

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

ST. PAUL'S ON THE GREEN | DECEMBER 11, 2022 - 5:00PM

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme" BWV 645 - J.S. Bach (1685–1750)



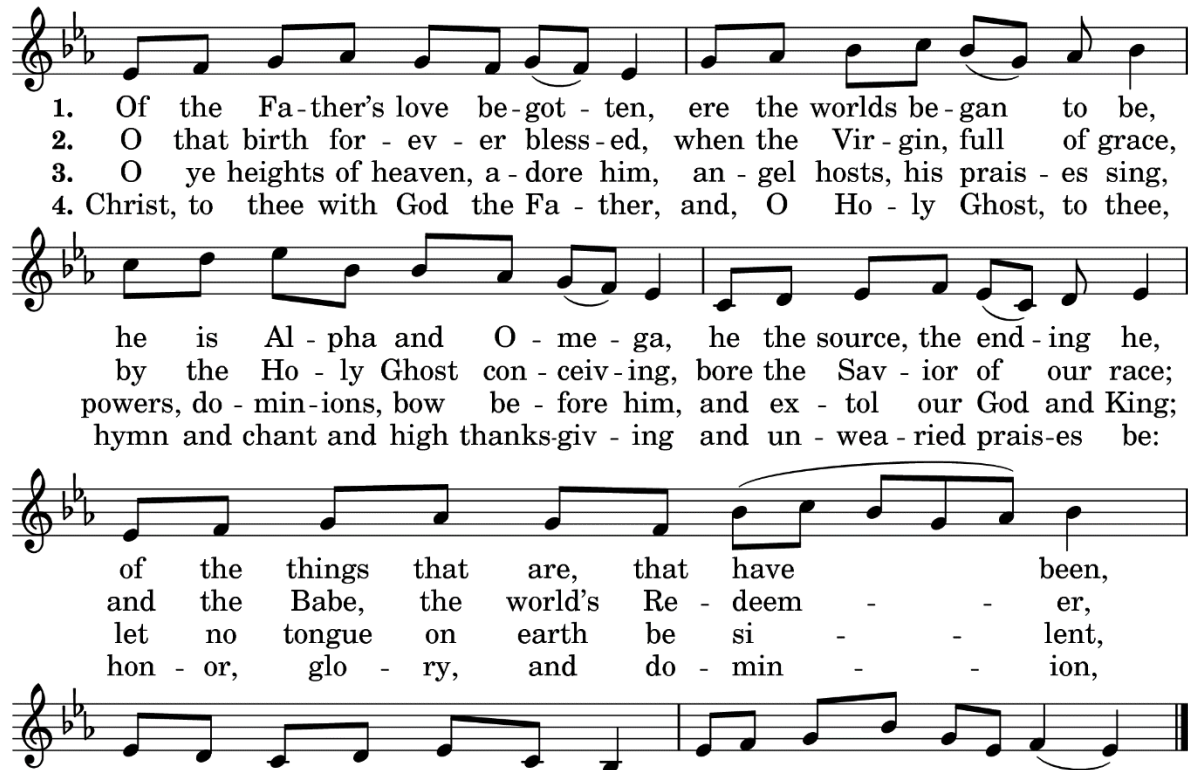
RESPONSORY

Please stand as the bell sounds. The Choir begins the Responsory from the Lady Chapel.

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: Matins Responsory for the First Sunday of Advent
Music: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1514-1594)

HYMN IN PROCESSION



1. Of the Fa-ther's love be-got - ten, ere the worlds be-gan to be,
 2. O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin, full of grace,
 3. O ye heights of heaven, a - dore him, an - gel hosts, his prais - es sing,
 4. Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost, to thee,
 he is Al - pha and O - me - ga, he the source, the end - ing he,
 by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the Sav - ior of our race;
 powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him, and ex - tol our God and King;
 hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing and un - wea - ried prais - es be:
 of the things that are, that have been,
 and the Babe, the world's Re - deem - er,
 let no tongue on earth be si - lent,
 hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - ion,
 and that fu - ture years shall see ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 first re - vealed his sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 ev - ery voice in con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

Words: Marcus Aurelius C. Prudentius, 4th C.; tr. John M. Neale, 1854, and Henry W. Baker, 1859, alt.
 Music: *Divinum Mysterium*, Plainsong, c. 13th C.; arr. based on C. Winfred

THE BIDDING

Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our 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 and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of Christ's 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 all people of faith throughout the world, and especially in this city.

Let us pray:

O God of light inaccessible, enfold 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, and all who have lost faith. We join in prayer with the whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope is in the Word made flesh, with whom, we are made one for evermore. **Amen.**

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.’

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL *seated, sung by the Choir*

This is the truth sent from above

*Traditional English Carol
arr. Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958)*

This is the truth sent from above,
the truth of God, the God of love:
Therefore don't turn me from the door,
but hearken all, both rich and poor.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes,
‘till God the Lord did interpose,
and so a promise soon did run,
that he’d redeem us by his Son.

The first thing that I will relate
that God at first man create;
the next thing which to you I tell,
woman was made with man to dwell.

And at this season of the year
our blest Redeemer did appear,
and here did live, and here did preach,
and many thousands he did teach.

Then after that ‘twas God’s own choice
to place them both in Paradise,
there to remain from evil free
except they ate of such a tree.

Thus he in love to us behaved,
to show us how we must be saved;
and if you want to know the way,
be pleased to hear what he did say.

But they did eat, which was a sin,
and thus their ruin did begin—
ruined themselves, both you and me,
and all of our posterity.

COLLECT *standing*

God of majesty and power, amid the clamor of our violence your Word of truth resounds; upon a world fallen in sin the Sun of Justice casts his dawning rays. Keep your household watchful and aware of the hour in which we live. Hasten the advent of that day when our disobedience will be forever stilled, the darkness of evil scattered, and all your children gathered into one. We ask this through the one whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.' And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL *sung by the Choir*

Never weather-beaten sail

Thomas Campion (1567-1620)

Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore.
Never tired pilgrim's limbs affected slumber more,
Than my wearied sprite now longs to fly out of my troubled breast:
O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest.

Ever blooming are the joys of Heaven's high Paradise.
Cold age deafs not there our ears nor vapour dims our eyes:
Glory there the sun outshines whose beams the blessed only see:
O come quickly, glorious Lord, and raise my sprite to thee!

COLLECT *standing*

Rend the heavens and come down, O God of all the ages! Rouse us from sleep, deliver us from our heedless ways, and form us into a watchful people, that at the advent of your Son, he might find us doing what is right, mindful of all you command. Grant this through the one whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Amen.

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL *sung by the Choir*

Riu Riu Chiu

Medieval Spanish carol, arr Sarah MacDonald (b. 1968)

Ríu, ríu, chíu, la guarda ribera,
Dios guardó el lobo de nuestra cordera.

Ríu, ríu, chíu, guardian of the river,
God has saved our lamb from the wolf.

El lobo rabioso la quiso morder
Mas Dios Poderoso la supo defender
Quísola hacer que no pudiese pecar
Ni aun original esta virgen no tuviera.

The rabid wolf wanted to bite our Lady,
but Almighty God knew how to defend her
He willed to make her unable to sin
even original sin this virgin did not have.

Este qu'es nacido es el gran monarca;
Christo patriarcha de carne vestido.
Hanos redimido con se hazer chiquito;
Aunque era infinito, finito se hiziera.

The one who is born is the Great Monarch
Christ the Patriarch clothed in flesh
He has redeemed us by making himself small
Though he was infinite he became finite.

Muchas profesias lo han profetizado;
Y aún en nuestros días lo hemos al canzado.
A Dios humanado vemos en el suelo;
Y al hombre en el cielo porque Él lo quisiera.

Many prophecies foretold him,
And in our days, we have seen them fulfilled.
We see God made human on earth,
And man in heaven, because He so wanted it.

COLLECT *standing*

With tender comfort and transforming power you came into our midst, O God of mercy and might. Make ready a way in the wilderness, clear a path in our hearts, and form us into a repentant people, that the advent of your Son may find us watchful and eager for the glory he reveals. We ask this through the one whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Amen.

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.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL *standing, sung by all*



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
 2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
 His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
 His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
 Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
 All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Refrain
 Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (1920-1999)

Music: Bereden väg för Herran, melody from Then Svenska Psalmboken, 1697; harm. Koralbok för Svenska Kyrkan, 1939, alt.

Copyright: Words: © 1982, Charles P Price.

COLLECT *standing*

We praise you, gracious God, for the glad tidings of peace, the good news of salvation: your Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory. Let the radiance of that glory enlighten the lives of those who celebrate his birth. Reveal to all the world the light no darkness can extinguish, our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, the splendor of eternal light, God for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIFTH LESSON *seated*

Luke 1:26-38

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.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL *seated, sung by the Choir*

Bogoroditse Devo

Sergei Rachmaninoff (b. 1873-1943)

Bogoroditse Devo, raduisya,
Blagodatnaya Mariye, Gospod s Toboyu.
Blagoslovenna Ty v zhenakh,
i blagosloven plod chreva Tvoyego,
yako Spasa rodila esi dush nashikh.

Rejoice, O Virgin God-Bearer,
Mary full of grace, the Lord is with Thee.
Blessed art Thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of Thy womb,
for Thou hast borne the Savior of our souls.

COLLECT *standing*

Here in our midst, O God of mystery, you disclose the secret hidden for countless ages. For you we wait, for you we listen. Upon hearing your voice may we, like Mary, embrace your will and become a dwelling fit for your Word. Grant this through the one whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Amen.

I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL

seated, sung by the Choir

The Morning Trumpet

American traditional, arr. Denise Kimble

Oh, when shall I see Jesus and reign with Him above
And shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning
And from the flowing fountain drink everlasting love
And shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning

Shout Oh Glory, for I shall mount above the sky
When I hear the trumpet sound in that morning

When shall I be delivered from this vain world of sin
And shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning
And with my blessed Jesus drink endless pleasures in
And shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning
Shout Oh Glory...

His promises are faithful, a righteous crown he'll give,
And shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning
And all his valiant soldiers eternally shall live,
And shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning.
Shout Oh Glory...

COLLECT *standing*

Your kingdom is at hand, O God of justice and peace. As your heralds victoriously announce the coming of your Christ, baptize us with the fire of your love; that in our day justice may flourish and conflict give way to the peace you bestow in Christ. We ask this through the one whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your son, our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Amen.

RESPONSORY *seated, sung by the Choir*

Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed.
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.
Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Words: Vesper Responsory for the First Sunday of Advent
Music: Giovanni Perluigi da Palestrina (1514-1594)

THE LORD'S PRAYER *standing*

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
On earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
Now and for ever. Amen.**

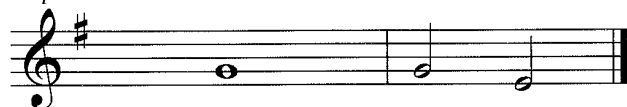
THE VERSICLE & RESPONSE

Officiant:



We wait for thy loving kind - ness, O Lord:

People:



In the midst of thy tem - ple.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

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.**

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *seated*

Giving to St. Paul's: The work and mission of St. Paul's is fully supported by the generous contributions of its members and friends. You can make a one-time offering or a sustaining gift to St. Paul's by visiting stpaulsnorwalk.org/givebycard, or text to give at 855-934-1074. For other means of giving, visit stpaulsnorwalk.org/support. Thank you for your support!

MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY

Come, Dove of Heaven

*Mark Miller (b. 1958)
Words: Adam M. L. Tice*

Come, Dove of heaven, Breath of peace,
sing through us we pray.
sing through us today.
Come, Light Creator, Source of peace,
shine on us, we pray.
shine on us today.
Breath, Source, and Word, come God of peace,
make us new, we pray.
make us new today.
Come, Love incarnate, Word of peace,
dwell in us, we pray.
dwell in us today.

THE BLESSING

May Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, Eternal Majesty, Incarnate Word, and Abiding Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN

standing, sung in place

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 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.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: *Helmley*, Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778)

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*Nun komm' der Heiden Heiland, P.386 - Johann Pachelbel (1653-1750)**All are invited to a reception following the service downstairs in the Parish Hall.*

THE WORSHIP IS OVER – THE SERVICE BEGINS

ST PAUL'S ON THE GREEN – 60 EAST AVE., NORWALK, CT 06851

Contact us at: 203-847-2806 info@stpaulsnorwalk.org

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