



CHRIST CHURCH  
THE ANGLICAN/EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN VIENNA

## ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

29 November 2020, 6pm

My soul is waiting for you, O Lord:  
in your word is my hope.

**My soul is waiting for you, O Lord:  
in your word is my hope.**

There is forgiveness with you,  
so that you shall be feared.

**In your word is my hope.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit.

**My soul is waiting for you, O Lord:  
in your word is my hope.**

*An Advent Responsory  
Common Worship – Daily Prayer*

### ORGAN PRELUDE

*Magnificat Fugue in the Sixth Tone*  
Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

### THE BIDDING

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 his 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 Saviour, 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 have the Gospel preached to them. But first, let us pray for the world that 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 the shadow of death; and for the Church in this place and everywhere, 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, in the words which Christ himself taught us.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

#### THE FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 40.1-8

*The prophet Isaiah proclaims good news to Israel in exile.*

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.

### HYMN 45: O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

- 1 **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.***

2 **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.*

3 **O come, thou Dayspring, 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.*

4 **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.*

5 **O come, O come, thou Lord of Might,  
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,  
in ancient times didst give the law  
in cloud and majesty and awe: [Refrain]**

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

#### **REFLECTION ON O COME, O COME, EMANNUEL**

*Rev'd Dr. Robert S. Kinney*

#### **THE SECOND LESSON: Jeremiah 23.5-6**

*The Lord promises to send his people a righteous king.*

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.'

#### **HYMN: PEOPLE LOOK EAST**

#### **THE THIRD LESSON: Haggai 2.6-9**

*The Lord promises that the king will come to Israel in peace.*

For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendour, says the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. The latter splendour of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.

#### **REFLECTION ON HAGGAI 2.6-9**

Mr. Benjamin O'Neill

#### **THE FOURTH LESSON: Zechariah 9.9-10**

*The Lord promises to bring prosperity for both silver and gold are his.*

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 warhorse 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.

## HYMN 54: WAKE, O WAKE! WITH TIDINGS THRILLING

- 1 **Wake, O wake! With tidings thrilling  
the watchmen all the air are filling,  
arise, Jerusalem, arise!  
Midnight strikes! No more delaying,  
'The hour has come!' we hear them saying,  
'where are ye all, ye virgins wise?  
The Bridegroom comes in sight,  
raise high your torches bright!'  
Alleluia!  
The wedding song swells loud and strong:  
go forth and join the festal throng.**
- 2 **Zion hears the watchmen shouting,  
her heart leaps up with joy undoubting,  
she stands and waits with eager eyes;  
see her Friend from heaven descending,  
adorned with truth and grace unending!  
Her light burns clear, her star doth rise.  
Now come, thou precious Crown,  
Lord Jesus, God's own Son!  
Alleluia!  
Let us prepare to follow there,  
where in thy supper we may share.**
- 3 **Every soul in thee rejoices;  
from earth and from angelic voices  
be glory given to thee alone!  
Now the gates of pearl receive us,  
thy presence never more shall leave us,  
we stand with angels round thy throne.  
Earth cannot give below  
the bliss thou dost bestow.  
Alleluia!  
Grant us to raise, to length of days,  
the triumph-chorus of thy praise.**

## REFLECTION ON WAKE, O WAKE! WITH TIDINGS THRILLING

Rev'd Canon Patrick Curran

### THE FIFTH LESSON: Isaiah 35.1-6

*The prophet foretells the glory of the kingdom of God.*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert.

### HYMN: HOW FAR IT IS TO BETHLEHEM

### THE SIXTH LESSON: Luke 1.26-38

*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

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 for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

## HYMN 75: LONG AGO, PROPHETS KNEW

- 1 Long ago, prophets knew  
Christ would come, born a Jew,  
come to make all things new;  
bear his people's burden,  
freely love and pardon.

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!  
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!  
When he comes,  
when he comes,  
who will make him welcome?*

- 2 God in time, God in man,  
this is God's timeless plan:  
he will come, as a man,  
born himself of woman,  
God divinely human.

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!  
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!  
When he comes,  
when he comes,  
who will make him welcome?*

- 3 Mary, hail! Though afraid,  
she believed, she obeyed.  
In her womb, God is laid:  
till the time expected,  
nurtured and protected,

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!  
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!  
When he comes,  
when he comes,  
who will make him welcome?*

- 4 Journey ends! Where afar  
Bethlem shines, like a star,  
stable door stands ajar.  
Unborn Son of Mary,  
Saviour, do not tarry!

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!  
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!  
Jesus comes!  
Jesus comes!  
We will make him welcome!*

### THE SEVENTH READING: Mark 1.1-15

*Jesus proclaims that the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand*

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, who shall prepare thy way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight," John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased." The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel."

## VESPER RESPONSORY

Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;

**Tomorrow go forth and the Lord will be with you.**

Stand still, and you shall see the salvation of the Lord.

**Tomorrow go forth and the Lord will be with you.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**Tomorrow go forth and the Lord will be with you.**

## HYMN 41: LO, HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING

1 **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.**

2 **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.**

3 **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!**

4 **Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,  
high on thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the power and glory,  
claim the kingdom for thine own:  
Alleluia!  
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.**

## COLLECT

We wait for your loving kindness, O Lord.

**In the midst of your temple.**

Let us pray.

O God, who makest us glad with the yearly expectation of thy coming, grant that we, who with joy receive thy only-begotten Son as our Redeemer, may without fear behold Him when he shall come to be our Judge, even thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ: Who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

## BLESSING

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage, hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever.

**Amen.**

## POSTLUDE

*Chorale Prelude on Nun komm der Heiden Heiland*  
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

He will come like last leaf's fall.  
One night when the November wind  
has flayed the trees to bone, and earth  
wakes choking on the mould,  
the soft shroud's folding.

He will come like frost.  
One morning when the shrinking earth  
opens on mist, to find itself

arrested in the net  
of alien, sword-set beauty.

He will come like dark.  
One evening when the bursting red  
December sun draws up the sheet  
and penny-masks its eye to yield  
the star-snowed fields of sky.

He will come, will come,  
will come like crying in the night,  
like blood, like breaking,  
as the earth writhes to toss him free.  
He will come like child.

*Rowan Williams, 1950*