

# ADVENT

## Lessons & Carols



**St. Michael's Cathedral Basilica**  
**Wednesday, December 18, 2019 | 7:00 p.m.**

## ADVENT

The season of Advent is traditionally a time of preparation for Christmas, and its observance dates from the sixteenth century in Gaul. It stretched from St. Martin's Day (November 11<sup>th</sup>) to Christmas Eve, and was known as "The Lent of St. Martin." This title suggests a parallel between Advent and the Lenten fast, and meditations on the themes of judgement and our ultimate destiny were developed for each of the four Sundays.

Advent is a season observed in many Western Christian churches as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. Latin *adventus* is the translation of the Greek word *parousia*, commonly used to refer to the Second Coming of Christ. For Christians, the season of Advent anticipates the coming of Christ from two different perspectives. The season offers the opportunity to share in the ancient longing for the coming of the Messiah, and to be alert for His Second Coming.



## ORDER OF SERVICE

### Organ Prelude

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659  
*Come, Saviour of the gentiles*

Johann Sebastian Bach

### Antiphon

I O Sapientia

Gregorian chant

*O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High,  
reaching from one end to the other,  
mightily and sweetly ordering all things.  
Come and teach us the way of prudence.*

**The Procession** *(Please stand and join in singing. The choir will sing verse 1 alone.)*

**O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL**

WAA 19

### Opening Verse and Response

Presider: Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.  
All: **Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**  
Presider: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
All: **Come and save us O Lord God of hosts.**

### Opening Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

Stir up, we beseech you, your power O Lord, and come; that by your protection  
we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins  
and saved by your mighty deliverance.  
Help us to make ready the way of your only begotten Son,  
so that by His coming we may be enabled to serve you with pure minds.  
Lord give ear to our prayers,  
and lighten the darkness of our hearts by your gracious visitation;  
you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
one God forever and ever. **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

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## Antiphon

II O Adonai

Gregorian chant

*O Adonai, and leader of the House of Israel,  
who appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush  
and gave him the law on Sinai.  
Come, redeem us with an outstretched arm.*

## First Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-9

A shoot shall come out from the stock 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.



## Senior Choir

E'EN SO, LORD, QUICKLY COME

Paul Manz

## First Petition (Please stand)

The Messiah will come to life if the faith we speak becomes the justice we live.  
We do not have to go to another land to find the oppressed,  
the burdened, and the brokenhearted.  
They are all around us.

Bring food and drink, bring life and light,  
 bring love and the Good News,  
 bring yourself to those whose hearts are heavy,  
 and the Messiah will be born again.  
 My prayer for Advent is,  
 in revealing Christ to others,  
 may we unveil Him to ourselves;  
 in coming to life in them,  
 may He come to light in us.

### Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

In this Advent of expectation  
 draw us together in unity,  
 that our praise and worship  
 might echo in these walls  
 and also in our lives.  
 Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



*(Please be seated)*

### Antiphon

III O Radix Jesse

Gregorian chant

*O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign among the peoples;  
 before you kings will shut their mouths,  
 to you the nations will make their prayer.  
 Come and deliver us, and delay no longer.*

### Second Lesson

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 for ever.  
 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.



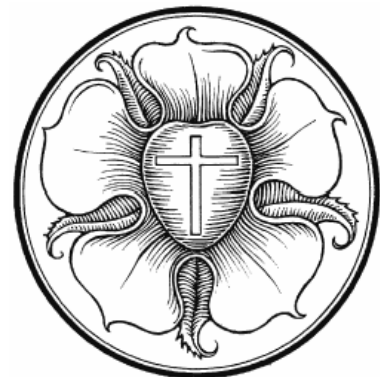
### Junior & Elementary Choirs

**PREPARE THYSELF, ZION** *from Weihnachtsoratorium*, BWV 248

Johann Sebastian Bach  
arr. B. Wayne Bisbee

### Second Petition (*Please stand*)

We all wait in expectancy,  
 for our God is indeed a hidden God.  
 But we need not wait passively for Him to find us.  
 Let us seek Him in our friends and family, in the crowded shopping malls,  
 and in the streets of our city.  
 My prayer for Advent is that we seek Christ together  
 as a community of believers;  
 and that the Christ we see in each other  
 is the same Christ who is God-with-us.



## Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

Look with favour, Lord God,  
on our petitions,  
and in our trials grant us your compassionate help,  
that, consoled by the presence of your Son,  
whose coming we now await,  
we may be tainted no longer by the corruption of former ways.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Congregational Hymn *(Please join in singing)*

**O COME, DIVINE MESSIAH!**

WAA 15

*(Please be seated)*

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## Antiphon

IV O Clavis David

Gregorian chant

*O Key of David and scepter of the House of Israel;  
you open and no one can shut;  
you shut and no one can open.  
Come and lead the prisoners from the prison house,  
those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.*

## Third Lesson

Zechariah 9:9-12

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 from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,  
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.  
Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;  
today I declare that I will restore to you double.



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## Senior Choir

**O THOU, THE CENTRAL ORB**

Charles Wood

### Third Petition *(Please stand)*

Christ came to bring peace.  
But not as the world gives it.  
In Bethlehem God confronted with His own flesh  
the foundations of our fear,  
and began the task of reconciliation.  
He makes it possible for us to live at peace with God,  
with my brothers and sisters,  
and even with the hostile world.  
My prayer for Advent  
is to live unafraid through Jesus Christ our Lord  
and to reach out with my hand and heart  
and connect others to Him in love.

### Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, give us the grace to recognize the suffering of others,  
the wisdom to know how to act and the resolve to do so,  
that our action in your Name may draw people to yourself,  
you who live and reign forever and ever. **Amen.**



*(Please be seated)*

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### Antiphon

V O Oriens

Gregorian chant

*O Morning Star, splendour of light eternal and sun of righteousness.  
Come and enlighten those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.*

### Fourth Lesson

Luke 1:26-33

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, favoured 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 favour 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."





## Senior Choir

### AVE MARIA

Franz Biebl

*The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.  
Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Behold the handmaiden of the Lord.  
Be it done unto me according to thy word. And the Word was made flesh. And dwelt among us.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

#### Fourth Petition (Please stand)

All love begins with God and grows in Jesus.  
All that this love implies can be found in Mary,  
tenderness, faithfulness, affection,  
self-giving and self-sacrifice.  
If we give of ourselves as she did  
then, we can give birth to Christ,  
in the love we share with each other.  
My prayer for Advent is that all God's people  
are open to God's will and to receiving the Messiah  
when he comes.



#### Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, who through the child-bearing  
of the holy Virgin Mary graciously revealed  
the radiance of your glory to the world,  
grant, we pray, that we may venerate with integrity of faith  
the mystery of so wondrous an Incarnation  
and always celebrate it with due reverence.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

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#### Antiphon

VI O Rex Gentium

Gregorian chant

*O King of the nations, and what they desire;  
the cornerstone making both one.  
Come and save the human race,  
which you fashioned from clay.*

#### Fifth Lesson

Matthew 1:18-24

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way.  
When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph,  
but before they lived together,  
she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.  
Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man

and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace,  
 planned to dismiss her quietly.  
 But just when he had resolved to do this,  
 an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,  
 “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife,  
 for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.  
 She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus,  
 for he will save his people from their sins.”  
 All this took place  
 to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:  
 “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
 and they shall name him Emmanuel,”  
 which means, “God is with us.”  
 When Joseph awoke from sleep,  
 he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him;  
 he took her as his wife.




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### Tenor Bass Choir

**Спасение соделал, Opus 25, No. 5**

Pavel Chesnokov  
 arr. Vladimir Morosan

*Salvation is created in the midst of the earth, O God.  
 Alleluia. (Psalm 74:12)*

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### Congregational Hymn & Freewill Offering *(Please stand and join in singing)*

**COME THOU, REDEEMER OF THE EARTH *(omit vv. 2,3)***

WAA 22

*(Please be seated)*

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### Antiphon

VII O Emmanuel

Gregorian chant

*O Emmanuel, our king and our lawgiver,  
 hope of the nations and their Saviour.  
 Come and save us, O Lord our God.*

### Responsory *(Please stand)*

Presider:	Your light will come Jerusalem:
All:	<b>The Lord will dawn on you in radiant beauty.</b>
Presider:	You will see his beauty within you:
All:	<b>The Lord will dawn on you in radiant beauty.</b>
Presider:	Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
All:	<b>The Lord will dawn on you in radiant beauty.</b>

Presider: Let us all pray for unity and peace in our world, using the prayer that our Saviour gave us.  
**Our Father....**

**Closing Hymn** (*Please join in singing*)  
**LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING**

WAA 5

**Closing Prayer**

Presider: Let us pray.

God of hope and promise,  
be with us throughout this Advent season  
and draw us ever closer as we journey together  
toward the birth of your Son.  
Prepare our hearts not only for the celebration to come,  
but also for sharing that Good News with friends, family and colleagues.  
Grant us courage and a real willingness  
to talk about the love that came down to earth  
and walked among us.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Organ Recessional**

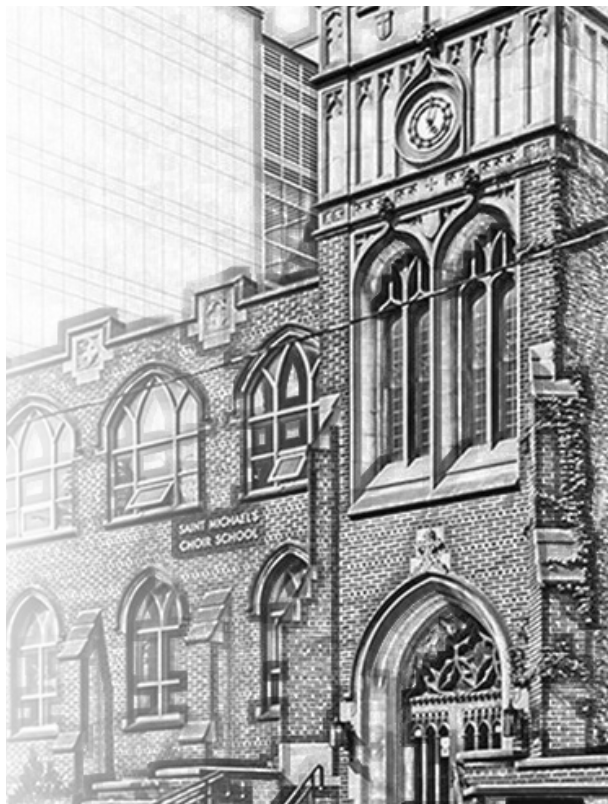
Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme  
*Wake, a voice is calling*

Jan Janca



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Rev. Edward J. Curtis, presider  
The Choirs of St. Michael's Choir School  
Maria Conkey, conductor  
Teri Dunn, conductor  
S. Bryan Priddy, conductor  
William O'Meara, organist



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