



*A Service of  
Lessons & Carols  
for Advent*

Sunday,  
December 3, 2017  
at 5 p.m.

The Church of the Holy Spirit  
400 E. Westminster Rd.  
Lake Forest, IL 60045

The Rev. Dr. John D. Stonesifer, Interim Rector

## About this Service

The season of Advent begins today, the fourth Sunday before Christmas. The word “Advent” means “coming,” or “drawing near.” During this season, Christians throughout the world prepare for the anniversary of Christ’s first coming through reflection on our yearning for wholeness and salvation. Such reflection can serve to heighten our sense of anticipation for the Christ Child’s birth, which we will celebrate on Christmas. The Advent season also reminds us that Christ will come again at the end of time to reign over heaven and earth in majesty.

The forerunner to this Service of Lessons and Carols originated in 1880 with E. W. Benson, Bishop of Truro Cathedral in England. His service included readings and carols for Christmas, and was offered as a prelude to the Christmas Eve Midnight Mass. It was adapted in 1918 by Dean Eric Milner-White for use at King’s College Chapel, Cambridge, England. The BBC began broadcasting this service nationally in 1928. Today, it has been broadcast internationally for more than seventy-five years, and is among the most popular and widely-heard church services in the world.

In 1934, Dean Milner-White created A Procession with Carols on Advent Sunday for use at King’s, basing it on his earlier Lessons and Carols for Christmas. In his preface to this new service, Milner-White wrote: “In the old English liturgies, the Advent Offices made a preparation for the coming of our Lord to this earth far more vivid and eager than those of our present Prayer Book. So an Advent Carol Service, if without precedent, is not without suitability, if it helps to express ‘the desire of all nations and ages.’” The purpose of the service is “not to celebrate Christmas, but to expect it.”

This evening’s Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent begins with a Responsory from Matins, the first liturgy of the day in the English tradition. As we sing the hymn which follows, the Choir processes into the Nave carrying candles, symbolizing the movement from darkness to light reflected in the Scripture we are about to hear. We are then bidden – in a prayer by Dean Milner-White – to await and prepare for the Incarnate God. Seven readings from scripture form the heart of the service, and each is further illuminated by a hymn or anthem. Our worship concludes with a Responsory from Vespers, a liturgy for the close of day. We are then sent back into the world with a hymn proclaiming the final coming of Christ in glory.

In the words of Dean Milner-White, the main theme of this service is “the development of the loving purposes of God ...” seen “through the windows and words of the Bible.” May this evening’s time of scripture and song bring you a rich sense of God’s love and presence this Advent season.

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Presider .....	The Rev. Dr. John D. Stonesifer
Choirs .....	CHS Senior and Evensong Choirs
Organist/Choirmaster .....	Don H. Horisberger
Assistant Organist/Choirmaster .....	Andy McBeath
String Quartet .....	The Chicago Musical Connection
Verger.....	Andy McCormack
Acolytes.....	Danny McKiernan, Emma Sloan, Garrison Sloan
Acolyte Mentor.....	Nan Caldwell
Usher .....	David Waud

# A Service of Lessons and Carols for Advent

## Prelude Music

Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 in F major (BWV 1047) - Andante  
Church Sonata No. 1 in E-flat Major (KV 67) - Andantino  
Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme (BWV 140) - Movement 4

Johann Sebastian Bach  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
Johann Sebastian Bach

## The Invitatory: Matin Responsory

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina,  
adapted by David Willcocks

*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?*

◇ Please rise upon entrance of the Cross. ◇

## Hymn in Procession: Come, thou Redeemer of the earth

arr. David Willcocks

*Verses 1 and 2 are sung by the Choir alone; the Congregation joins on verse 3.*

1 Come, thou Re-deem - er of the earth, and ma - ni - fest thy vir - gin - birth: Let  
2 Be - got - ten of no hu - man will, but of the Spi - rit, thou art still the  
3 The vir - gin womb that bur - den gained with vir - gin ho - nour all un - stained; the  
4 O e - qual to thy Fa - ther, thou! Gird on thy flesh - ly man - tle now; the  
5 All laud, e - ter - nal Son, to thee whose ad - vent sets thy peo - ple free, whom

ev - ery age a - dor - ing fall; such birth be - fits the God of all.  
Word of God in flesh ar - rayed, the pro - mised fruit to man dis - played.  
ban - ners there of vir - tue glow; God in his tem - ple dwells be - low.  
weak - ness of our mor - tal state with death - less might in - vig - o - rate.  
with the Fa - ther we a - dore, and Ho - ly Ghost for ev - er - more.

Words: St. Ambrose (c. 340-397); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866)

Music: *Puer nobis*, melody from Trier MS, 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

## The Bidding Prayer

The Presider and Congregation

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 lessons 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 Saviour, Jesus Christ,  
will bring all people 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:

*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.*

◇ Please be seated. ◇

**The First Lesson:** Isaiah 40:1-8

Reader: Catherine Wilbur, St. Gregory's Choir

*The Prophet proclaims good news to a people in exile.*

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.

*[At the conclusion of each Lesson, the Reader alone says "Thanks be to God."]*

**Anthem:** And the glory of the Lord

George Frideric Handel

*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 Second Lesson:** Jeremiah 23:3-6

Reader: Garrison Sloan, Youth Group

*The Lord promises to send his people a righteous King.*

I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD. 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.

**Anthem:** O Emmanuel (*Sung in Latin*)

Ēriks Ešenvalds

*O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver,  
the expected of the nations and their Savior:  
come to save us, Lord, our God.*

*The Lord promises that the King will come to Israel in peace.*

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.

◇ Please rise. ◇

Hymn: Prepare the way, O Zion

*Bereden väg för Herran*

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.

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 form *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697

◇ Please be seated. ◇

*The Prophet foretells the advent of the desire of all nations.*

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.

◇ Please rise. ◇

Hymn: Savior of the nations, come!

*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*

1 Sa - vior of the na - tions, come! Vir - gin's Son, make here your home.  
2 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the Vir - gin un - de - filed!  
3 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears, grac - ing his cre - a - ted spheres;  
4 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son, who o'er sin the vic - t'ry won.

Mar - vel now, both heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.  
Might - y God and Ma - ry's son, ea - ger now his race to run!  
hence to death and hell de - scends, then the heaven - ly throne a - scends.  
Bound-less shall your king - dom be; grant that we its glo - ries see.

Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546) after Ambrose of Milan (340-397);  
tr. William M. Reynolds (1812-1876) and James Waring McCrady (b. 1938)  
Music: *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*, melody from *Erfurt Euchiridia*, 1524

◇ Please be seated. ◇

**The Fifth Lesson:** Isaiah 35:1-6

Reader: Kris McKinnon, Altar Guild

*The Prophet foretells the glory of the kingdom of God.*

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 recompence; 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.

**Anthem:** Lo, in the time appointed

Healey Willan

*Lo, in the time appointed the Lord will come;  
the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands:  
for the Lord God shall come into his everlasting kingdom,  
and upon the throne of David shall he reign for ever.  
Alleluia.*

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

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 favoured, 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 favour 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.

**Carol:** Ave Maria

Tomás Luis de Victoria

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee:  
blessed art thou amongst women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

*Jesus proclaims the coming of the kingdom of God.*

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.

◇ Please rise. ◇

Hymn: Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding

*Merton*

1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing, "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;  
 2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;  
 3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;  
 4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,  
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,  
 "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye chil - dren of the day."  
 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;  
 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.  
 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt.  
 Music: *Merton*, Henry Monk (1823-1889)

◇ Please remain standing. ◇

Vesper Responsory, Closing Collect, and Blessing

Robert W. Lehman

*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.*

*We wait for thy loving kindness, O Lord;  
in the midst of thy temple.*

*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.*

*Open wide, O Lord, the gates of heaven and visit thy people in peace;  
send forth thy Spirit from on high that their hearts may be uplifted unto thee;  
O Lord, who for our sake wast of a virgin born, make holy thy people and bless thine heritage;  
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost,  
be amongst you and abide with you for ever. Amen.*

Hymn in Procession: Lo! he comes, with clouds descending

Helmsley

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for our sal -  
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in dread - ful  
 3 Those dear to - kens of his pas - sion still his daz - zling  
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on thine e -

va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
 ma - jes - ty; those who set at nought and sold him,  
 bo - dy bears, cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion  
 ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the power and glo - ry;

swell the tri - umph of his train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 pierced, and nailed him to the tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly  
 to his ran - somed wor - ship - ers; with what rap - ture, with what  
 claim the king - dom for thine own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
 rap - ture, with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
 lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)  
 Music: Helmsley, melody Augustine Arne (1710-1778)

Postlude: Church Sonata No. 4 in D Major (KV 144) - Allegro

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart