



TRINITY

EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL
A house of prayer for all people

Advent Service of Lessons and Carols
November 30, 2025, 4 p.m.



Welcome to Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. We're delighted you have joined us for this beautiful service of Lessons and Carols. This service is intended to be a time of spiritual preparation as we watch and wait for the coming of the Kingdom of God. The story of the coming of Christ unfolds through our experience of sacred word and music.

Hymns are found in the red hymnal. Please stand for the hymns.

PRELUDE

FANTASY ON 'VENI EMMANUEL'

Kenneth Leighton

MATIN RESPONSORY *sung by the choir*

Richard Marlow

*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.

Hear, O thou shepherd of Israel, thou that ledest Joseph like a sheep.

Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

Soloists: Paige Cullins, Anna Squire, Carolina Kipnis, Stephanie Smittle, John Willis, Tomas Baxter, Alan Rackley, Josiah Wheeler

All stand.

HYMN 56

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

THE 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 Babe 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 unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child; 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 goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church 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 by sin 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 hath taught us:

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 unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the Spirit bind us all. **Amen.**

All sit.

FIRST LESSON *Read by a Choral Scholar, Weston Leacock*

GENESIS 3:1-22

ANTHEM

CREATOR OF THE STARS OF NIGHT

arr. John Scott

*Creator of the stars of night
Thy people's everlasting light
O Jesu, Saviour of us all
Regard thy servants when they call.*

*Thou, grieving at the bitter cry
Of all creation doomed to die,
Didst come to save a ruined race
With healing gifts of heav'nly grace.*

*Thou camest, bridegroom of the bride
As drew the world to eveningtide,
Proceeding from a virgin shrine,
The Son of Man, yet Lord divine.*

*At thy great name, majestic now,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow,
And things in heav'n and earth shall own,
That thou art Lord and King alone.*

*To thee, O holy One, we pray,
Our judge in that tremendous day,
Preserve us, while we dwell below,
From ev'ry onslaught of the foe.*

*All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Spirit blest, for evermore. Amen.*

Traditionally ascribed to St. Ambrose, translated by John Mason Neale

HYMN 67

COMFORT, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE

Psalm 42

THIRD LESSON *Read by the Associate Director of Music of the Cathedral, Katie Gunn*

ISAIAH 6:1-11

HYMN 61

“SLEEPERS, WAKE!” A VOICE ASTOUNDS US

Wachet auf

FOURTH LESSON *Read by a Member of the Cathedral, Mary Hodges*

ISAIAH 35:1-10

ANTHEM

STRENGTHEN YE THE WEAK HANDS

William Henry Harris

*The Lord hath created medicines out of the earth;
and he that is wise will not abhor them.*

And he hath given men skill, that he might be honoured in his marvellous works.

*My son, in thy sickness leave off from sin, and order thy hands arights,
and cleanse thy heart from all wickedness.*

Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees.

Say to them that are of a fearful heart,

Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come; he will come and save you.

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

*Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing:
for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.*

*The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them:
and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose.*

It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing:

*the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon,
they shall see the glory of the Lord, and the excellency of our God.*

*O Saviour of the world, who by thy Cross and precious Blood hast redeemed us,
Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.*

Soloist: Tomas Baxter

FIFTH LESSON *Read by the Junior Warden of the Cathedral, Sarah Bennings*

BARUCH 4:36-5:9

1. Peo - ple look East. The time is near Of the
 2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, One more
 3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, Guard the
 4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim One more
 5. An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who

3
 crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
 seed is plant - ed there: Give up your strength the seed to
 nest that must be filled. E - ven the hour when wings are
 light the bowl shall brim. Shin - ing be - yond the frost - y
 brings new life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley

6
 a - ble, Trim the hearth and set the
 nour - ish, That in course the flow'r may
 fro - zen God for fledg - ing time has
 weath - er, Bright as sun and moon to -
 hum - ming With the word, the Lord is

8
 ta - ble. Peo - ple look East and sing to -
 flour - ish. Peo - ple look East and sing to -
 cho - sen. Peo - ple look East and sing to -
 geth - er. Peo - ple look East and sing to -
 com - ing. Peo - ple look East and sing to -

10
 day: Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 day: Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 day: Love, the Bird, is on the way.
 day: Love, the Star, is on the way.
 day: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

*Drop down ye heavens from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness.
Comfort ye, comfort ye my people;
my salvation shall not tarry.
I have blotted out as a thick cloud,
thy transgressions:
Fear not, for I will save thee;
For I am the Lord thy God,
the holy one of Israel,
thy redeemer.
Drop down ye heavens from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness.*

Text: Translation of Rorate Coeli

SEVENTH LESSON *Read by a Priest of the Cathedral, the Rev. Peggy Cromwell*

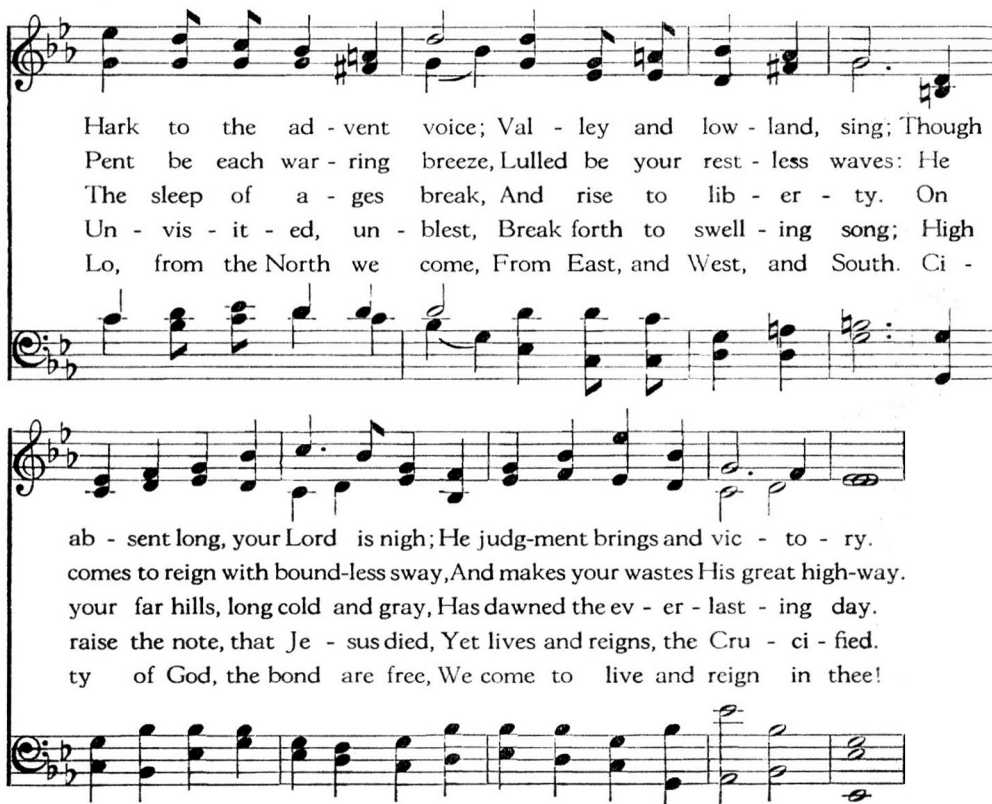
ZEPHANIAH 3:14-18

HYMN

HILLS OF THE NORTH, REJOICE

Little Cornard

1. Hills of the North, re - joice; Riv - er and moun - tain - spring,
2. Isles of the South - ern seas, Deep in your cor - al caves
3. Lands of the East, a - wake, Soon shall your sons be free;
4. Shores of the ut - most West, Ye that have wait - ed long,
5. Shout, while ye jour - ney home; Songs be in ev - ery mouth;



Hark to the ad - vent voice; Val - ley and low - land, sing; Though
 Pent be each war - ring breeze, Lulled be your rest - less waves: He
 The sleep of a - ges break, And rise to lib - er - ty. On
 Un - vis - it - ed, un - blest, Break forth to swell - ing song; High
 Lo, from the North we come, From East, and West, and South. Ci -

ab - sent long, your Lord is nigh; He judg - ment brings and vic - to - ry.
 comes to reign with bound - less sway, And makes your wastes His great high - way.
 your far hills, long cold and gray, Has dawned the ev - er - last - ing day.
 raise the note, that Je - sus died, Yet lives and reigns, the Cru - ci - fied.
 ty of God, the bond are free, We come to live and reign in thee!

EIGHTH LESSON *Read by the Curate of the Cathedral, the Rev. Thomas Alexander*

LUKE 1:5-25

*Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty savior,
born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.
He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.*

*You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

Text: Song of Zechariah (Luke 1: 68-79)

All stand.

THE COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor 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 Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE ADVENT BLESSING

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before our path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN 57

LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING

Helmsley

POSTLUDE LE MONDE DANS L'ATTENTE DU SAUVEUR FROM SYMPHONIE-PASSION, OP. 23 *Marcel Dupré*

Please join us for a reception in Morrison Hall following the service.

Officiant

The Rev. Thomas Alexander

Assisting Clergy

The Rev. Danny Schieffler

The Rev. Peggy Cromwell

The Rev. Dr. Susan Loy Lyon

Musicians

Dr. Colin MacKnight, Director of Music

Katie Gunn, Associate Director of Music

Trinity Cathedral Choir

Acolyte

Harper Bennings

Notes on the Notes: The Advent hymn *Hills of the North*, rejoice, is not in the 1982 *Hymnal* but certainly deserves to be. It is a stirring tune and evocative text announcing Christ's coming to all four corners of the world: one verse for each cardinal direction, plus a final verse for the whole world.

Today's postlude, translating to "the world awaiting the savior," began as an improvisation on the Wanamaker organ in Philadelphia (the largest fully-functioning organ in the world, to this day). It is a brooding piece depicting the chaos and roughness of the world before the Incarnation. This movement is heavily indebted to Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring*, a ballet which had premiered about a decade before Dupré *Symphonie-Passion*. Both pieces belong to an aesthetic school called "Primitivism," which, as the name suggests, seeks to create or recreate the experience of a more primitive time. In the case of these two works, the "primitivism" comes from liberal use of dissonance (when combinations of notes are unstable) and the eschewing of regular or predictable meters. The quiet central section introduces the Advent plainsong *Jesus redemptor omnium*, which returns triumphantly at the end of the movement, this time in strict canon to communicate that Christ's arrival will bring order to a disordered world.



PREPARE

*Prepare for Christ's birth with us
this Advent at Trinity Cathedral,
starting November 30.*

Every Sunday In Advent

Formation for all ages will start in Morrison Hall at 9:15 am for Advent wreath prayers before programming begins.

November 30 Holiday floral decoration with Missy McCain for adults and Advent Wreath decorating with Margaret Faulkner for children

December 7 Class on prayerful preparation With Rev. Danny Schieffler and Rev. Susan Sims Smith for adults and St. Nicholas cookie-decorating for children

December 14 Intergenerational Service Project with Matthew 25 Committee

December 21 Intergenerational Christmas Carol Sing-a-Long

Every Wednesday In Advent

5:30 pm Healing Eucharist (Chapel)

5:30 pm Community Dinner (Morrison)

6 pm Koinonia Eucharist (Cathedral)*

6:30 pm Book Club (Keller House),
reading *Migrant God* by Isaac Villegas

7:30 pm Choral Compline (Cathedral)

**St. Nicholas will visit on Wednesday, December 3 and during Children's Chapel on Sunday, December 7, and the annual "pick-up" Christmas Pageant will take place on Wednesday, December 17.*

"Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place."

Sunday, December 21

4 pm, Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols with festive reception

Christmas Eve, December 24

4 pm, Holy Eucharist with choir, hymns, and a children's sermon

11 pm, Holy Eucharist with choir, hymns, and incense (prelude at 10:30 pm)

Christmas Day, December 25

10:30 am, Holy Eucharist with hymns

Twelfth Night: January 4

4 pm, Epiphany Service of Lessons and Carols with Burning of the Greens and s'mores

Epiphany, January 6

7 pm, Choral Eucharist for the Epiphany