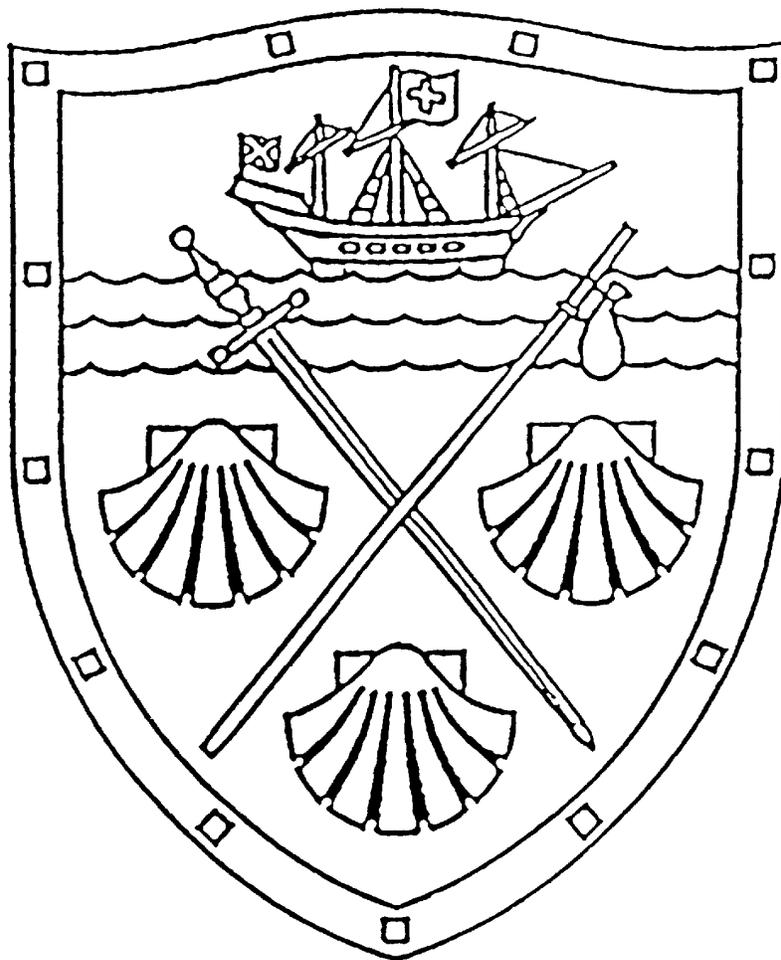


The Cathedral Church of St. James

The First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020 at 11:00am

Lessons & Carols



*The Cathedral Church of St. James
Diocese of Toronto • Anglican Church of Canada*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude Wachet Auf, BWV 645

Johann Sebastian Bach

Welcome & Announcements

Greeting

Please stand, as you are able.

Officiant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Officiant Almighty God,

All **unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

One In the tender compassion of our God

All **The dawn from on high shall break upon us**

One To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death

All **And to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

The first candle is lit.

One Lord Jesus, we look for your coming as the hope of the world.

All **Kindle your hope in our hearts, we pray.**

Collect of the Day

Officiant Let us pray.

Please remain standing.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever.

People **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Please be seated.

The First Lesson

Isaiah 40: 1-11

Reader 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.

Reader The word of the Lord. ***People*** **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain seated.

Carol Comfort, Comfort Ye My People Text: Is. 40.1-5; para. Johannes G. Olearius;
tr. Catherine Winkworth, alt.;

Music: Melody Geneva, 1551; Tune: Psalm 42

Cantor Comfort, comfort ye my people; speak ye peace: thus says your God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness bowed beneath oppression's load;
speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them:
tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

Hark! The herald's voice is calling in the desert far and near,
calling us to new repentance since the reign of God is here.
Oh, the warning call obey! Now prepare for Christ a way;
let the valleys rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked; make the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble as befits Messiah's reign.
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token that God's Word is never broken.

The Second Lesson

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

Reader The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the Lord’, for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain seated.

Carol Creator of the Stars of Night

Text: Latin; tr. John Mason Neale, alt.;
Music: Melody Sarum plainsong, Mode 4;
Tune: Conditor Alme Siderum

Cantor Creator of the stars of night, thy people's everlasting light,
Jesus, redeemer of us all, hear thou thy servants when they call.

Thou, sorrowing at the helpless cry of all creation doomed to die,
didst save our lost and guilty race by healing gifts of heavenly grace.

When earth was near its evening hour, thou didst in love's redeeming power,
like bride-groom from his chamber, come forth from a maiden mother's womb.

At thy great name, exalted now, all knees in lowly homage bow;
all things in heaven and earth adore, and own thee King for evermore.

To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three-in-One,
praise, honour, might, and glory be from age to age eternally.

The Third Lesson

Isaiah 35: 1-8

Reader The 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.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain seated.

Carol Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion

Text: Zechariah 9: 9-10;

Music: George Frederic Handel

Cantor Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion, shout, O daughter of Jerusalem, behold, thy King cometh unto thee.
He is the righteous Saviour, and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.
Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion, shout, O daughter of Jerusalem, behold, thy King cometh unto thee.

The Fourth Lesson

Luke 1: 26-38

Reader 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.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain seated.

Carol Angelus ad Virginem

Text: Poetic translation by Gerald Manley Hopkins;

Music: Andrew Carter

Cantor

*Angelus ad Virginem
Sub intrans in conclave,
Virginis formidinem
Demulcens, inquit: Ave!
Ave regina virginum;
Caeli terraeque Dominum
Concipies et paries intacta
Salutem hominum;
Tu porta caeli facta,
Medela criminum.*

Gabriel, from heaven's king
Sent to the maiden sweet,
Brought to her blissful tiding
And fair 'gan her to greet.
'Hail be thou, full of grace aright!
For so God's Son, the heaven's light,
Loves man, that He a man will be
and take flesh of thee, maiden bright,
Mankind free for to make
Of sin and devil's might.'

*Quomodo conciperem
Quae virum non cognovi?
Qualiter infringerem
Quod firma mente vovi?
Spiritus Sancti gratia
Perficiet haec omnia;
Ne timeas, sed gaudeas, segura
Quod castimonia
Manebit in te pura
Dei potentia.*

Gently to him gave answer
The gentle maiden then:
'And in what wise should I bear
Child, that know not man?'
The angel said: 'O dread thee nought.
'Tis through the Holy Ghost that wrought
shall be this thing whereof tidings I bring:
Lost mankind shall be bought
By thy sweet childbearing,
And back from sorrow brought.'

*Ad haec virgo nobilis
Respondens inquit ei:
Ancilla sum humilis
Omnipotentis Dei.
Tibi caelesti nuntio,
Tanti secreti conscio,
Consentiens, et cupiens videre
Factum quod audio;
Parata sum parere,
Dei consilio.*

When the maiden understood
And the angel's words had heard,
Mildly, of her own mild mood,
The angel she answered:
'Our Lord His handmaiden, I wis,
I am, that here above us is:
And touching me fulfilled be thy saw;
That I, since His will is,
Be, out of nature's law
A maid with mother's bliss.'

*Eia mater Domini,
Quae pacem redidisti
Angelis et homini,
Cum Christum genuisti:
Tuum exora filium
ut se nobis propitium
Exhibeat, et deleat peccata:
Praestans auxilium
Vita frui beata
Post hoc exsilium
Deo Gratias!*

Filled full of charity,
Thou matchless maiden-mother,
Pray for us to him that He
For thy love above other,
Away our sin and guilt should take,
And clean of every stain us make
And heaven's bliss, when our time is
to die, would give us for thy sake;
With grace to serve him by
Till He us to him take.
Thanks be to God!

Homily

The Intercession

Officiant Dear friends in Christ, looking for the advent of our Saviour, let us pray for the Church and the world.

Please kneel, as you are able.

Intercessor God, hear our prayer

People **And let our cry come unto thee.**

At the Thanksgiving for the departed:

Intercessor Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord,

People **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Officiant God of hope, you have heard the prayers of your faithful people. Mercifully accept our requests and grant that we may wait with patience and hope for your Son's Advent among us. We ask this for his sake, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

The Peace

Please stand, as you are able.

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

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Offering Motet E'en So Lord Jesus, Quickly Come *Text: Adapted by Ruth Manz;*
Music: Paul Manz

Cantor Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come; sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon, for Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their All!

Officiant Blessed be thou, Lord God of Israel, for ever and ever. All that is in the
heaven and in the earth is thine. All things come of thee, and of thine own
have we given thee.

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray.

All 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 them that trespass against us; and
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

An Advent Collect

Officiant 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 Spirit, one God, world without end.

People **Amen.**

The Advent Blessing

Officiant Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; 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.

People **Amen.**

Motet Jesus Christ, The Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston

Cantor 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

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

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 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

Dismissal

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Herr Christ, der einge Gottessohn, BWV 601

Johann Sebastian Bach

Officiant: Claire Latimer-Dennis

Homilist: The Very Reverend Stephen Vail

Organist: David Simon

Cantor: Rebecca Gray

Lockdown can be a lonely experience for many members of the Cathedral. Not only does it take away the opportunity for in-person worship until at least December 21, it adds the burdens of isolation and disconnectedness to so many who live alone. If you know anyone who would benefit from a call from our pastoral care team, please be in touch with Canon Beth Benson at bbenson@stjamescathedral.ca. Thank you.

CONNECT WITH THE CATHEDRAL

**To keep up to date on Cathedral News and Events,
sign up for our weekly E-Connections at stjamescathedral.ca
(scroll to the bottom of the page).**

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CONNECTIONS

COMPLINE FOR ADVENT

As we anticipate the celebration of the birth of our Lord, and the coming light into the darkness of our world, join us for a service of Compline every Sunday evening during Advent, at 7:00pm over Zoom. It will be a short family-friendly service (no more than half an hour), with candles, readings, prayers, and time for silent reflection. Email Claire at clatimerdennis@stjamescathedral.ca for the link.

WHEN CHRISTMAS IS A DIFFICULT TIME

Grief, illness, stress, financial pressures, and painful memories can make Christmas a difficult time for some of us. We invite you to attend a short service of prayer and reflection to help prepare you for the holiday in faith and hope – despite your losses. This year’s service “When Christmas is a Difficult Time” will be held on **Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 6:00pm via Zoom**. If you would like to participate in this virtual service, please email info@stjamescathedral.ca or leave a message on the clergy line at 416-364-7865, ext. *232. The Zoom meeting link and password will be distributed during the week of December 6, 2020.

VIRTUAL HYMN SING

Do you miss singing together at church? Join us for our next Virtual Hymn Sing on Wednesday, December 2 at 4:00pm. We will meet over Zoom to share some hymns sung by members of the Parish Choir and friends. During Virtual Hymn Sing your microphone is muted when you sing, so you need not worry about how you sound. To receive an invitation, please email irencourage105@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS

A beautiful way to remember a loved one at Christmas is through the memorial poinsettias that will be placed in the Cathedral for the season. This year, we will also be placing poinsettias on the Altars and other settings and all names submitted will be noted on the general memorial poinsettias list. Names can be emailed to info@stjamescathedral.ca or called in to the clergy extension at 416-364-7865, ext. *232. We are asking for donations of \$40 (minimum) per name or per couple. Donations will be designated to the Cathedral Flower Fund and are tax-receiptable. Please indicate whether you will be making your payment for your memorial by credit card online or by cheque on the offering plate/by mail. **The deadline for submitting memorial names will be Tuesday, December 8.** Please note that due to the uncertainty of these times, if we are unable to hold in-person services at Christmas, we will produce a ‘virtual flower memorial’ incorporating all of the names received and post it on the Cathedral website and Facebook page. In this case, all donated monies will go towards the Cathedral Flower Fund for future use.

For more information, and to sign up to receive E-Connections, visit our website at stjamescathedral.ca/econnections/