



A FESTIVAL OF  
*Lessons  
& Carols*  
FOR ADVENT

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
NOVEMBER 29, 2020 • 6:00 PM

# FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR ADVENT

Prelude *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme* (BWV 140)

Bach

Introit: **Matin Responsory**

Palestrina

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 leadest 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.

**Hymn 56, O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** . . . . . *Veni, veni Emmanuel*



(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
(Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
(Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
(Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from  
(Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen  
(Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us  
(Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the  
(Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge  
3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to  
5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on  
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of  
7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions  
8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.  
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.  
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.  
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.  
8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



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

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 in this country and within our area.

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:

*Officiant*            Our Father  
*People*                **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 to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON: THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD WILL REST UPON THE HOLY ONE**

Isaiah 11:1-9

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**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.

**ANTHEM: A Song of Peace**

Stanford

There shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse,  
 and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:  
 And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,  
 the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
 the spirit of counsel and might,  
 the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord;  
 And he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes,  
 neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:  
 And with righteousness shall he judge the poor,  
 and reprove with equity the meek of the earth:  
 and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth,  
 and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins,  
 and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.  
 The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb,  
 and the leopard shall lie down with the kid;  
 and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together;  
 and a little child shall lead them.  
 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain:  
 for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord,  
 as the waters cover the sea.  
 And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse,  
 which shall stand for an ensign unto the people;  
 and his rest shall be glorious.

**SECOND LESSON: THE PROPHET PROCLAIMS THAT GOD WILL COME AND SAVE US**

Isaiah 35:1-10

**T**he 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 traveller, 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.

**ANTHEM: What Sweeter Music***Vaughan Williams*

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol, for to sing  
 the birth of this our heav'nly king, the birth of this our heav'nly king?  
 We see him come, and know him ours, who with his sunshine and his showers  
 Turns all the patient ground to flowers, turns the patient ground to flowers.  
 So we will give him, and bequeath this holly and this ivy wreath,  
 to do him honor who's our king, and Lord of all this reveling.  
 Dark and dull night, fly hence away and give the honor to this day,  
 that sees December turn to May, that sees December turn to May.  
 The darling of the world is come, and fit it is we find a room.  
 The nobler part of all the house here is the heart: Awake the voice! Awake the string!  
 What music we bring for the birth of this our king, the birth of this our heav'nly king, our heav'nly king?

**THIRD LESSON: THE LORD WILL BE AMONG US; WE ARE SUMMONED TO REJOICE AND SING**

Zephaniah 3:14-18

**S**ing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he

will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

**ANTHEM: The White Dove**

Schweizer

A dove as white as winter,  
From heaven came to earth,  
And greeted there a maid,  
Of humble birth.

She bowed her head  
And listened to his words.  
That she, above all others,  
Was favored by the Lord.  
Kyrie eleison.

The heavenly gates will open,  
Thou shalt have a son,  
Emmanuel most high, the Chosen One.  
For know, a blessed mother shalt thou be.  
All coming generations  
Will laud and honor thee.  
Kyrie eleison.

Our hope and expectation  
O Jesus appear.  
Arise, thou sun, so longed for  
Above this darkened sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted,  
Lord to see all the earth's redemption,  
And ever be with thee.  
Kyrie Eleison.

**FOURTH LESSON: GOD COMFORTS HIS PEOPLE AND CALLS ON THEM TO PREPARE FOR REDEMPTION** Isaiah 40:1-11

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**C**omfort, 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.

**ANTHEM: Comfort, comfort ye my people**

*Messiah*

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. 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.

**FIFTH LESSON: BARUCH URGES PEOPLE TO LOOK EAST BECAUSE SALVATION IS AT HAND**

Baruch 4:36-5:9

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**L**ook 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 splendour 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.

**ANTHEM: Hark a Thrilling Voice**

Higgenson

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."

Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,  
 Comes with pardon down from Heav'n;  
 Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
 One and all to be forgiven.

Honor, glory, might, and blessing  
 Be to God: the Father, Son  
 And the everlasting Spirit,  
 While eternal ages run.

Wakened by the solemn warning  
 Let the earthbound soul arise;  
 Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling,  
 Shines upon the morning skies.

That when next He comes in glory,  
 And the world is wrapped in fear,  
 With His mercy He may shield us,  
 And with words of love draw near.

**SIXTH LESSON: ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH SHALL SEE THE SALVATION OF OUR GOD**

Isaiah 52:1-10

**A**wake, awake, put on your strength, O Zion! Put on your beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city; for the uncircumcised and the unclean shall enter you no more. Shake yourself from the dust, rise up, O captive Jerusalem; loose the bonds from your neck, O captive daughter Zion! For thus says the Lord: You were sold for nothing, and you shall be redeemed without money. For thus says the Lord God: Long ago, my people went down into Egypt to reside there as aliens; the Assyrian, too, has oppressed them without cause. Now therefore, what am I doing here, says the Lord, seeing that my people are taken away without cause? Their rulers howl, says the Lord, and continually, all day long, my name is despised. Therefore my people shall know my name; therefore on that day they shall know that it is I who speak; here am I. How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

**ANTHEM: Wachtet auf, ruft uns die Stimme (BWV 140)**

Bach

*Wachtet auf, ruft uns die Stimme  
 Der Wächter sehr hoch auf der Zinne,  
 Wach auf, du Stadt Jerusalem!  
 Mitternacht heißt diese Stunde;  
 Sie rufen uns mit hellem Munde:  
 Wo seid ihr klugen Jungfrauen?  
 Wohl auf, der Bräutigam kömmt;  
 Steht auf, die Lampen nehmt!  
 Alleluja! Macht euch bereit  
 Zu der Hochzeit,  
 Ihr müsset ihm entgegen gehn!*

Wake up, the voice calls us  
 of the watchmen high up on the battlements,  
 wake up, you city of Jerusalem!  
 This hour is called midnight;  
 they call us with a clear voice:  
 where are you, wise virgins?  
 Get up, the bridegroom comes;  
 Stand up, take your lamps! Hallelujah!  
 Alleluia! Make yourselves ready  
 for the wedding,  
 you must go to meet him!

*Zion hört die Wächter singen,  
 Das Herz tut ihr vor Freuden springen,  
 Sie wachtet und steht eilend auf.  
 Ihr Freund kommt vom Himmel prächtig,  
 Von Gnaden stark, von Wahrheit mächtig,  
 Ihr Licht wird hell, ihr Stern geht auf.  
 Nun komm, du werthe Kron,  
 Herr Jesu, Gottes Sohn!  
 Hosianna! Wir folgen all  
 Zum Freudensaal  
 Und halten mit das Abendmahl.*

Zion hears the watchmen sing,  
 her heart leaps for joy,  
 she awakes and gets up in haste.  
 Her friend comes from heaven in his splendour,  
 strong in mercy, mighty in truth.  
 Her light becomes bright, her star rises.  
 Now come, you worthy crown,  
 Lord Jesus, God's son!  
 Hosanna! We all follow  
 to the hall of joy  
 and share in the Lord's supper.

**A**gain the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.”

**ANTHEM: Out of the Wintery Gloom**

Shepherd

Out of the wintry gloom of night,	O come, our Dayspring, and our Cheer,	Come now, O Prince of Glory, come!
Out of the darkness of our days;	the herald calls, and we obey;	Come quickly, as dawn follows night;
Our Sun appears, a wondrous sight,	Now lift us by your Advent here,	And dwell with us, here make your home,
A morning of unbroken praise.	The message comes, “Prepare a way.”	So all the world may see your light.

**EIGHTH LESSON: ST. MATTHEW TELLS OF THE COMING BIRTH OF THE SAVIOR**

Matthew 1:18-23

**N**ow 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 fulfill 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.”

**ANTHEM: The Father’s Love**

arr. Price

Of the Father’s Love begotten, ere the worlds began to be;	This flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air.
He is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he;	Dispels with glorious splendor, the darkness everywhere.
Of the things that are, that have been,	True man but very God, from sin and death he saves us,
and that future years shall see	And lightens every load.
Evermore and Evermore.	
Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming from tender stem hath sprung.	Isaiah ‘twas foretold it,
Of Jesse’s lineage coming as men of old have sung.	This is he whom heaven taught singers
It came, a flow’ret bright amid the cold of winter,	Sang of old with one accord,
When half-spent was the night.	Whom the scriptures of the prophets,
	Promised in their faithful word,
	Now he shines, the long-expected,
	Let creation praise its Lord:
	Evermore and evermore.

**NINTH LESSON: THE ANGEL GABRIEL SALUTES THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

Luke 1:26-38

**I**n 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.

### ANTHEM: **The Angel Gabriel**

Basque Carol

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 know 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 sould 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!

### **The Peace**

*Officiant*            The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*                **And also with you.**

### **The Offertory**

#### THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM: **The Apple Tree**

Schweizer

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

### **The Collect**

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 Blessing**

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

Hymn 57, *Lo! He comes with clouds descending* . . . . . *Helmsley*



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.

Postlude

*Rhapsody on Helmsley*

Webber

