

A Festival
of
Lessons & Carols For Advent



The Episcopal Church of St. Mary the Virgin

9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

December 18, 2016

A Brief History of Lessons and Carols

This morning's service of Lessons and Carols was created by the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1880 and later adapted and expanded in 1918 at King's College in Cambridge, England, where it is still held each year on Christmas Eve. The service was first broadcast by the BBC World Service in 1928. Today it is estimated that millions of listeners worldwide tune in through radio broadcasts and internet streaming, making Lessons and Carols one of the most familiar and loved services in Christian worship.

The Anglican tradition of Lessons and Carols celebrates the birth of Jesus through a series of Scripture readings interspersed with carols, anthems and hymns of Advent or Christmas. The lessons tell the story of God's loving purpose through the ages and anticipate our redemption brought to fruition by God made human through the birth of Christ Jesus.

Churches in the Anglican Communion have a repertoire of three versions of Lessons and Carols: one for Advent (which we are observing today), one for Christmas (the most popular, which often begins with a boy soprano singing "Once in Royal David's City") and one for the Epiphany. Lessons and Carols allows for a degree of flexibility with regards to the number of selections and readings. Our pattern of readings this morning incorporates texts from the Old Testament, outlining God's Chosen People's longing for redemption and awaiting the coming of Peace. The final passage this morning comes from St. Luke's account of the Annunciation unto Mary and leaves us with hope and anticipation of the birth of our Savior.

VOLUNTARY

Sussex Mummings' Carol

Percy Grainger

1882-1961

arr. Eric Choate, b. 1990

**Thank you for listening in silence and for respecting the needs
of worshippers for a quiet time of prayer and meditation.**

The congregation stands, as able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O come, O come Emmanuel



Children: 1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - some cap - tive Is - ra -
All 2. O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest all thing might - i -
All 3. O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from Sa - tan's ty - ran -
Choir 4. O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us by thy draw - ing
All 5. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man -



el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un -
 ly; to us the path of know - ledge show, and
 ny that trust thy might - y power to save, and
 ngh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and
 kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and



til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us in her ways to go.
 give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
 death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 be thy - self our King of Peace.



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

Text: Latin, ca. 9th cent.;

Music: Veni, veni, Emmanuel, plainsong, Mode 1

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Officiant Today we light the first, second, third, and fourth candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, the third candle is JOY, and the fourth candle is LOVE.

The candles are lit.

Officiant Jesus said to them, I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

John 13:34

People **Loving God, your mercy and compassion endure forever. Open our hearts, that we may receive your love; and following the example of your Son, spread that love to a love-starved world. Through Jesus Christ, who loved us to the end. Amen.**

BIDDING PRAYER

Celebrant 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, 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 this city.

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 has taught us:

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.
Amen.**

Celebrant The Almighty God bless us with his grace: Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all.

All **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

ANTHEM

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come

Paul Manz

St. Mary's Youth Choir

1919-2009

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 savèd 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!

FIRST LESSON

Readers: 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Celia Clark and Isabelle Landry, *Youth Choir members*

God creates man and woman to live in obedience in the Garden of Eden.

Genesis 2: 4b-9, 15-25

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up-- for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground-- then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken."

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

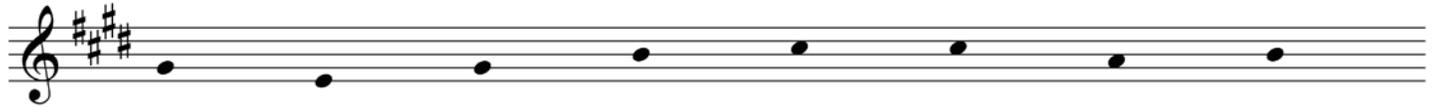
Here ends the lesson.

Silence is kept.

The congregation stands, as able.

CAROL

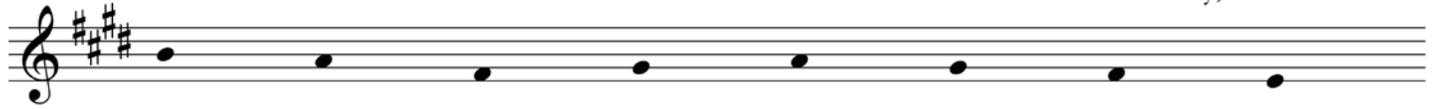
Creator of the stars of night



1. Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
2. In sor - row that the an - cient curse
3. When this old world drew on toward night,
4. At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
5. Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,



your peo - ple's ev - er - las - ting light,
should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
all knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;



O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
not as a mon - arch, but the child
all things on earth with one ac - cord,
de - fend us while we dwell be - low



we pray you hear us when we call.
your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
from all as - saults of our dread foe.

Words: Latin, 9th cent.

Music: Conditor alme siderum, plainsong, Mode 4

The congregation sits.

SECOND LESSON

Reader: 9:00 a.m. Michael Stafford, *Director of Youth Programs*

11:00 a.m. Nancy Clark, *Director of Sunday School*

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.

Genesis 3: 1-15

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." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.
I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel."

Here ends the lesson.

Silence is kept.

ANTHEM

Adam lay Ybounden

Boris Ord

St. Mary's Parish Choir

1897-1960

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 clerkës finden written
In their book.
Nor had one apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Then had never Our Lady
A-been heaven's queen.
Blessed be the time
That apple taken was.
Therefore we may singen
Deo gratias!

-Unknown 15th-century

THIRD LESSON

Reader: 9:00 a.m. Liz Paxton, *Junior Warden*

11:00 a.m. Betty Hood-Gibson, *Treasurer*

God comforts the people and calls on them to prepare for redemption.

Isaiah 40: 1-11

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 forever.

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.

Here ends the lesson.

Silence is kept.

ANTHEM

Comfort, comfort now my people

Claude Goudimel

St. Mary's Children's Choir

1514-1572

Sandy Stadtfeld, crumhorn; Yaromil Ralph, tambourine

Comfort, comfort, ye My people,
Speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
Comfort those who sit in darkness,
Mourning 'neath their sorrows' 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 crying
In the desert far and near,
Bidding all men to repentance
Since the Kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet Him
And the hills bow down to greet Him.

-Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684)

FOURTH LESSON

Reader: Marla Perkins, *Interim Children's Choir Director*

The prophet proclaims that God will come and save us.

Isaiah 35: 1-10

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 traveler, 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.

Here ends the lesson.

Silence is kept.

The congregation stands, as able.

CAROL

Prepare the way, O Zion



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 heav'n a - bove.
3. Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sav - ior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - 'ry 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)

Music: Bereden vag for Herran

The congregation sits.

FIFTH LESSON

Reader: Eric Choate, *Interim Director of Music*

The Scribe Baruch urges the people to look East because salvation is at hand.

Baruch 4: 36--5: 9

Look toward 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 forever 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 splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward 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.

Here ends the lesson.

Silence is kept.

The congregation stands, as able.

CAROL

People, look East

1. Peo - ple, look East, the time is near Of the crown - ing of the
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, One more seed is plant - ed
3. Bird, though ye long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim One more light the bowl shall
5. An - gels, an - nounce to man and beast Him who com - eth from the

year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, Trim the hearth and set the
there: Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, That in the course the flower may
filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen He for fledg - ing - time has
brim, Shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, Bright as sun and moon to -
East. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming With the word, the Lord is

ta - ble. Peo - ple, look East, and sing to - day: Love the Guest is on the way.
flour - ish. Peo - ple, look East, and sing to - day: Love the Rose is on the way.
chos - en. Peo - ple, look East, and sing to - day: Love the Bird is on the way.
geth - er. Peo - ple, look East, and sing to - day: Love the Star is on the way.
com - ing. Peo - ple, look East, and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on the way.

Music: Besancon carol

Text: Elanor Farjeon

The congregation sits.

SIXTH LESSON

Reader: Natalie Hala, *Verger and Liturgist*

The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon the Holy One.

Isaiah 11: 1-9

A shoot shall come out from the stump 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.

Here ends the lesson.

Silence is kept.

The congregation stands, as able.

CAROL

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

1. Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath
 2. I - sai - ah 'twas fore - told it, The Rose I have in
 3. O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the

sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As men of old have
 mind, With Ma - ry we be - hold it, The Vir - gin Mo - ther
 air, Dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - ery -

sung. It came, a flow' - ret bright, A - mid the cold of
 kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to us a
 where; True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and death now

win - ter, When half - spent was the night.
 Sa - vior, When half - spent was the night.
 save us, And share our ev - ery load.

Text: Theodore Baker

Music: Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

The congregation sits.

SEVENTH LESSON

Reader: The Rev. Timothy Smith, *Deacon*

The Lord will be among us; we are summoned to rejoice and sing.

Zephaniah 3: 14-18

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments 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.

Here ends the lesson.

Silence is kept.

The congregation stands, as able.

CAROL

The Angel Gabriel



All: 1. The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came, his
All: 2. "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be, all
Choir: 3. *Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head, "To*
All: 4. Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born in



wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame; "All
 gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee, thy
me be as it pleas - eth God," she said, "my
 Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn, and



hail to thee, thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry, most
 Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told, most
soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name." Most
 Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say: "Most



high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - - - ri - a!
 high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - - - ri - a!
high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - - - ri - a!
 high ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - - - ri - a!

Text: Basque carol; para. Baring-Gould (1834-1924)

Music: Basque carol

The congregation sits.

EIGHTH LESSON

Reader: The Very Rev. Dr. Donald G. Brown, *Interim Rector*

The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High.

Luke 1: 26-46

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, favored 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 favor 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 forever, 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.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said:

ANTHEM

Magnificat

Henry Purcell

St. Mary's Parish Choir

1659-1695

GREETING

The Very Rev. Dr. Don Brown

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

9:00 a.m.

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree
St. Mary's Children's and Handbell Choir

Daniel Pinkham
1923-2006

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.

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.

-Unknown, 18th. Century

11:00 a.m.

Come, Thou Redeemer of the Earth
St. Mary's Parish Choir

Michael Praetorius
1571-1621
arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

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

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.

The virgin womb that burden gained
with virgin honor all unstained;
the banners there of virtue glow;
God in his temple dwells below.

All laud, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent sets thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Ghost for evermore.

St. Ambrose (340-397), tr. J. M. Neale

The congregation stands, as able.

COLLECT AND BLESSING

Officiant The Lord be with you

All **And also with you.**

Officiant 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 forever. **Amen.**

Officiant May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in Power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL CAROL

Of eternal love begotten



Choir: 1. Of e - ter - nal Love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
All: 2. At his Word the worlds were fram - ed. He com - mand - ed,
All: 3. O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,
Strings: 4. *This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with*
All: 5. O ye heights of heaven, a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
All: 6. Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther; and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 it was done: heaven and earth and depths of o - cean
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing; all do - min - ions, bow be - fore him,
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing,



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that
 in their three - fold or - der one; all that grows be -
 bare the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the
prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the
 and ex - tol our God and king; let no tongue on
 and un - wear - ied prais - es be, hon - or, glo - ry,



are and have been, and that fu - ture
 neath the shin - ing of the moon and
 world's re - deem - er, first re - vealed his
long - ex - pect - ed; let cre - a - tion
 earth be si - lent, ev - ery voice in
 and do - min - ion and e - ter - nal



years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 burn - ing sun, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 sac - red face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
praise its Lord, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 vic - tor - y, ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius; tr. John Mason Neale

Music: Melody plainsong, Mode 8

DISMISSAL

Deacon Go in peace to bring forth fruits of righteousness.

All **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Sussex Carol

English traditional

arr. Choate

**As a courtesy to those who wish to continue in prayer or listen to the Voluntary,
please exit quietly and join in fellowship in the courtyard.**

A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS FOR ADVENT

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Officiant

The Very Rev. Dr. Donald G. Brown, *Interim Rector*

Readers

The Rev. Timothy Smith

Natalie Hala

Eric Choate

Marla Perkins

Celia Clark

Isabelle Landry

Michael Stafford

Nancy Clark

Liz Paxton

Betty Hood-Gibson

Thurifer

Bob Bledsoe

MUSIC AT ST. MARY'S

Eric Choate, *Interim Director of Music*

Marla Perkins, *Interim Children's Choir Director & Handbell Choir Director*

ST. MARY'S PARISH CHOIR

Soprano

Susan Barber
Linda Breitbarth
Lisa Brown-Kinsella
Martha Daetwyler
Ana Dierkhising
Jan Dunbar
Fran Hegler
Kristina Svendsen Landry
Ellen Leslie
Frances Sutton
Anna Sylvester
Adele Zachrisson

Alto

Marian Brischle
Jane Cook
Bethany Goldson
Molly McNeil
Marla Perkins
Audrey Prescott
Corinne Sigmund
Joan Smith

Tenor

Julian Kusnadi
Jay Russell
Sandy Stadtfeld
Sean Sullivan

Bass

Maximiliano Colter
Steven Currier
Conrad Irwin

ST. MARY'S CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Hovey Clark
Gloria Cebrian
Phoebe de Castro
Chloe Eenmaa
Phoebe Eenmaa
Carson Lofti
Ben Ralph

Sam Ralph
Mckenzie Renaudin
Zoe Renaudin
Caroline Stafford
Stella Tsai
Fletcher Werner
Laurel Werner

ST. MARY'S YOUTH CHOIR

Celia Clark
Katherine Hansen
Caroline Horner
Isabelle Landry
Sebastian Landry
Kelly Napolitana
Charlotte Winn
Noelle Winn

ST. MARY'S HANDBELL CHOIR

Daphne Ball
Jan Bolles
Jane Cook

THE PIXLEY HOUSE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Abigail Shiman, *violin*
Kashi Elliott, *violin*
Erica Zappia, *viola*
Helen Newby, *'cello*
Schuyler Karr, *double bass*
James Pytko, *clarinet*

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Thank you for your ongoing support, and watch St. Mary's website for
future Friends of Music events.

Upcoming Events

at The Episcopal Church of St. Mary the Virgin

December 24	3:00 pm	Christmas Pageant Costumed players and live animals
	5:00 pm	Christmas Eve Eucharist with Children's & Youth Choirs
	8:30 pm	Candlelight Carol Sing Parish Choir and Brass Ensemble
	9:00 pm	Candlelight Eucharist Parish Choir and Brass Ensemble
December 25	10:00 am	Holy Eucharist with Carols

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LITURGICAL STAFF

The Very Rev. Dr. Donald G. Brown
Interim Rector

Eric Choate
Interim Director of Music

The Rev. Tim Smith
Deacon

The Rev. Dr. Deborah White
Interim Co-Rector

Marla Perkins
Interim Children's Choir Director

The Rev. Nancy Bryan
Deacon

The Rev. Claire Dietrich Ranna
Associate Rector

Natalie Hala
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