

THE TEMPLE CHURCH



ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2022

6.00 p.m.

ADVENT: FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

'God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years . . . And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night . . . And God saw that it was good. And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.'
Genesis 1: 14-19

*Thou lamp of God, and spacious World's vast Light,
Of thee how shall I sing? of thee how write?
For here I find the Danger is,
With Bards of old, the Way to miss.
Of thee a God, they strangely wond'ring made,
And to thy Fire devoutly Homage paid.*

*The ancient Bards did see, and do, no more.
But I a brighter Sun than thee adore.
The Sun, I mean, that gave thee Light,
A Sun ten thousand times more bright.
Ah! who can thee sufficiently admire,
O God, my Sun, or thee enough desire?*

*Hail, thou faint image of th' Eternal Sun!
Oh that with thee my Race I now could run!
Oh that I could with thee obey!
And oh that I did never stray!
But with thee always keep within my Line,
And with thee always in his Service join. . .*

*Me with new Life from God thou dost inspire,
That seeing thee I burn with rapt'rous Fire.
Thou art the Glory of thy Lord:
Thou art the Image of His Word:
And I with thee now praise my LORD and thine,
That be my Sun, may ever on me shine. Amen.*

*Thomas Traherne (1637-1674), Hexameron:
Meditations on the Six Days of the Creation, Fourth Day*

The Choir processes into the Chancel during the hymn, 'Come thou, Redeemer'.

MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

From *Das Orgelbüchlein*:

Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland – Gottes Sohn ist kommen – Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottes-Sohn – Lob sei dem allmächtigen Gott

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

The Church is in darkness at the start of the service. All stand as the lights go down.

Choir Rorate caeli

Rorate caeli desuper,
et nubes pluant justum:
aperiatur terra, et germinet salvatorem.
Benedixisti, Domine, terram tuam:
avertisti captivitatem Jacob.
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

*Drop down ye heavens, from above,
and let the skies pour down righteousness:
let the earth open and bring forth a Saviour.
Lord, thou hast blessed thy land:
thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.*

Music: William Byrd (c. 1540-1623)

Words: Introit for Votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin during Advent

All remain standing.

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 1: 1-5

God creates light, and separates it from darkness.

IN THE BEGINNING God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

Thanks be to God.

ILLUMINE, O Lord, with the light of thy truth our hearts within us and our paths before us, that we may traverse under thy protection the darkness of this world and come at the last to the vision of thy glory. We ask this in the name of thy Son, the true light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. Amen.

Choir

Come thou, Redeemer

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 honour all sustained;
The banners there of virtue glow;
God in his temple dwells below.

All

**Forth from his chamber goeth he,
That royal home of purity,
A giant in twofold substance one,
Rejoicing now his course to run.**

**O equal to the Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now;
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate.**

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore,
And Holy Ghost, for evermore. Amen.**

Music: 'Puer nobis nascitur', Trier manuscript, 15th century; adapted by Michael Praetorius, 1609; arranged by Sir David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Words: 'Veni, redemptor gentium', St Ambrose of Milan (340-397);

translated from Latin to English by John Mason Neale, *Hymnal Noted*, 1852

All sit.

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 15: 21-22, 45-52, 54b-55

St Paul reveals the mystery of the First and Second Adams.

Since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. The first man is of the earth, earthy; the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also which are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also which are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I shew you a mystery: we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump. For the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. Then shall be brought to pass the saying which is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

O death, where is thy sting?
O grave, where is thy victory?

Thanks be to God.

Choir

I wonder as I wander

I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
How Jesus the Saviour did come for to die.
For poor on'ry people like you and like I...
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus 'twas in a cow's stall,
With wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.
But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,
And the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,
Or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,
He surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.

Music: Carl Rütli (b. 1949)

Words: Trad. Appalachian Carol

THE THIRD LESSON

Matthew 3: 1-12

John the Baptist announces the coming of Christ.

IN THOSE DAYS came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, and saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey.

Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan, and were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: and think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: whose fan is in his hand, and he will throughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

Thanks be to God.

All stand.

All *Thou whose almighty Word*

**Thou, whose almighty Word
Chaos and darkness heard,
And took their flight;
Hear us, we humbly pray,
And where the gospel-day
Sheds not its glorious ray,
Let there be light!**

Thou, who didst come to bring
On thy redeeming wing
Healing and sight,
Health to the sick in mind,
Sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
Let there be light!

Spirit of truth and love,
Life-giving, holy Dove,
Speed forth thy flight;
Move on the water's face,
Bearing the lamp of grace,
And in earth's darkest place
Let there be light!

Holy and blessèd Three,
Glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
Boundless as ocean's tide
Rolling in fullest pride,
Through the earth far and wide
Let there be light!

Music: 'Moscow', Felice de Giardini (1716-1796)

Words: John Marriott (1780-1825)

All sit.

Choir How lovely are the messengers

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace!
To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words, throughout
all the lands their glad tidings.

Music: Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Words: Romans 10. 15, 18

THE FOURTH LESSON

Luke 12: 35-40

Christ speaks of those who await his coming.

LET YOUR LOINS be girded about, and your lights burning; and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately.

Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants.

And this know, that if the goodman of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched, and not have suffered his house to be broken through. Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

Thanks be to God.

Choir Up, awake and away!

Up now, laggardly lasses;
Up, awake and away!
Out and gone before cock crow,
On the road before day!
Mary meek and gentle,
Rose of Jericho,
Bore a babe and laid him
In a manger low.

See the tears in his eyes, now;
(Sleep my pretty one, sleep!)
Let him dream when he can, now:
(Sleep, my innocent, sleep!)
Ah, my precious jewel,
Great the grief and pain,
Suffered through the wide world
For the sins of men!

Music and Words: Spanish carol from Galicia, tr.. J. B. Trend,
arr. Philip Ledger (1937-2012)

All stand.

All

O come, O come, Emmanuel!

O come, O come, Emmanuel!
Redeem thy captive Israel,
That into exile drear is gone
Far from the face of God's dear Son.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Branch of Jesse! draw
The quarry from the lion's claw;
From the dread caverns of the grave,
From nether hell, thy people save.

O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright!
Pour on our souls thy healing light;
Dispel the long night's ling'ring gloom,
And pierce the shadows of the tomb.

O come, thou Lord of David's Key!
The royal door fling wide and free;
Safeguard for us the heav'nward road,
And bar the way to death's abode.

O come, O come, Adonai,
Who in thy glorious majesty
From that high mountain clothed with awe,
Gavest thy folk the elder law.

Music: 'Veni, Emmanuel', copied by John Mason Neale from a French Missal

Words: 'Veni, veni, Emmanuel', first recorded in *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, 1710; translated by Thomas Alexander Lacey (1853-1931)

All sit.

THE FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1: 26-46a

The angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she is to bear a son, Jesus.

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, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible.

And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her. And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Judah; and entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth.

And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost: and she spake out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy. And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Choir Out of your sleep

Out of your sleep arise and wake,
For God mankind now hath y-take,
All of a maid without any make;
Of all women she beareth the bell.
Glory to God in the highest.

And through a Maiden fair and wise,
Now man is made of full great price;
Now angels kneelen to man's servyse,
And at this time all this befell.
Glory to God in the highest.

Now man is brighter than the sun;
Now man in heaven on high shall won;
Blessed be God this game is begun
And His mother that beareth the bell.
Glory to God in the highest.

That ever was thrall, now is he free;
That ever was small, now great is she;
Now shall God deem both thee and me
Unto his bliss if we do well.
Glory to God in the highest.

Now, blessed Brother, grant us grace
At doomsday to see Thy face,
And in Thy court to have a place,
That we may there sing Thee 'Nowell'.
Glory to God in the highest.

Music: Anthony Milner (1925-2002)

Words: 14th century

All stand.

All *Come thou long expected Jesus*

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free,
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

Music: 'Cross of Jesus', by Sir John Stainer (1840 - 1901)

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

All sit.

THE SIXTH LESSON

Isaiab 60: 1-5a

The prophet proclaims the coming of light to the peoples of the earth.

ARISE, SHINE; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side. Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee.

Thanks be to God.

Choir

Magnificat

My soul doth magnify the Lord:

and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.

He hath showed strength with his arm:

he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat:

and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things:

and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He, remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:

as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be:

world without end Amen.

Music: Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Words: Luke 1: 46-55

All stand.

All

Hills of the north, rejoice

Hills of the north, rejoice;

River and mountain-spring,

Hark to the advent voice;

Valley and lowland, sing:

Though absent long, your Lord is nigh;

He judgement brings and victory.

Isles of the southern seas,

Deep in your coral caves

Pent be each warring breeze,

Lulled be your restless waves:

He comes to reign with boundless sway,

And make your wastes his great highway.

Lands of the east, awake,

Soon shall your sons be free;

The sleep of ages break,

And rise to liberty.

On your far hills, long cold and grey,

Has dawned the everlasting day.

Shores of the utmost west,
Ye that have waited long,
Unvisited, unblest,
Break forth to swelling song;
High raise the note, that Jesus died,
Yet lives and reigns, the Crucified.

Shout, while ye journey home;
Songs be in every mouth;
Lo, from the north we come,
From east and west and south.
City of God, the bond are free
We come to live and reign in thee!

Music: Little Cornard, Martin Shaw (1875-1958)

Words: Charles Edward Oakley (1832-1865)

All sit or kneel.

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

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 Ghost, now and ever. **Amen.**

OUR FATHER, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, In 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.**

May Christ the Sun of Righteousness arise and scatter the darkness from before your path; that you may be ready to greet him when he is born as a child this Christmas, and to stand before him with confidence when he comes again to be our judge. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Choir

And I saw a new heaven

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth;
for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away;
and there was no more sea.
And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem,
coming down from God out of heaven,
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
And I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying:
Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them
and they shall be his people,
and God himself shall be with them and be their God.
And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes,
and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying,
neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things are passed
away.

Music: Edgar Bainton (1880-1956)

Words: Revelation 21. 1-4

All stand.

All *Lo, he comes with clouds descending*

**Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia!
God appears on earth to reign.**

Every eye shall now behold him
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing,
Shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears;
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshippers:
With what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars.

Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,
High on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
Claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly,
Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

Music: 'Helmsley', 18th century English melody noted by Thomas Olivers (1725-99) and included in Charles Wesley, *Select Hymns*, 1765

Words: Charles Wesley, *Hymns of Intercession for all Mankind*, 1758 (with some words borrowed by a later editor from a hymn by John Cennick, 1752)

All remain standing.

Choir Vesper Responsory

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.

Music: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (circa 1525-1594),
arranged by Philip Ledger (1937-2012)

Words: Responsory for the first Vespers of Christmas Day

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland *in organo pleno*

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

There will be a retiring collection. Contactless collection points will be available at the door. It will be of great advantage to the Church if you would kindly use one of our gift aid envelopes. These can be found at the end of the pew. If you would prefer to donate online the Church has a Just Giving page. For donations this way, kindly use your phone to scan the QR code below. Thank you!



Front Cover: The Annunciation, Florentine School (perhaps Pietro di Giovanni di Ambrogio), by courtesy of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.