



# **Advent Service of Lessons & Carols**

Sunday, December 22, 2024

5:00 p.m.

All Saints Episcopal Church

151 South Ann Street, Mobile, AL 36604

Rev. James B. Flowers, Rector

Dr. Jeannie Kienzle, Principal Parish Musician



# A Brief history of Lessons and Carols

The design of a meditative service interweaving a collection of lessons from scripture with music of a church season came about in the early part of the last century, when sense arose of the need to retell in new ways the stories behind the major events in the life of the Christian church. The first carols service to be offered in the United States took place at Appleton Chapel in Harvard Yard in December of 1909; another, designed by F. Melius Christiansen, the founder of the music department at St. Olaf, in Northfield, Minnesota, was instituted there in 1912.

Words and music this evening focus on the Advent theme of light to darkness,  
hope in despair, and a new relationship with God in Christ.

We contemplate the four weeks of Advent that lead to the birth of Jesus Christ.



## All Saints Choir

### Soprano

Kathryn Hedlund  
Faith Hezel \*  
Paula Reeves  
Laura Thomason

### Alto

Molly Allison  
Lillian Carsten  
Beth Hall \*  
Beth Hardaway  
Nick Kienzle \*  
Claire Strong \*

### Tenor

Brian Allison  
Ryan Garrity \*  
Myles Garver \*  
Chris Nemeč \*  
Jack Shelley-Tremblay

### Bass

Richard Coarsey  
Jonathan Kienzle \*  
Kenneth Weber \*

*\*guest singer*

## Readers

Marilyn Owens  
Emily Kelley  
Valerie Mitchell  
Richard Tillman  
Gabe Posadas  
Cynthia Donnell  
Cyndie Harrison

## Acolyte

Darrel Williams

All Saints Episcopal Church  
151 South Ann Street, Mobile, Alabama 36604  
www.allsaintsmobile.net (251) 567-0798  
The Rev. James B. Flowers, Jr., Rector  
The Rev. Bob Donnell, Priest Associate  
The Rev. Mary C. Robert, Priest Associate  
Dr. Jeannie Kienzle, Principal Parish Musician

# The Advent Service of Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 22, 2024



OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Reverie*  
*A Tender Rose*

*Anne Crosby Gaudet*

MATIN RESPONSORY

*Music adapted from Palestrina*

I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth. Go ye out to meet him and say: Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel? High and low, rich and poor, one with another, go ye out to meet him and say: Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep, tell us, art thou he that should come? Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel.

HYMN

*Come, thou Redeemer of the earth*

*Michael Praetorius, arr. David Willcocks*

*(Choir)*

1. Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,  
And manifest thy virgin-birth.  
Let ev'ry age adoring fall;  
Such birth befits the God of all.

*(Choir)*

2. Begotten of no human will,  
But of the Spirit, thou art still  
The Word of God in flesh arrayed,  
The promised fruit to man displayed.

*(All)*

5. All Laud, eternal Son, to thee  
Whose advent sets they people free,  
Whom with the Father we adore,  
And Holy Ghost for evermore.

*(All)*

3. Forth from his chamber goeth he,  
That royal home of purity,  
A giant in twofold substance one.  
Rejoicing now his course to run.

*(All)*

4. From God the Father he proceeds  
To God the Father back he speeds;  
His course he runs to death and hell.  
Returning on God's throne to dwell.

## 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 lesson from the 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 Savior, 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, 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 which 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:

Our Father, which 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 that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,  
Forever and ever.  
*Amen.*

*Then shall the Congregation sit.*

FIRST LESSON

*Isaiah 40:1-8*

*The prophet proclaims good news to a people in exile.*

CAROL (*Sung by the Choir*)

*Adam lay ybounden*

*Peter Warlock*

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Adam lay ybounden,<br>Bounden in a bond;<br>Four thousand winter<br>Thought he not too long. | Ne had the apple taken been,<br>The apple taken been,<br>Ne had never our lady<br>A-been heavené queen. |
|--|---|

|  |  |
|--|--|
| And all was for an apple,<br>An apple that he took,<br>As clerkes finden<br>Written in their book. | Blessed be the time<br>That apple taken was,<br>Therefore we moun singen,<br><i>Deo gracias!</i> |
|--|--|

*Then shall the Congregation stand and sing.*

HYMN 59 *Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding*

*Merton*

*Then shall the Congregation sit.*

SECOND LESSON

*Jeremiah 23:5-6*

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

CAROL (*Sung by the Choir*)

*E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come*

*Paul Manz*

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Peace be to you and grace from him<br>Who freed us from our sins,<br>Who loved us all and shed his blood<br>That we might savèd be. | Sing holy, holy, to our Lord,<br>The Lord, Almighty God,<br>Who was and is and is to come;<br>Sing holy, holy, holy Lord! |
|---|---|

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,  
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,  
For Christ is coming soon!  
E'en, so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,  
And night shall be no more;  
They need no light nor lamp no sun,  
For Christ will be their all!

*Then shall the Congregation stand and sing.*

HYMN 68 *Rejoice, Rejoice believers*

*Llangloffan*

*Then shall the Congregation sit.*

THIRD LESSON

*Zechariah 9:9-10*

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

*Then shall the Congregation stand and sing.*

HYMN 82 *Of the Father's heart begotten*

*Divinum mysterium*

*(Gentlemen of the Choir)*

1. Of the Father's heart begotten,  
Ere the world from chaos rose,  
He is Alpha, from that fountain  
All that is and hath been flows;  
He is Omega, of all things  
Yet to come the mystic Close,  
Evermore and evermore.

*(Women of the Choir)*

2. By his word was all created;  
He commanded and 'twas done;  
Earth and sky and boundless ocean,  
Universe of the three in one,  
All that sees the moon's soft radiance,  
All that breathes beneath the sun,  
Evermore and evermore.

*(All men of the Congregation and Choir)*

3. He assumed this mortal body,  
Frail and feeble, doomed to die,  
That the race from dust created  
Might not perish utterly,  
Which the dreadful Law had sentenced  
In the depths of hell to lie,  
Evermore and evermore.

*(All women of the Congregation and Choir)*

4. Oh, how blest that wondrous birthday,  
When the maid the curse retrieved,  
Brought to birth mankind's salvation,  
By the Holy Ghost conceived;  
And the babe, the world's Redeemer,  
In her loving arms received,  
Evermore, and evermore.

*(All)*

5. Sing, ye heights of heav'n, his praises;  
Angels and Archangels, sing!  
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,  
Let your joyous anthems ring,  
Ev'ry tongue his name confessing,  
Countless voices answering,  
Evermore and evermore.

*Then shall the Congregation sit.*

FOURTH LESSON

*The Prophet foretells the advent of the desire of all nations.*

*Haggai 2:6-9*

CAROL *(Sung by the Choir)*

*Jesus Christ The Apple Tree*

*Elizabeth Poston*

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 founding 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.

*Then shall the Congregation sit.*

FIFTH LESSON

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

*Isaiah 35:1-6*

The first good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of one,  
To see the blessed Jesus Christ, when he was first her son:

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of two:  
To see her own son, Jesus Christ, to make the lame to go:

The next good joy that Mary has, it was the joy of three:  
To see her own son, Jesus Christ, to make the blind to see:

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of four:  
To see her own son, Jesus Christ, to read the Bible o'er:

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of five:  
To see her own son, Jesus Christ, to bring the dead alive:

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of six:  
To see her own son, Jesus Christ, to upon the crucifix:

The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of seven:  
To see her own son, Jesus Christ, to wear the crown of Heaven:

Both Father, Son and Holy Ghost, to all eternity.

HYMN 57 *Lo! he comes with clouds descending**Helmsley*

1. Lo! he comes, with clouds descending,  
Once for our salvation slain;  
Thousand thousand saints attending  
Swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia!  
Christ the Lord returns to reign.

2. Every eye shall now behold him,  
Robed in dreadful majesty;  
Those who set at nought and sold him,  
Pierced, and nailed him to the tree,  
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing,  
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 worshipers;  
With what rapture, with what rapture,  
With what rapture  
Gaze we on those glorious scars!

4. Yea, amen! Let all adore thee,  
High on thine eternal throne;  
Savior, take the power and glory;  
Claim the kingdom for thine own:  
O come quickly! O come quickly!  
O come quickly!  
Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

*Then shall the Congregation sit.*

## SIXTH LESSON

*St. Luke 1:26-38*

*The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

*Then shall the Congregation stand and sing.*

## CAROL

*Canticle of the Turning*  
*(see music next page)*

*Star of County Down*

*Verse 1: Women of the choir only Verses 2 – 4: All*

*Then shall the congregation sit.*

SEVENTH LESSON

*St. Mark 1:1-15*

*Jesus proclaims the coming of the Kingdom.*

ANTHEM (*Sung by the Choir*)

*The Lamb*

*John Tavener*

Little Lamb, who made thee?  
Dost thou know who made thee?  
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed  
By the stream and o'er the mead;  
Gave thee clothing of delight,  
Softest clothing, woolly, bright;  
Gave thee such a tender voice,  
Making all the vales rejoice?  
Little Lamb, who made thee?  
Dost thou know who made thee?

Little Lamb, I'll tell thee,  
Little Lamb, I'll tell thee:  
He is called by thy name,  
For he calls himself a Lamb.  
He is meek, and he is mild;  
He became a little child.  
I a child, and thou a lamb,  
We are called by his name.  
Little Lamb, God bless thee!  
Little Lamb, God bless thee!

*William Blake (1757-1827)*

*Then shall the Congregation stand.*

VESPER RESPONSORY

Officiant: Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;  
People: ***Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.***  
Officiant: Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.  
People: ***Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will 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, he will be with you.***

COLLECT

Officiant: We wait for thy loving-kindness, O Lord.  
People: ***In the midst of thy temple.***  
Officiant: 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 for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak;  
Help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
And the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain  
with you forever. ***Amen.***

HYMN 56 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

*Veni Emmanuel*

*Verses 1-2: All Verse 3: Men only Verse 4: Women only Verse 5: Men only Verse 6: Women only Verses 7-8: All*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Chanson*

*Anne Crosby Gaudet*

*Please remain in place and quiet until the end of the closing voluntary.*

*A festive reception and supper follows in Stirling Hall.*