



A Sequence of  
Lessons and Carols for Advent

Sung by the  
Christ Church Choir of Men and Boys

Advent Sunday  
November 28, 2021 · 5.00 pm

Welcome to Christ Church, Greenwich for this Sequence of Lessons and Carols for Advent. If this is your first time here, you are particularly welcome, and we encourage you to introduce yourself to a member of our clergy.

On this first day of the church year, we begin the season of preparation for the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Through this service, we explore some of the Christian mysteries of the season. Whilst we spend much of Advent preparing for (and in modern times preemptively celebrating) Christmas, theologically the season prepares us not just for the Nativity of Christ, but also for his second coming, and amongst the hymnody we will sing of Christ "next coming in glory". During Advent, we explore the prophets, including John the Baptist, Christ's cousin who prepared the way for his ministry, and Mary, the Mother of God. At home, we anticipate Christmas through Advent candles and calendars, and by preparing our homes and hearts for the celebrations to come. The anticipation of Christ's birth builds through the season, and the final days before Christmas are marked by the seven antiphons immortalized in the great medieval Advent hymn *O come, O come, Emmanuel*, which we sing to close the service.

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[www.christchurchgreenwich.org](http://www.christchurchgreenwich.org)

*All stand with the choir*

## Matin Responsory

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.

Words: Translated from the First Responsory of Advent Sunday, Office of Matins  
Music: arranged from a Nunc dimittis by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594)

## Hymn *during which the altar party processes into the church*

*Verse one is sung by the choir alone*

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,  
And manifest thy virgin-birth.  
Let every age adoring fall;  
Such birth befits the God of all.

*Please join in singing from verse two*

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.

Forth from his chamber goeth he,  
That royal home of purity,  
A giant in twofold substance one,  
Rejoicing now his course to run.

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

All laud, eternal Son, to thee  
Whose advent sets thy people free,  
Whom with the Father we adore,  
And Holy Ghost for evermore. Amen.

Words: St Ambrose (340-397) translated J.M.Neale (1818-1866) and others  
Music: Michael Praetorius (1571-1621) arranged by David Willcocks (1919-2015)

*Officiant* 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 lesson 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 Savior, Jesus Christ, will bring all men and all 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.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer to God, in the words which Christ himself taught us:

*All* Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
in 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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

*Please sit*

**First Lesson** *read by Charlie Sponheimer, Chorister*

Isaiah 40. 1-8

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.

Thanks be to God.

**Anthem** *sung by the choir*

Hark, the glad sound! the Savior comes,  
The Savior promised long!  
Let every heart prepare a throne,  
And every voice a song.

He comes the prisoners to release  
In Satan's bondage held;  
The gates of brass before him burst,  
The iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,  
The bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of his grace,  
Enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,  
Thy welcome shall proclaim,  
And heaven's eternal arches ring  
With thy beloved name.

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751)  
Music: Jamie Hitel (b. 1967)

*Please stand*

Hymn *sung by all*

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding  
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say;  
"Cast away the works of darkness,  
O ye children of the day."

Wakened by the solemn warning,  
From earth's bondage let us rise;  
Christ, our sun, all sloth dispelling,  
Shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,  
Comes with pardon down from heaven;  
Let us harte, with tears of sorrow,  
One and all to be forgiven;

So when next he comes with glory,  
And the world is wrapp'd in fear,  
May he with his mercy shield us,  
And with words of love draw near.

Honor, glory, might, and blessing  
To the Father and the Son,  
With the everlasting Spirit  
While unending ages run. Amen.

Words: Latin, Sixth Century; Translated by E. Caswall (1814-1878)  
Music: William Henry Monk (1823-1889), descant by Alan Gray (1855-1935)

*Please sit*

Second Lesson *read by Mary Grandville, Chorister Parent*

Jeremiah 23. 5-6

Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, the Lord our righteousness.

Thanks be to God.

Carol *sung by the choir*

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  
Abeen heavené Queen.

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

Words: Anonymous (15th Century)  
Music: Boris Ord (1897-1961)

*Please stand*

## Hymn *sung by all*

Rejoice! rejoice, believers,  
And let your lights appear!  
The evening is advancing,  
And darker night is near.  
The Bridegroom is arising,  
And soon he will draw nigh;  
Up, watch in expectation!  
At midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning,  
Replenish them with oil;  
Look now for your salvation,  
The end of sin and toil.  
The marriage-feast is waiting,  
The gates wide open stand;  
Rise up, ye heirs of glory,  
The Bridegroom is at hand.

Our hope and expectation,  
O Jesus, now appear;  
Arise, thou Sun so longed for,  
Above this darkened sphere!  
With hearts and hands uplifted,  
We plead, O Lord, to see  
The day of earth's redemption,  
And ever be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722)  
Tune: *Llangloffan* (1865)

## Third Lesson *read by Teddy Erensen, Countertenor in the Choir of Men and Boys*      Zechariah 9. 9-10

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass. And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth.

Thanks be to God.

*Please stand*

## Hymn

*Verse one will be sung by the choir alone*

Of the Father's heart begotten  
Ere the world from chaos rose,  
He is Alpha: from that Fountain  
All that is and hath been flows;

He is Omega, of all things  
Yet to come the mystic Close,  
*Evermore and evermore.*

*Please join in singing from verse two*

This is he, whom seer and sybil  
Sang in ages long gone by;  
This is he of old revealed  
In the page of prophecy;  
Lo! He comes, the promised Savior;  
Let the world his praises cry!  
*Evermore and evermore.*

Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;  
Angels and Archangels, sing!  
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,  
Let your joyous anthems ring,  
Every tongue his name confessing,  
Countless voices answering,  
*Evermore and evermore.*

Words: Prudentius (b. 348) translated R. F. Davis (1866-1937)  
Music: from *Piae Cantiones* (1582) arranged by David Willcocks

*Please sit*

#### Fourth Lesson *read by Melissa Shahbazian, Chorister Parent*

Haggai 2. 6-9

For thus saith the Lord of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts. The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts.

Thanks be to God.

#### Carol *sung by the choir*

The tree of life my soul hath seen,  
Laden with fruit and always green:  
The trees of nature fruitless be  
Compared with Christ the apple tree.

This beauty doth all things excel:  
By faith I know, but ne'er can tell  
The glory which I now can see  
In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought,  
And pleasure dearly I have bought:  
I missed of all; but now I see  
'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary'd with my former toil,  
Here I will sit and rest awhile:  
Under the shadow I will be,  
Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,  
It keeps my dying faith alive;  
Which makes my soul in haste to be  
With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

Words: Divine Hymns or Spiritual Songs, compiled by Joshua Smith, New Hampshire (1784)  
Music: Stanford E. Scriven (b. 1988)

**Fifth Lesson** *read by Jonathan Vaughn, Associate Director of Music*

Isaiah 35. 1-6

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 even 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. 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 with vengeance, even God with a recompense; he will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall 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 sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.

Thanks be to God.

*Please stand*

**Hymn** *sung by all, during which an offering will be taken for the work of Christ Church*

Lo! he comes with clouds descending,  
Once for favored sinners slain;  
Thousand thousand saints attending  
Swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluya!  
God appears, on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him  
Robed in dreadful majesty;  
Those who set at thought and sold him,  
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,  
Deeply wailing  
Shall the true Messiah see.

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!

Yea, Amen! let all adore thee,  
High on thine eternal throne;  
Savior, take the power and glory:  
Claim the kingdom for thine own:  
O come quickly!  
Alleluya! Come, Lord, come!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) and John Cenniuck (1718-1755)  
Music: *Helmsley* Eighteenth Century English Melody arranged David Willcocks

*Please sit*

**Sixth Lesson** *read by The Reverend Shancia Jarrett, Curate*

Luke 1. 26-35, 38

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 favored, 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 favor 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.

### Carol *sung by the choir*

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
"All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary,  
Most highly favored lady," *Gloria!*

"For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,  
All generations laud and honor thee,  
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,  
Most highly favored lady," *Gloria!*

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,  
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,  
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name."  
Most highly favored lady, *Gloria!*

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born  
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,  
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say  
"Most highly favored lady," *Gloria!*

Words: S. Baring-Gould

Music: Basque Carol; Arranged by David Willcocks

### Seventh Lesson *read by The Reverend Doctor Cheryl McFadden, Senior Associate Rector* Mark 1. 1-15

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God;

As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins. And John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey; And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose. I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost. And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him: And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And immediately the spirit driveth him into the wilderness. And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him. Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

Thanks be to God.

## Carol *sung by the choir*

The Lord at first did Adam make out of the dust and clay,  
And in his nostrils breathed life, e'en as the scriptures say.  
And then in Eden's Paradise He placed him to dwell,  
That he within it should remain to dress and keep it well.

*Now let good Christians all begin an holy life to live,  
And to rejoice and merry be, for this is Christmas Eve.*

Now mark the goodness of the Lord which he to mankind bore;  
His mercy soon he did extend, lost man for to restore;  
And then for to redeem our souls, from death and hellish thrall,  
He said his own dear son should be the Savior of us all:

Now for the blessings we enjoy, which are from Heav'n above,  
Let us renounce all wickedness and live in perfect love.  
Then shall we do Christ's own command, ev'n his own written word,  
And when we die in Heaven shall enjoy our living Lord.

And now the tide is nigh at hand, in which our Savior came:  
Let us rejoice and merry be in keeping of the same.  
Let's feed the poor and hungry souls and such as do it crave;  
That when we die, in Heaven we, our sure reward shall have.

Words: from Davis Gilbert's *Some Ancient Christmas Carols* (1822)  
Music: George Guest (1926-2002)

## Greeting *The Reverend Marek Zabriskie, Rector*

*Please stand*

## Vesper Responsory

*Officiant* Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;  
*People* **Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.**  
*Officiant* 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.**  
*Officiant* 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.**

## Collect

*Officiant* We wait for thy loving kindness, O Lord.  
*People* **In the midst of thy temple.**  
*Officiant* Let us pray.  
O God, who makest us glad with the yearly expectation of thy coming, Grant that we, who with joy receive thy 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.**

## Hymn

*Verse one is sung by all*

O come, O come, Emmanuel!  
Redeem thy captive Israel,  
That into exile drear is gone  
Far from the face of God's dear Son.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*Verse two is sung by lower voices*

O come, thou Branch of Jesse! draw  
The quarry from the lion's claw;  
From the dread caverns of the grave,  
From nether hell, thy people save.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*Verse three is sung by upper voices*

O come, O come, thou dayspring bright!  
Pour on our souls thy healing light;  
Dispel the long night's lingering gloom,  
And pierce the shadows of the tomb.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*Verse four is sung by lower voices*

O come, thou Lord of David's Key!  
The royal door fling wide and free;  
Safeguard for us the heavenward road,  
And bar the way to death's abode.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*Verse five is sung by all*

O come, O come, Adonai,  
Who in thy glorious majesty  
From that high mountain clothed with awe  
Gavest thy folk the elder law.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Words: Eighteenth Century; translated by T. A. Lacey

Tune: *Veni Emmanuel* Fifteenth Century French-Franciscan Processional, arranged by David Willcocks

## Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all the children of God; 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.**

## Voluntary

Tocatta on *Veni Emmanuel*

Andrew Carter (b. 1939)

*You are invited to stay for the organ voluntary. If you need to leave, please do so quietly.*

# Serving Today

*Officiant*

The Reverend Marek Zabriskie, Rector

*The Christ Church Choir of Men & Boys*

Trebles: George Belshaw III (Head Chorister), Ethan Cooper (Head Chorister), Ned Davis, Nolan Diana, Andrew Erensen, Porter Hale, Lucas Rios, Max Shahbazian, Theo Shahbazian, Charlie Sponheimer, Patrick Sponheimer

Altos: Harry Bound, Teddy Erensen, Patrick Fennig, Richard Wyton

Tenors: Christopher Klaich, James Markline, Ian Shearson

Basses: Benjamin Cooper, Carl Gage, Richard Lippold, William Markline, Tucker Paine, Robert Rioseco, David Zelenz

*Director of Music*

Jamie Hitel

*Associate Director of Music*

Jonathan Vaughn

## Christ Church's Christmas Services

**Sunday December 12 at 5.00 pm** • The Third Sunday of Advent

Ceremony of Carols *Benjamin Britten*

*sung by the St Cecilia Choir of Girls, with Joy Plaisted, harpist*

**Sunday December 19** • The Fourth Sunday of Advent

**at 10.00 am**

*Holy Eucharist with the Christmas Pageant where young members of Christ Church will tell the story of the Nativity*

**at 5.00 pm**

A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

*Sung by the members of the Choir of Men & Boys, and of the St Cecilia Choir of Girls, the Christ Church Singers, and with a prelude at 4.30pm by the Christ Church Bell Choir. Face Masks are to be worn at this service.*

**Friday December 24** • Christmas Eve

**at 12 noon**

*An informal Eucharist outside in the circle especially appropriate for families with the youngest children*

**at 3.00 pm**

*An informal Eucharist for all ages*

*with music sung by the St Cecilia Choir of Girls, the St Nicholas Choir and a Prelude by the Christ Church Bell Choir*

**at 5.00 pm**

*Rite II Holy Eucharist with music sung by the Choir of Men and Boys*

**at 8.00 pm**

*Rite II Holy Eucharist with music sung by the Christ Church Singers*

**at 11.00 pm**

Midnight Mass

*the traditional late night Rite I celebration of the Nativity of our Lord with music sung by the SATB Alumni Choir*

**Saturday December 25 at 11.00 am** • Christmas Day

*Rite II Holy Eucharist for the Nativity of our Lord with music sung by Richard Lippold, Gentleman of the Choir*

**Thursday January 6, 2022 at 6.30 pm** • The Feast of the Epiphany

*Rite I Holy Eucharist for the Feast of the Epiphany, when the Magi travelled to visit the Christ Child guided by the star over Bethlehem, with music sung by the men and teen boys*