



## **Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

**Second Sunday of Advent – December 10**

**Advent Service of Lessons & Carols**

**9:30 AM**

**Welcome to Church of Our Redeemer. We are so very glad that you are here.**

**And this Sunday, we are delighted to welcome our new rector, the Rev. Megan Holding!**

You are warmly invited to participate in worship in whatever way is safest and best for you – at home or in person. Masking and distancing are now optional in worship at all times except for those sitting in the indicated rear rows on the right-hand/Memorial Garden side of the church. Masking decisions for other formation activities will be made by participants and leaders.

Please be aware that this service will be live-streamed. Both audio and video will be recorded. If you prefer not to be on video, please sit in the area of the church under the balcony.

If you would like to learn more about the life of our parish, please speak to our greeters or one of our clergy, or email [office@ourredeemerlexington.org](mailto:office@ourredeemerlexington.org) to be added to our weekly e-newsletter.

Thank you to our guest musicians, *Alla Breve*: Kristine Kirby on flute and Steve Kirby on guitar.

*You are invited into a quiet and worshipful space during the Prelude.*

**Prelude      Lo, how a rose e'er blooming**

Praetorius

*Alla Breve*

**Welcome**



## LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Please stand in body or in spirit.*

### Lighting the Advent Wreath Of the Father's love, v. 2

UMH 184

O that birth forever blessed, when the Virgin full of grace.  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving bore the Savior of our race.  
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer first revealed His sacred face.  
Evermore and ever more.

Leader: Blessed are you, our God, who created the light and the darkness  
and sent your only Son to bring your love to all people. We pray for  
your blessing upon this wreath and upon all who kindle these lights.  
As we gather together in this Advent darkness to await the dawn of  
Christ, prepare our hearts and homes to receive our Savior.

*The first and second candles are lit.*

Redeemer of the world, born among us, ever blessed and full of  
grace, ever more and ever more –

People: **Come, and show your people the way to salvation.**

### Bidding Prayer

Presider: Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, let it be our care and  
delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the An-  
gels, 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 Re-  
demption brought to 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 his 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 in this town.

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 courageous and holy 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 with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

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

**Processional Hymn    O come, O come Emmanuel**  
*Choir and Congregation*

**UMH 211**

- 1 Oh come, oh 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 Oh come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh;  
to us the path of knowledge show, and cause us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!
- 3 O come, o come great Lord of might who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times once gave the law in cloud and majesty and awe  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!
- 4 O come, thou root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of thy people be;  
Before thee rulers silent fall, all peoples on thy mercy call  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

**Collect of the Day**

Celebrant:        The Lord be with you.

People:           **And also with you.**

Celebrant:        Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings

and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## **THE FIRST LESSON    God creates man and woman to live in obedience to him in the Garden of Eden.**

### **Prepare the way of the Lord**

**From Taizé**

*Atrium Singers*

*Prepare the way of the Lord;*

*Prepare the way of the Lord;*

*And all people shall see the salvation of our God.*

### **Reading**

**Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-25**

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground—then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' So out of the ground the Lord God formed

every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

'This at last is bone of my bones  
and flesh of my flesh;  
this one shall be called Woman,  
for out of Man this one was taken.'

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

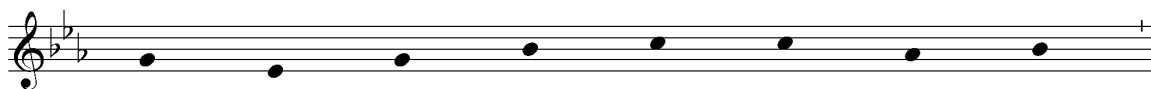
People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand in body or in spirit.*

## Hymn

## Creator of the stars of night, vv. 1, 3, 5

BH 60



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,  
 2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse  
 3 When this old world drew on toward night,  
 4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now  
 5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,  
 \* 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,  
 2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,  
 3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,  
 4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:  
 5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;  
 6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,  
 2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free  
 3 not as a mon - arch, but the child  
 4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,  
 5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low  
 6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.  
 2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.  
 3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.  
 4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.  
 5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.  
 6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

*Please be seated.*

## THE SECOND LESSON

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

## Musical Meditation

## Coventry Carol

*Alla Breve*

## Reading

## Genesis 3:1-15

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.'

The Lord God said to the serpent,  
'Because you have done this,  
    cursed are you among all animals  
    and among all wild creatures;  
upon your belly you shall go,  
    and dust you shall eat  
    all the days of your life.  
I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
    and between your offspring and hers;  
he will strike your head,  
    and you will strike his heel.'

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem      The Tree of Life (Wexford Carol)**

**S. Starke/James Biery**

1.    *The tree of life with ev'ry good  
In Eden's holy orchard stood,  
        And of its fruit so pure and sweet  
        God let the man and women eat.  
Yet in this garden also grew  
Another tree, of which they knew;  
        Its lovely limbs with fruit adorned  
        Against whose eating God had warned.*
  
2.    *The stillness of that sacred grove  
Was broken, as the serpent strove  
        With tempting voice Eve to beguile  
        And Adam too by sin defile.  
O day of sadness when the breath  
Of fear and darkness, doubt and death,  
        Its awful poison first displayed  
        Within the world so newly made.*
  
3.    *What mercy God showed to our race,  
A plan of rescue by His grace:  
        In sending One from woman's seed,  
        The One to fill our greatest need--  
For on tree uplifted high  
His only Son for sin would die,  
        Would drink the cup of scorn and dread  
        To crush the ancient serpent's head!*
  
- 4    *Now from that tree of Jesus' shame  
Flows life eternal in His name;  
        For all who trust and will believe,  
        Salvation's living fruit receive.  
And of its fruit so pure and sweet  
The Lord invites the world to eat,  
        To find within this cross of wood  
        The tree of life with ev'ry good.*



## THE THIRD LESSON

God comforts his people and calls them to prepare.

*Please stand in body or in spirit.*

### Hymn

### There's a voice in the wilderness crying, vv. 1-2

BH 75

1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a \_\_\_\_  
2 O \_\_\_\_ Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee \_\_\_\_  
3 but the word of our God \_\_\_\_ en - du - reth, the \_\_\_\_

call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst \_\_\_\_ of

high - way, a high - way for our God! The \_\_\_\_  
peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the  
na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall

val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
flowers of the field they \_\_\_\_ per - ish, like  
feed his \_\_\_\_ flock like a shep - herd, the 8

lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of  
lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll

pla - ces where the Lord our \_\_\_\_ God \_\_\_\_ may go!  
na - tions shall \_\_\_\_ pass like a dream \_\_\_\_ a - way;  
lead them, and \_\_\_\_ bring them \_\_\_\_ safe to his fold.

*Please be seated.*

### Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem    Isaiah the prophet has written of old**

**Joy F. Patterson**

*Isaiah the prophet has written of old  
how God's new creation shall come.  
Instead of the thorn tree, the fir tree shall grow;  
the wolf shall lie down with the lamb.  
The mountains and hills shall burst forth into song,  
the peoples be led forth in peace,  
for the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of God  
as the waters cover the sea.*

*Yet nations still prey on the meek of the world,  
and conflict turns parent from child.  
Your people despoil all the sweetness of earth,  
the brier and the thorn tree grow wild.  
God, bring to fruition your will for the earth,  
that no one shall hurt or destroy,  
that wisdom and justice shall reign in the land  
and your people shall go forth in joy.*

**THE FOURTH LESSON    A new covenant is promised which is written on our hearts.**

*Please stand in body or in spirit.*

1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy  
2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and

peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us,  
yet a King, born to reign in us for - ev - er,

let us find our rest in thee. Is-rael's strength and con - so -  
now thy gra-cious king - dom bring. By thine own e - ter - nal

la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art; dear de - sire of  
spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone; by thine all suf -

ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.  
fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

*Please be seated.*

## Reading

## Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the Lord', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Anthem **Veni, Jesu**

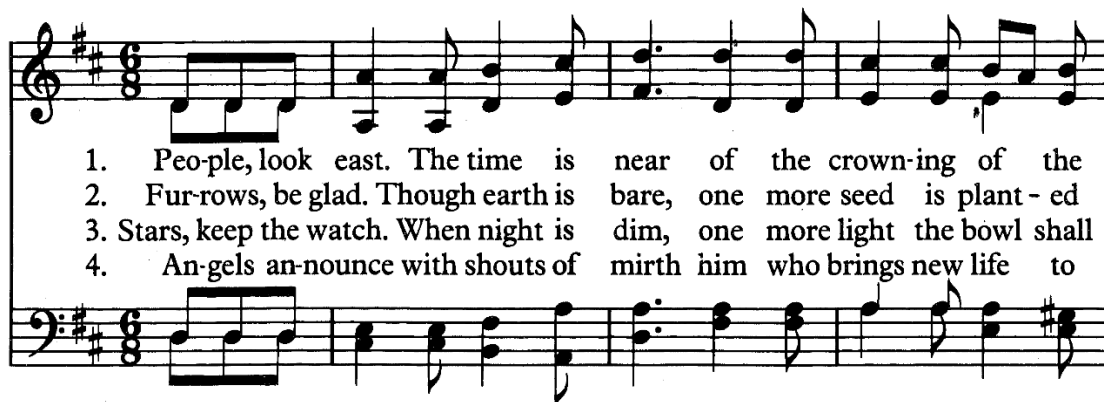
**Luigi Cherubini**

*Veni, Jesu, Amor mi,  
Veni, Veni, Veni, Amor Jesu,  
Veni, Jesu, Amor mi, Veni, O Amor mi.  
Veni, Jesu, Amor mi,  
Veni Jesu, Amor mi,  
Veni, Jesu, Amor mi,  
Veni, Veni, O Amor mi,  
Veni, Amor mi,  
Veni, Amor mi.*

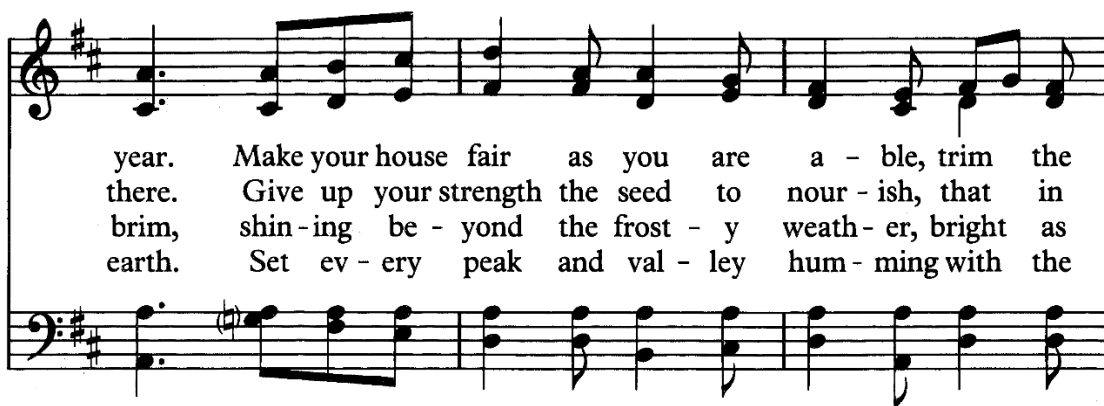
## THE FIFTH LESSON

**The scribe Baruch urges the people to look East because salvation is at hand.**

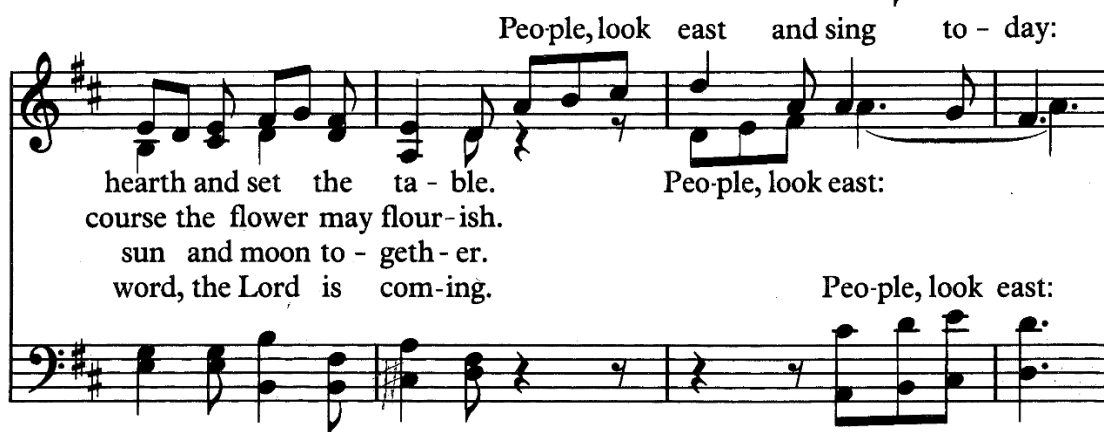
*Please stand in body or in spirit.*



1. Peo-ple, look east. The time is near of the crown-ing of the  
 2. Fur-rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant - ed  
 3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall  
 4. An-gels an-nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to



year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the  
 there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in  
 brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, bright as  
 earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming with the



People, look east and sing to - day:  
 hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo-ple, look east:  
 course the flower may flour-ish.  
 sun and moon to - geth - er.  
 word, the Lord is com-ing. Peo-ple, look east:



Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
 Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
 Love, the Star, is on the way.  
 Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Please be seated.

## Reading

## Baruch 4:36-5:9

A reading from the Book of Baruch.

Look towards the east, O Jerusalem,  
and see the joy that is coming to you from God.  
Look, your children are coming, whom you sent away;  
they are coming, gathered from east and west,  
at the word of the Holy One,  
rejoicing in the glory of God.  
Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,  
and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God.  
Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;  
put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;  
for God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven.  
For God will give you evermore the name,  
'Righteous Peace, Godly Glory'.

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height;  
look towards the east,  
and see your children gathered from west and east  
at the word of the Holy One,  
rejoicing that God has remembered them.  
For they went out from you on foot,  
led away by their enemies;  
but God will bring them back to you,  
carried in glory, as on a royal throne.  
For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be  
made low  
and the valleys filled up, to make level ground,  
so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.  
The woods and every fragrant tree  
have shaded Israel at God's command.  
For God will lead Israel with joy,  
in the light of his glory,  
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Anthem In all the magic of Christmastide

John Jacob Niles

*In all the magic of Christmastide,  
There is no magic than can a bide  
Against the birth of Christ our King  
Of whom the angels brightly sing*

*When Mary brought his child to light,  
It was upon a starlit night  
And see how shepherds crowd the stall  
With ox and ass and cattle all*

*It was against the winter sky  
The heavenly hosts in splendor fly  
And gentle Mary, mother mild,  
Did comfort Christ, the blessed child*


## THE SIXTH LESSON The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon the Holy One.

*Please stand in body or in spirit.*

## Hymn Hark the glad sound! vv. 1 & 4

BH 72

*Descant*



4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior

2 He comes, the pris - oners to re - lease in Sa - tan's

3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing

4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

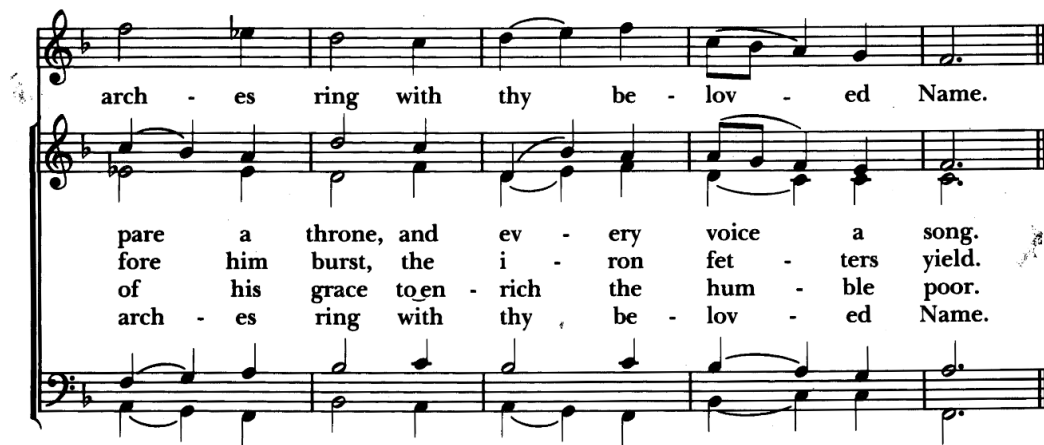
prom - ised long; let ev - ery heart pre -

bond - age held; the gates of brass be -

soul to cure; and with the trea - sures

shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal





*Please be seated.*

## Reading

**Isaiah 11:1-9**

Reader: A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem Climb to the top of the highest mountain**

**Carolyn Jennings**

*Climb to the top of the highest mountain,  
joyous tidings proclaim to the world,  
Lift up your voice, shout the good news: behold, your Lord comes to you.  
He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will carry the lambs in his arms,  
He will ever keep them safe from harm: behold, your Lord comes to you.  
He who made the stars in the heaven,  
He who fashioned the earth and the sea,  
From time eternal he was God, the Alpha and Omega, he.  
Behold, your Lord!  
He will come in power and glory, he will rule with mercy and truth,  
Hope of the nations, light of all the world.  
He will love the little children, he will hold them in his arms.  
Love him and trust him as a little child. Behold, your Lord comes to you!*

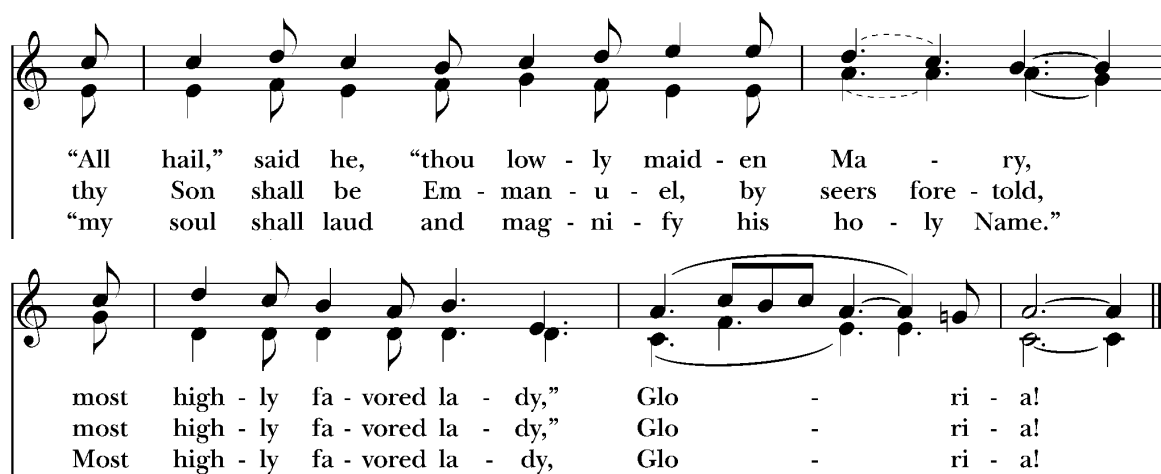
**THE SEVENTH LESSON The Angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High.**

*Please stand in body or in spirit.*

**Hymn The angel Gabriel, vv. 1-3**

**BH 265**

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,  
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,



"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."  
 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!

*Please be seated.*

## Reading

**Luke 1:26-38**

A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem Nova! Nova! Ave fix et Eva!****C. P. Daw/15<sup>th</sup> century**

Nova! Nova! Ave fit ex Eva! (News! News! "Ave" has been made from "Eve"!)

1. *Gabriel of high degree,  
He was sent from the Trinity  
From Nazareth in Galilee...Nova!*
2. *He met a maiden in that place;  
There he knelt down before her face;  
And said: "Hail, Mary, full of grace!"...Nova!*
3. *When the maiden heard his song,  
She was filled with confusion strong  
And feared that she had done a wrong...Nova!*
4. *Said the angel: "Have no fear;  
By conception without compare  
The Savior Jesus shall you bear."...Nova!*
5. *"There are yet but six months gone  
Since Elizabeth conceived John  
To be the herald of God's Son"...Nova!*
6. *Said the maiden "Verily,  
I am your servant right truly,  
The handmaid of the Lord now see."...Nova!*

**Homily****The Rev. Megan Holding****The Offertory**

*During the music, an offering will be collected by representatives of the congregation. Designated offerings to the Church of Our Redeemer Music Fund are enthusiastically welcomed. To designate an online offering to our Music Fund, please write "Music" in the memo box at the donation site listed below. Plate offerings can be designated using one of the envelopes in the back of the church.*

Your financial offering can be put in the plate or shared online at <https://www.our-redeemer.net/stewardship-2/contribute-online/>

**Instrumental Meditation The Holly & the Ivy**  
*Alla Breve*

**Trad. English**

*Please stand in body or in spirit.*

## Closing Collect

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, you have given us a new revelation of your loving providence in the Coming of your Son Jesus Christ to be born of the Virgin Mary: Grant that as he shared our mortality, so we may share his eternity in the glory of your kingdom; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## Advent Blessing

Celebrant: Our Lord says, "I am coming soon."

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Celebrant: The blessing of God Almighty, the Holy and Undivided Trinity, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## Children's Dismissal

*Choir and Congregation*

### Prepare the way, O Zion, vv. 1-2

**BH 65**



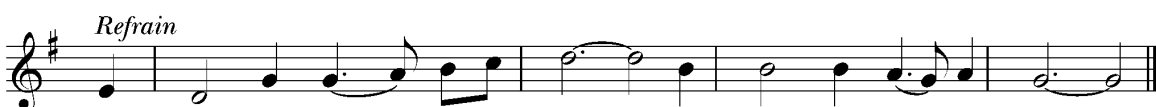
1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!  
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.  
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.  
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.  
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.  
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.  
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

*Please be seated.*

## Announcements

*Please stand in body or in spirit.*

## Closing Hymn Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending, vv.1-4

**BH 57**

*Choir and Congregation*



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for  
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in  
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his  
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand  
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at  
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less  
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his  
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the  
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -  
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,  
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,  
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

## Dismissal

Celebrant: As we await our coming Savior, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## Postlude Chorale, Wachet auf

**J. G. Walther**

## **Welcome to Church of Our Redeemer, Rev. Megan!**

The Vestry is pleased to announce that Rev. Megan Holding has accepted our call to become our next rector. Rev. Holding comes to us from Northeastern University where she has been the Episcopal Chaplain to that community since 2017. She has also served as a chaplain to Boston College and as an Assistant Rector and Seminararian at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Brookline.

Rev. Holding graduated from Yale Divinity School with a Master of Divinity and received a Certificate in Anglican Studies from Berkeley Divinity School, the Episcopal seminary affiliated with Yale. Prior to entering the priesthood, she was a practicing attorney at a major Boston law firm specializing in health care law and was active as a lay leader at her sponsoring parish in downtown Boston. She grew up in Ohio, graduated from Amherst College and Georgetown University Law Center, and worked for a federal judge in Kentucky before moving to New England.

Rev. Holding was the unanimous choice of Redeemer's Search Committee. Rev. Holding emerged from a large field of strong candidates and stood out for her strong personal faith, a commitment to cultivate faith in others, her creativity, joy and enthusiasm, her thoughtful and interesting preaching, her experience leading and guiding organizations as they seek to manage change, her spirit of collaboration and welcome, and her commitment to social justice.

While Redeemer will be her first position as a rector, we have no doubts that she is ready for this next stage of her ministry – and that we, as a parish, are well suited to help her grow in that role and with us in faith.

Rev. Holding lives in Wellesley with her husband, Chris, and their two daughters.

Our parish regularly uses all the liturgical resources approved by the Episcopal Church for Sunday services including The Book of Common Prayer (1979) as well as Enriching Our Worship (1997) and additional resources as they are permitted. Over the course of the year, we use both traditional and contemporary language and imagery for God and God's people, all of it grounded in Scripture and the Anglican tradition.



the  
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**The Rev. Megan Holding, Rector**  
**The Rev. Emily J. García, Assistant Rector**  
**Dr. Bernadette Colley, Music Director**  
**Ellen L. Weene, Parish Administrator**  
**Jack and Elaine Cornell, Sextons**



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