Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday | December 1st | 2024

4 pm | Advent Lessons and Carols with Procession

Welcome

The service of Advent Lessons and Carols with Procession is a particularly Anglican rite. Using liturgical material developed over a period of centuries, it offers a distinctive form of worship that helps to prepare people for the feast of Christmas. During the service, a procession moves to the points of the compass, symbolizing the ongoing work of spreading the light of God's reconciling love to every corner of the world. The readers are clergy from various parishes in our diocese.

Please turn off or set mobile devices to silent mode.

Our diocese was founded on the homeland of the Anishinaabe Algonquins. May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

Order of Service

Prelude | Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme (BWV 645) | J.S. Bach

Matin Responsory | G.P. da Palestrina

I look from afar, and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth. Go ye out to meet him and say: tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel? High and low, rich and poor, one with another, go ye out to meet him and say: hear, O thou shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep, stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

Hymn | Come, thou Redeemer of the earth

Please join in singing verses 3-8.

- 3. The virgin womb that burden gained with virgin honour all unstained; the banners there of virtue glow; God in his temple dwells below.
- 4. Forth from his chamber goeth he, that royal home of purity, a giant in twofold substance one, rejoicing now his course to run.
- 5. From God the Father he proceeds, to God the Father back he speeds; his course he runs to death and hell, returning on God's throne to dwell.
- 6. O equal to thy Father, thou! Gird on thy fleshly mantle now; the weakness of our mortal state with deathless might invigorate.

- 7. Thy cradle here shall glitter bright, and darkness breathe a newer light, where endless faith shall shine serene, and twilight never intervene.
- 8. All laud, eternal Son, to thee whose Advent sets thy people free, whom with the Father we adore and Holy Ghost for evermore.

A Bidding Prayer

First Lesson | Isaiah 6:1-8 | God seeks a prophet to announce his everlasting love

Carol | E'en so Lord Jesus quickly come | Paul Manz

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, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more; they need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their All!

Second Lesson | Isaiah 40:1-8 | The prophet Isaiah proclaims assurance to Zion

Carol | Drop down, ye heavens, from above | Judith Weir

Drop down ye heavens from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness. Comfort ye, comfort ye my people; my salvation shall not tarry. I have blotted out as a thick cloud, thy transgressions: Fear not, for I will save thee; For I am the Lord thy God, the holy one of Israel, thy redeemer.

Hymn | Hark! A herald voice is sounding

Hark! A herald voice is sounding; "Christ is nigh!" it seems to say; "Cast away the dreams of darkness, O ye children of the day!" Wakened by the solemn warning, let the earth-bound soul arise; Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! The Lamb, so long expected, comes with pardon down from heaven; Let us all, with tears of sorrow, pray that we may be forgiven.

That when next he comes with glory, and the world is wrapped in fear, with his mercy he may shield us, and with words of love draw near.

Honour, glory, might, and blessing to the Father and the Son, with the Everlasting Spirit, while eternal ages run.

Third Lesson | Malachi 3:1-4, 12; 4:1-2 | The prophet Malachi foretells the herald of Christ the Lord

Carol | Jesus Christ the Apple Tree | Colin Mawby

The tree of life my soul hath see, 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 a while: 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.

Fourth Lesson | Philippians 4:4-7 | Saint Paul tells the Church to rejoice in the Lord's reign of peace

Carol | Peace on Earth | Errollyn Wallen

And snow falls down on me. Peace on earth. The night is dark and soft. Peace on earth. The lights that sparkle in the square, The smoke that lingers in the air. Peace on earth. And grace falls down on me. Peace on earth. The dark will turn aside. Peace on earth. The fires that burn in every hearth Do sing our praise of Christmas past. Peace on earth. Hear them singing. Peace on earth.

Hymn | "Thy kingdom come" – on bended knee

"Thy kingdom come" – on bended knee the passing ages pray; and faithful souls have yearned to see on earth that kingdom's day.

But the slow watches of the night not less to God belong, and for the everlasting right the silent stars are strong.

And lo, already on the hills the flags of dawn appear. Gird up your loins, ye prophet souls, proclaim the day is near:

The day in whose clear-shining light all wrong shall stand revealed, when justice shall be throned in might, and every hurt be healed;

When knowledge, hand in hand with peace, shall walk the earth abroad, the day of perfect righteousness the promised day of God.

Fifth Lesson | Luke 1:26-38 | The Angel Gabriel greets the Virgin Mary

Carol | A tender shoot | Otto Goldschmidt

A tender shoot hath started up from a root of grace, as ancient seers imparted from Jesse's holy race. It blooms without a blight, blooms in the cold bleak winter turning our darkness into light. This shoot, Isaiah taught us, from Jesse's root should spring. The Virgin Mary brought us the branch of which we sing. Our God of endless might gave her this child to save us, thus turning darkness into light.

Sixth Lesson | John 1:19-34 | John the Baptist prepares the way for the Messiah

Carol | This is the record of John | Orlando Gibbons

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. 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.

Hymn | On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry

On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh; awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way for God within; prepare we in our hearts a home where such a mighty guest may come.

For thou art our Salvation, Lord, our Refuge, and our great Reward; without thy grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay.

To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the fallen sinner stand; shine forth, and let thy light restore earth's own true loveliness once more. All praise, Eternal Son, to thee whose Advent doth thy people free, whom with the Father we adore and Holy Ghost for evermore.

Seventh Lesson | *Matthew 1:18-23* | *Saint Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus*

Carol | Zion, at thy shining gates | George Guest

Zion, at thy shining gates Lo, the King of Glory waits, haste thy monarch's pomp to greet, strew thy palms before his feet. Christ, for thee their triple light, faith and hope and love unite; this the beacon we display to proclaim thine advent day. Come and give us peace within, loose us from the bands of sin, take away the galling weight laid on us by Satan's hate. Give us grace thy yoke to wear, give us strength thy cross to bear, make us thine in deed and word, thine in heart and life, O Lord. So, when thou shalt come again, judge of angels and of men, we with all thy saints shall sing Alleluias to our King.



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Offertory Hymn | 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! Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him robed in dreadful majesty; those who set at nought and sold him, pierced and nailed him to the tree, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, 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, with what rapture, 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: Alleluia! Alleluia! Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

Advent Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, creator of light and darkness, to you be glory and praise for ever. As evening falls, you renew your promise to reveal among us the light of your presence. May your word be a lantern to our feet and a light upon our path so that we may behold your coming among us. Strengthen us in our stumbling weakness and free us to sing your praise, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect for Advent

God of glory, whose Son looked on the brokenness of this world in love, and in his mercy came to bring us healing and peace, grant us grace to long for his coming again, that our hearts would be opened by compassion, and our world would be reconciled by his inspiration, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Blessing

Be steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and untiring in love all the days of your life; and the blessing of God, the Creator, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn | O come, O come Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny; from depths of hell thy people save, and give them victory o'er the grave. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou day-spring, come and cheer our spirits by thine Advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou key of David, come and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height, in ancient time didst give the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Postlude | Prœludium in c (BWV 546) | J.S. Bach

Officiant The Very Reverend Beth Bretzlaff
Reader 1 The Reverend John Holgate
Reader 2 The Reverend Karen McBride
Reader 3 The Reverend Dr. Thomas Brauer
Reader 4 The Reverend Susan Smandych
Reader 5 The Reverend Simone Hurkmans
Reader 6 The Reverend Jonathan Askwith
Reader 7 The Reverend Canon Doug Richards

Organists | James Calkin | Owen Spicer Directors | James Calkin | Andrew McAnerney Sung by | The Cathedral Choirs

Duty Warden | Katherine Spencer-Ross

Advent | Christmas | New Year's Day | Epiphany

Wednesday | December 4th 12.05 pm Eucharist

Thursday | December 5th 12.05 pm Contemplative Prayer

Second Sunday of Advent | December 8th 8.30 am Holy Eucharist | 10.30 am Choral Eucharist

4 pm Saint Nicolas and A Ceremony of Carols (ticketed)

Wednesday | December 11th 12.05 pm Eucharist

Thursday | December 12th 12.05 pm Contemplative Prayer

Third Sunday of Advent | December 15th

8.30 am Holy Eucharist | 10.30 am Choral Eucharist 4 pm A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas (livestreamed)

> Wednesday | December 18th 12.05 pm Eucharist

Thursday | December 19th 12.05 pm Contemplative Prayer

Fourth Sunday of Advent | December 22nd 8.30 am Holy Eucharist | 10.30 am Choral Eucharist 4 pm O Antiphons (livestreamed) | Wassail Dinner (ticketed)

Christmas Eve | Tuesday | December 24th 7 pm Choral Eucharist | 10 pm Festal Eucharist (livestreamed)

Christmas Day | Wednesday | December 25th 8.30 am Holy Eucharist 10.30 am Choral Eucharist with Children's Story

First Sunday after Christmas | Sunday | December 29th 8.30 am Holy Eucharist | 10.30 am Sung Eucharist

The Naming of Jesus | Wednesday | January 1st Noon Choral Eucharist and Festive Reception with the Acting Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada (livestreamed)

The Epiphany of the Lord | Sunday | January 5th 8.30 am Holy Eucharist | 10.30 am Sung Eucharist

Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa

Anishinaabe aking ate awaso kikinawadjichigan | A place of prayer on Algonquin territory The Anglican Cathedral in the Nation's Capital Cathedral of the Canadian Forces Anglican Military Ordinariate

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