

Advent Lessons & Carols



Welcome to Saint Paul's Online!

In the Advent season, we prepare threefold for the coming of Christ into our midst: We are perhaps foremost aware of Christ's coming in the birth of Jesus to Mary in Bethlehem. We also celebrate Christ coming to us mystically in our own lives in the present time. Thirdly, we anticipate the coming of Christ when the fullness of creation will be restored among us. The central symbol of each coming of the Christ is the bringing of the light of God's Word into the darkness.

This service of Advent Lessons and Carols carries us from darkness to the light of seeing God among us. Festive carols alternate with lessons of the prophets in this dramatic candlelight procession to the good news of the Gospel of Luke.

We invite you to join to pray - through the silence, the spoken word, and the music in the beauty of holiness. We pray for light to shine on all those who sit in darkness.

A first candle is lit in the Advent wreath during the singing of the Invitatory.

INVITATORY

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen, Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)
arr. Jan Sandström (b. 1954); *arr.* Susan Jane Matthews for strings

*Es ist ein Ros entsprungen aus einer Wurzel zart,
Als uns die Alten sungen: Von Jesse kam die Art.
Und hat ein Blümlein bracht, Mitten im kalten Winter wohl zu der halben Nacht.*

A rose has come forth from a tender root,
As the prophets of old sang to us: From Isaiah came the lineage.
And it has brought to us a flower in the cold midwinter, right at the midnight hour.

CAROL

“Come thou Redeemer of the earth,” *Puer nobis*



Solo 1. Come thou Re - deem - er of the earth, And
Choir 2. Be - got - ten of no hu - man will, But
All 3. Thy cra - dle here shall glit - ter bright, And
All 4. All laud, e - ter - nal Son, to thee Whose



ma - ni - fest thy vir - gin birth:
of the Spi - rit, thou art still
dark - ness breathe a new - er light,
ad - vent sets thy peo - ple free,



Let ev - 'ry age a - dor - ing fall; Such
The Word of God in flesh ar - rayed, The
Where end - less faith shall shine se - rene, And
Whom with the Fa - ther we a - dore, And



birth be - fits the God of all.
pro - mised fruit to man dis - played.
twi - light ne - ver in - ter - vene.
Ho - ly Ghost for ev - er - more.

A BIDDING PRAYER

Mia Malhotra

In the name of God, who enfolds and embraces us, liberating us from death and despair, we welcome you: grace to you and peace.

In the midst of this pandemic, we anticipate the coming of God's kingdom and the renewal of our world. Through scripture, we remember God's Spirit that, in darkness, hovered over the waters to bring form to the earth; how that same spirit overshadowed the Virgin Mary to bring Christ, enfleshed, into our world, and how that very Presence seeks us still, yearning to restore us to life.

Like a lit candle in a dark room, you illuminate and inspire us. Guided by your changeless light, we journey through shadow into the mystery of your being. Illuminate our deepest longings and lead us into the richness of your presence.

Eternal Bloom, as the prophet Isaiah says, you lift the humble and bring rulers down from their thrones. You fill the hungry with good things and send the rich away empty. You came as a slender shoot from the stump of Jesse, exiled but not lost; in the silent, unseen places of the earth, your roots bring tender hope. May justice and peace blossom fully in our midst.

As the child in Elizabeth's womb leaped for joy at the advent of Christ's coming, let us rejoice in the promise of a world remade. We pray for those among whom Christ was born: the hungry and dispossessed; those who suffer because of the systemic injustices of poverty, racism, and all else that disfigures God's life in our hearts and in this world; the sick and those who mourn; those who are lonely or in despair.

As we hear the message of peace on earth and goodwill among all people, we pray for the unity of the nations, that injustice would be broken, and that the humble would rise in strength. We pray also for the witness of the Church, that we may embody Christ's compassion in a hurting world.

Finally, as we rejoice with the saints in heaven and on earth, we remember all who have gone before us, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we offer up our prayers, in the words he himself has 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.**

And may Christ, as he returns, find us laboring expectantly in the hope of the coming kingdom, now and at all times. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON *read by Yuki Ota, Chorister*

Genesis 1:1-5

Then God said, "Let there be light."

CAROL

Hear, Hear O Shepherd of Israel, Patricia Van Ness (b. 1951)

Sung by Sopranos & Altos from St. Paul's

[premiere]

*Hear O shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.*

*So we never turn away from you,
give us life, that we may call upon your name.*

*Restore us; show the light of your countenance,
And we shall be saved.*

~ Psalm 80: 1, 3, 17

SECOND LESSON *read by Bryan Vander Lugt*

Isaiah 11:1-6

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

All sing
CAROL

Hymn 597

“O day of peace that dimly shines,” *Jerusalem*

Introduction



1 O day of peace that dim - ly shines through all our
2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the



hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to jus - tice, truth, and
fierce de - vour the small; as beasts and cat - tle calm - ly



love, de - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes. May swords of
graze, a lit - tle child shall lead them all. Then en - e -



hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re -
mies shall learn to love, all crea - tures find their true ac -



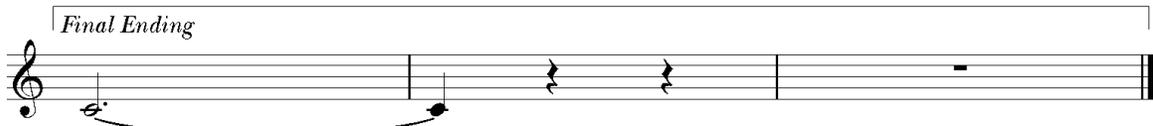
lease, till by God's grace our war - ring world shall see Christ's
cord; the hope of peace shall be ful - filled, for all the

1 *Interlude*



prom - ised reign of peace.
earth shall know the (Lord.)

Final Ending



Lord.

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THIRD LESSON *read by James Hurrell*

Revelation 22:1-5

God will be the light for the children of God.

CAROL

*E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, Paul Manz
Sung virtually by Choir of St. Paul's*

*Peace be to you and grace from him Who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood That we might saved be.
Sing holy, holy to our Lord, The Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come; Sing holy, holy, Lord!
Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon, For Christ is coming soon!
E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come, And night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun, For Christ will be their All!*

~ Revelation 22, adapted by Ruth Manz (1919-2008)

FOURTH LESSON *read by Grace Ghoorah*

Luke 1:26-38

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



All sing
CAROL

Hymn 265

“The angel Gabriel from heaven came,” *Gabriel’s Message*

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

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

“All hail,” said he, “thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
“my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name.”
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,” Glo - ri - a!
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,” Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy, Glo - ri - a!
“Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,” Glo - ri - a!

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FIFTH LESSON *read by The Rev. Julie Graham*

Luke 1:39-56

Responses of joy to the good news of the blessed child of Mary.

CAROL

*I sing of a maiden, Amy Bebbington (b. 1975)
Sung by Sopranos & Altos from St. Paul's*

*I sing of a maiden that is makeless;
King of all kings to her son she ches,
He came all so stille there his mother was,
as dew in Aprille, as dew that falleth on the grass.
He came all so stille to this mother's bower
as dew in Aprille that falleth on the flower.
He came all so stille there his mother lay,
as dew in Aprille that falleth on the spray.
Mother and maiden was never none but she;
Well may such a lady Goddes mother be.*

~15th c. Sloane Manuscript

COLLECT

The Rev. Thomas Skillings, *Rector of St. Paul's*



All are invited to sing

CAROL

“Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming,” *Es ist ein Ros*
Sung virtually by Choir of St. Paul’s

1 Lo, how a Rose e’er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!
2 I - sa - iah ’twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,
* 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,

Of Jes - se’s lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.
with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.
dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;

It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the
To show God’s love a - right, she bore to
true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and

cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.
us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.
death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

Words: St. 1-2, German, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934). st. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859); tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925); ver. *Hymnal 1940* Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Music: *Es ist ein Ros*, melody from *Alle Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

BLESSING

The Rev. Thomas Skillings, *Rector of St. Paul’s*

POSTLUDE

Toccata on “Veni Emmanuel,” Andrew Carter (b. 1939)

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ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

4pm Sunday, December 13

3pm Pre-Concert Talk

Celebrate Christmas with the Choir of St. Paul's!

Hear the joy of Christmas through the voice of women composers - from the 9th c. Byzantine chant of Kassia, to Barbara Strozzi in 17th c. Italy to the spirituals of Undine Smith Moore and Margaret Bonds in 20th c. USA - and, sing along with the choir in twenty Christmas highlights from Handel's Messiah.

Videos have been created in the beautiful sacred space of St. Paul's by soloists and small choral ensembles. The program also includes virtual choir renditions of "For unto us a child is born" and "Joy to the world" with 40 singers from the choir singing, age 6 through adult.

Register to receive a link to watch the concert, along with a Messiah score pdf, and Zoom link for the Pre-Concert Talk.

<https://joytotheworld2020.eventbrite.com>

Program

- Kassia | 9th c. Byzantine Christmas Chant
- Barbara Strozzi | O Maria
- Undine Smith Moore | Christmas Alleluia
- Margaret Bonds | You can tell the world
- G. F. Handel | Messiah (Christmas highlights) Sing-a-long at home from a Messiah score sent to you.
- Carol | Joy to the World!

Choir of St. Paul's

Susan Jane Matthews, *Organist & Director*

Soloists: Abigail Akers, Natalie Dias, Lily Hartley, Jason Harvey, Elizabeth Kimble, David Kurtenbach, Séraphée de Labaca, & Akane Ota

All donations benefit the St. Paul's Choir School.

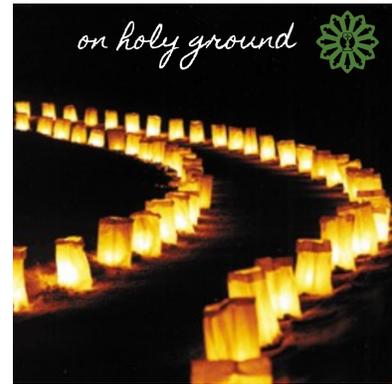


Holiday Packaged Nuts for Sale by the Circle of St. Paul's

The Ladies of The Circle at St. Paul's are continuing their tradition of selling holiday packaged nuts, fresh from Georgia, for sale at \$7.75 each. We have 12-ounce dark chocolate covered pecans. package, 10-ounce caramel pecan clusters (turtles) package and 8-ounce glazed honey pecans package. Each individually wrapped for gift giving!!! Please call Sandy Galindo at (650)952-9555 or e-mail her at: sgalindo1946@yahoo.com to place your order. Thank you for your continued support! HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Christmas on Holy Ground Candlelight Carol Services at St. Paul's Sunday, December 20 • 5pm and 6:30pm

While it is not possible to gather for Christmas as usual, save the date for **outdoor** gatherings in anticipation of the birth of Christ. Joyful prayers of praise, inspiring word, and music by our singers will help us enter the wonderful mystery of God with us. Carols will be sung by an ensemble of eleven from the **Choir of St. Paul's**. Look for sign-ups and more information in a special Christmas mailing or on the website, www.StPaulsBurlingame.org.



Two Online Christmas Eve Offerings Thursday, December 24 www.youtube.com/StPaulsBurlingame



- Christmas Eve Pageant
premiere at 4pm
- Christmas Eve Service
with the Choir of St. Paul's

