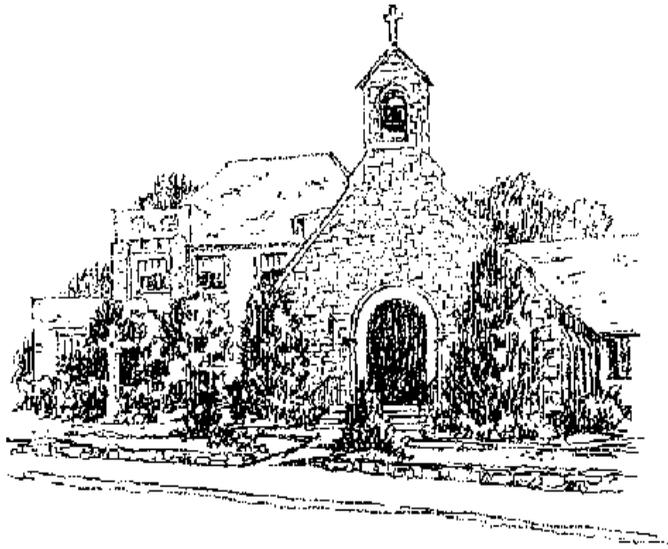


A SERVICE OF
ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS



Sunday, December 2, 2018

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Louisville, Kentucky

About This Service

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel.

—Isaiah 7:14

Welcome to St. Mark's Episcopal Church and this service of Advent Lessons and Carols. Advent is a season of both quiet reflection and joyful expectation. This service is intended to be a time of spiritual preparation, as we watch and wait for the coming of the Kingdom of God. Through our experience of sacred Word and music, the story of the coming of Christ gradually unfolds and deepens our understanding of God's message of love and redemption. The liturgy itself embodies the sense of Advent movement through the powerful prophecies and promises of Holy Scripture. May these words and this music propel you quietly toward the true joy of Christmas.

Sunday, December 2, 2018

A Service of Advent Lessons & Carols

The Organ Voluntary is a time for Prayer and Quiet Meditation

Organ Voluntary:

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland
Prière à Notre-Dame

Dietrich Buxtehude
Léon Boëllman

(Congregation, please stand)

Hymn in Procession:

Come Thou, Redeemer of the Earth
Verses 1 & 2 - Sung by the Choir.
Verses 3 through 6 - Sung by All.

Puer natus nascitur

1. Come, thou Re - deem - er of the earth, And
2. Be - got - ten of no hu - man will, But
3. The vir - gin womb that bur - den gained With
4. Forth from that cham - ber go - eth he, That

man - i - fest thy vir - gin birth: Let ev - ery
of the Spir - it. thou art still The Word - of
vir - gin hon - our all un - stained, The ban - ners
roy - al home of pur - i - ty, A giant in

age a - dor - ing fall, Such birth be - fits the
God, in flesh ar - rayed, The Sav - iour, now to
there of vir - tue glow, God in his tem - ple
two - fold sub - stance one, Re - joic - ing now his

God man dwells course of dis - played. A - - - men. to - low. run.

5. Thy cradle here shall glitter bright, And darkness glow with new-born light,
No more shall night extinguish day, Where love's bright beams their
power display.
6. O Jesus, Virgin-born, to thee Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore And Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

The Bidding Prayer:

The Reverend Candyce Loescher

Beloved in Christ, in this season of Advent, let it be our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the Prophets and of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, to see the Babe lying in a manger. Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by his holy Child; and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise. But first, let us pray for the needs of the whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city. And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless; the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

These prayer and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

(Said by all)

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.

Officiant: The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. Amen.

(The People sit for the Lessons)

The First Lesson:

Genesis 2:4-9, 15-25

Read by Laura Golden

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.

Carol:

Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree Elizabeth Poston (1905 - 1987)

The tree of life my soul hath seen, 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 awhile,
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.

Text: Richard Hutchins (1761)

(Sung by all, Standing)

Hymn 60

Creator of the Stars of Night

Conditor alme siderum

Verse 1: Choir Verse 4: Women & Children

Verse 2: All Verse 5: All

Verse 3: Men Verse 6: All

The Second Lesson:

Isaiah 11:1-9

Read by Mike Goodwin

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

Carol:

Come Jesus, Holy Son of God

G.F. Handel (1685 - 1759)

Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God, come. Thy truth unseal, Thy Love reveal.

Lord, hear Thou in mercy our prayer to Thee. Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God, come.

Come in Thy might, send forth Thy Light. Lord, hear Thou in mercy our prayer to Thee.

Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God, come. For Thee we long, hear Thou our prayer.

To Thee be glory now and evermore.

(Arranged by Hal Hopson)

The Third Lesson:

Baruch 4:36-5:9

Read by Dean Rice

The Scribe Baruch urges the people to look East because Salvation is at hand.

Carol:

People, Look East

Barry Ferguson (B. 1942)

People, look east, the time is near of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair, as you are able, Trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad, though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there:

Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.

People, look east and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, Guard the nest that must be filled.

Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen.

People, look east and sing today: love, the bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch when night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,

Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.

People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.

Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.

People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)

The Seventh Lesson:

Luke 1:26-38 Read by *The Reverend Candyce Loescher*

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

Carol:

The Angel Gabriel arr. Malcolm Archer (B. 1952)

The Angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
“All hail!” said he “Thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady,” Gloria!
“For know, a blessed Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor thee,
thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favored lady,” Gloria!
Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, “To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said.
“My soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name.” Most highly favored lady, Gloria!
Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say—
“Most highly favored lady,” Gloria!

Text: A Basque Carol

(Sung by all, Standing)

Hymn 438

Tell Out My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord!

Woodlands

Vesper Responsory

Officiant: Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;

People: **Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, will still be with you.**

Officiant: Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.

People: **Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, will still be with you.**

Officiant: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

People: **Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, will still be with you.**

A Collect for Advent:

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us Pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your 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 living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

An Advent Blessing:

Officiant: May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of His blessing and set you free from all sin.

People: **Amen.**

Officiant: May He whose second coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love.

People: **Amen.**

Officiant: May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at His second Advent be rewarded with unending life.

People: **Amen.**

Officiant: Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 57

Lo! He Comes, with Clouds Descending

Helmsley

Organ Voluntary:

Improvisation on 'Veni, Veni Emmanuel'

Josh Duncan, Organist

Offering plates have been placed near the entrances in the church. Any proceeds will go toward the music fund to help support futures services such as this. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

You are cordially invited to attend the reception in the Parish Hall immediately following the service.

CLERGY AND PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

The Rt. Rev. Terry White, Bishop of Kentucky

The Reverend Candyce Loescher, Rector

Josh Duncan, Choirmaster & Organist

Marti Taber, Parish Administrator

Leo Simon, Sexton

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