sea, assist your people who have fallen yet strive to rise again, To the wonderment of nature you bore your Creator, yet remained a virgin after as before, You who received Gabriel's joyful greeting, have pity on us poor sinners. [Text, Hermannus Contractus (1013-1054)]

All are invited to stand and sing, as able.

HYMN: 265, "The angel Gabriel from heaven came" Verses 1-3

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE





All are invited to be seated.

SEVENTH LESSON: Luke 1:39-46

Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth and responds to her greeting with an incredible hymn of praise to the God who exalts the lowly, scatters the proud, fills the hungry, and casts down the mighty. Magnificat!

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

And Mary said,

Emily Kirby-Ashmore, soprano soloist

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel: as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. [Text: Luke 1:46-55]

All are invited to stand, as able.

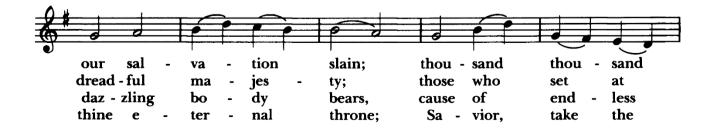
COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

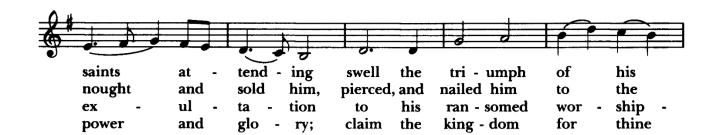
Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the 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.**

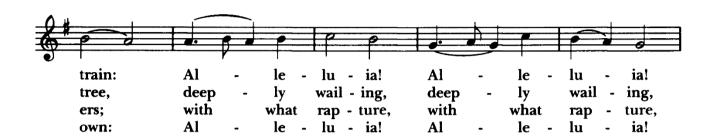
HYMN: "Lo! he comes with clouds descending"

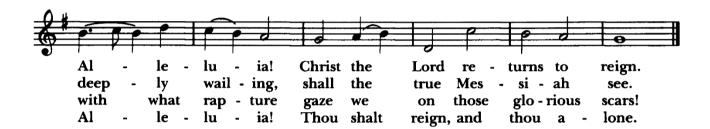
HELMSLEY











Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: Helmsley, melody Augustine Arne (1710-1778)

87. 87 12 7

ORGAN VOLUNTARY: Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 140 J.S. Bach (1685 – 1750)

Please join for a reception in the parish hall, sponsored by Les Arts George V.

SERVING TODAY

Officiant: The Rev. Timothy Safford

Canon for Music: Zachary Ullery

Organist: George Nicholls Choir: The Cathedral Choir Production: Arthur Girard

Lectors:

Victoria Jennings, Member of the Children's Choir

Elizabeth Martel-de Créquy, Member of the Youth Choir, Acolyte, Lector

Zacchary Powell, Sandwich Ministry Volunteer, Member of the 20s/30s Group

Angelina Stelmach Blundell, Director of the Sunday School

George Nicholls, Organ Scholar

The Rev. Jean Dumond Chavanne, Priest-in-Charge MEFR

The Rev. Timothy B. Safford, Interim Dean

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Prayer List

We pray for those in need of healing, who are in grief, or have any special needs, especially Barbara, Beatrice, Eric, Jean, John, Lauren, Lenore, Lilibet, Antoine, Fabien, Nathalie, June, Loïc, Melissa, Peiro, Barbara, Bob, Donald, Jeremy, Françoise, Eleanor; and for those who have died, especially Arlette Baldachino, Bridget, Debra Morgan-Alam; and for all those affected by COVID-19. We give thanks for the birth of Marin, on November 22nd, 2022, to Edwige and Gaël.

Prayer requests may be sent to us at: communications@americancathedral.org We will offer them to God at our daily service of Noonday Prayer.

Christmas at the Cathedral

More information available at <u>amcathparis.com</u>.

Thursday, December 1st at 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 3rd at 6:00 p.m.
The Paris Choral Society: Christmas Concert
Tickets available at parischoralsociety.org.

Sunday, December 4th at 11:00 a.m. Guest Preacher: Dr. Greg Garrett, Canon Theologian

> Sunday, December 4th at 6:00 p.m. Advent Jazz Vespers

Sunday, December 11th at 11:00 a.m.

The Posadas Pageant

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Canon Kelly Brown Douglas

Sunday, December 11th at 3:00 p.m.
The Paris Choral Society: Handel's *Messiah* Sing-Along
Tickets available at <u>parischoralsociety.org</u>.

Saturday, December 17th at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, December 18th at 6:00 p.m. Christmas Lessons and Carols

Saturday, December 24th at 5:00 p.m. Family Festival Eucharist for Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24th at 10:00 p.m.
Carol Sing and Festival Eucharist for Christmas Eve
The Carol Sing starts at 10:00 p.m.; the service starts at 10:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 25th at 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist for Christmas Day

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Support the Cathedral

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and around the world. Visit <u>lagv.org/en/support-lagv</u> or scan this QR code.

The American Cathedral in Paris

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