

*I am sending the messenger to prepare the way before me, and  
the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.*

*—Malachi 3:1*

A SERVICE OF

# Advent Lessons & Carols

NOVEMBER 29, 2015 • 4PM



WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL



A SERVICE OF  
ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS



INTROIT

*E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come*

Paul Manz (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 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 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!

*The people stand.*

OPENING HYMN • 56

*O come, O come, Emmanuel*

*Choir sings the first verse, then all sing.*

*Veni, veni, Emmanuel*

OPENING SENTENCES

We know what time it is!

**Now is the moment to wake from sleep.**

For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;

**the night is far gone, the day is near.**

Let us lay aside the works of darkness

**and put on the armor of light.**

BIDDING PRAYER

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 the 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 Savior, 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 hear and see the Gospel.

First, let us pray for the world 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 in the shadow of death; and for the Church in this and every place, 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; praying in the language in which we first heard this prayer the words that 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.**

May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting, now and at all times.

**Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

# THE FIRST SEQUENCE

OF THE ONE WHO COMES AND OF HIS REIGN

ZECHARIAH 9:9-10 • *Rejoice greatly, your king comes to you*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and the River to the ends of the earth.

JEREMIAH 23:5-6 • *I will raise up for David a righteous branch*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

CAROL

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning*

*Spiritual*, arr. André Thomas (b. 1952)

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.  
Children, don't get weary 'til your work is done.  
Christian, journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

*The people stand.*

MATTHEW 25: 1-13 • *Keep awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour*

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came, also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly, I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

COLLECT

Holy God, you have set before us the great hope that your kingdom shall come on earth, and have taught us to pray for its coming; give us grace to discern the signs of its dawning, and to work for the perfect day when your will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## HYMN

*Sung by all**Behold your God*

O thou that tell - est good tid - ings to Zi - on, O thou that tell - est good

tid - ings to Je - ru - sa - lem: Lift up your voice with strength, Lift it up, don't be a - fraid.

Be - hold your God! A - - rise, and shine, for the

light of the world has come. Be - hold your God!

*The people are seated.*

# THE SECOND SEQUENCE

## OF THE FORERUNNER

### ISAIAH 52:7-10 • *How beautiful the mountains*

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 to gather 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.

### MALACHI 3:1-5 • *Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the way before me*

See, I am sending the messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. Then I will draw near to you for judgment; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

### CAROL

*This is the record of John*

Grayston Ives (b. 1948)

This is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and  
Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who art thou?”  
And he confessed, and denied not; and said plainly, “I am not the Christ.”  
And they asked him, “What art thou then? Art thou Elias?”  
And he said, “I am not.”  
And they asked him, “Art thou the prophet?”  
And he answered, “No.”  
Then said they unto him, “What art thou that we may give an answer unto them  
that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself?”  
And he said, “I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness,  
make straight the way of the Lord.”  
(John 1: 19-23)

*The people stand.*

### LUKE 1:5-25 • *The birth of John the Baptist is foretold*

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense-offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the

right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.' Zechariah said to the angel, 'How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years.' The angel replied, 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur.'

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, 'This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people.'

#### COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, whose servant and prophet John the Baptist bore witness to the truth as a burning and shining lamp: Lead us to bear witness to your Son, who is eternal light and truth, and lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN • 76

*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry*

*Sung by all*

*Winchester New*

*The people are seated.*

## THE THIRD SEQUENCE

### OF A VIGIL FOR PRISONERS AND THOSE WHO SIT IN DARKNESS

PSALM 107:1-3, 10-16 (plainsong) • *When they cried to the Lord, he delivered them from their distress*

We give you thanks, O God, for you are good;  
your mercy endures for ever.  
Let all those whom you have redeemed proclaim  
that you have redeemed them from the hand of the foe.  
You have gathered them out of the lands,  
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.  
Some sat in darkness and deep gloom,  
bound fast in misery and iron,  
Because they rebelled against your words, O God,  
and despised your counsel, O Most High.  
So you humbled their spirits with hard labor,  
they stumbled, and there was none to help.  
Then they cried to you in their trouble,  
and you delivered them from their distress.  
You led them out of darkness and deep gloom,  
And broke their bonds asunder.  
Let them give thanks to you for your mercy  
and the wonders you do for your children,  
For you shatter the doors of bronze  
and break in two the iron bars.



ISAIAH 42:5-9 • *Bring the prisoners out of darkness*

Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare: before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

CAROL

*Veiled in darkness*

Glenn Rudolph (b. 1951)

Veiled in darkness Judah lay,  
Waiting for the promised day,  
While across the shadowy night  
Streamed a flood of glorious light,  
Heav'nly voices chanting then,  
'Peace on earth, goodwill to men.'

Still the earth in darkness lies,  
Up from death's dark vale arise  
Voices of a world in grief,  
Prayers of men who seek relief;  
Now our darkness pierce again,  
'Peace on earth, goodwill to men.'

Light of light, we humbly pray,  
Shine upon Thy world today;  
Break the gloom of our dark night,  
Fill our souls with love and light,  
Send thy blessed word again,  
'Peace on earth, goodwill to men.'

*(Douglas Letel Rights)*

*The people stand.*

MATTHEW 25:31-46 • *I was in prison and you visited me*

Jesus said; 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'



COLLECT

God of tender compassion and mercy, whose Son is the morning star and the sun of righteousness; let him shine in the darkness and shadows of this world, that we may serve you in freedom and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN • 65

*Prepare the way, O Zion*

*Sung by all*

*Bereden väg för Herran*

*The people are seated.*

## THE FOURTH SEQUENCE

### OF LOOKING FOR LIGHT

GENESIS 1:1-5 • *Let there be light*

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

PSALM 13 (plainsong) • *Give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death*

How long, O God? Will you forget me for ever;  
how long will you hide your face from me?  
How long shall I have perplexity in my mind  
and grief in my heart, day after day;  
how long shall my enemy triumph over me?  
Look upon me and answer me, O God, my God;  
give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death;  
Lest my enemies say they have prevailed over me,  
and my foes rejoice that I have fallen.  
But I put my trust in your mercy;  
my heart is joyful because of your saving help.  
I will sing to the Holy One, who has dealt with me richly;  
I will praise the Name of God Most High.

CAROL

*The Lamb*

John Tavener (b. 1940)

Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee?  
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed, by the stream and o’er the mead;  
Gave thee clothing of delight, softest clothing, woolly, bright;  
Gave thee such a tender voice, making all the vales rejoice?  
Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee?  
Little Lamb, I’ll tell thee, He is called by thy name,  
For he calls himself a Lamb. He is meek, and he is mild;  
He became a little child. I, a child, and thou a lamb,  
We are called by his name. Little Lamb, God bless thee!  
(*William Blake, 1757-1827*)

*The people stand.*

JOHN 3:16-21 • *I am the light of the world*

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.’

COLLECT

God our maker, on the first day of creation you made the light that scatters all darkness. Let Christ, the light of lights, hidden from all eternity, shine at last on your people and free us from the darkness of sin. Fill our lives with joy as we go out to welcome your Son at his coming. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

HOMILY

Bishop Mariann

*Silence is kept.*

*During the carol, an offering is received to support the ministries of the Cathedral.*

CAROL AT THE OFFERTORY

*Jesus Christ the apple tree*

Anthony Piccolo (b. 1946)

The tree of life my soul hath seen,  
Laden with fruit and always green:  
The tree 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.

*(Divine Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1784)*

*The people stand.*

## CLOSING COLLECTS

O God, whose will is justice for the poor and peace for the afflicted, let your herald's urgent voice pierce our hardened hearts and announce the dawn of your kingdom. Before the advent of the One who baptizes with the fire of the Holy Spirit, let our complacency give way to conversion, oppression to justice, and conflict to acceptance of one another in Christ. We ask this through the One whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Ever present God, you taught us that the night is far spent and the day is at hand. Grant that we may ever be found watching for the coming of your Son. Save us from undue love of the world, that we may wait with patient hope for the day of the Lord, and so abide in him that when he shall appear, we may not be ashamed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and to put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

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; honor everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

## ADVENT BLESSING

May Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN • 57

*Lo! he comes, with clouds descending*

*Sung by all*

*Helmsley*

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*Nun komm der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

#### HOMILIST

The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde

#### OFFICIANT

The Reverend Canon Gina Gilland Campbell

#### GOSPELLERS

The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope

The Reverend Dr. Kelly Brown Douglas

The Very Reverend Gary Hall

The Reverend Preston B. Hannibal

#### COLLECT LEADER

The Reverend Stuart Kenworthy

#### MUSICIANS

Canon Michael McCarthy, Director of Music

Benjamin Straley, Organist and Associate Director of Music

The Cathedral Choir of Men and Girls



WASHINGTON  
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