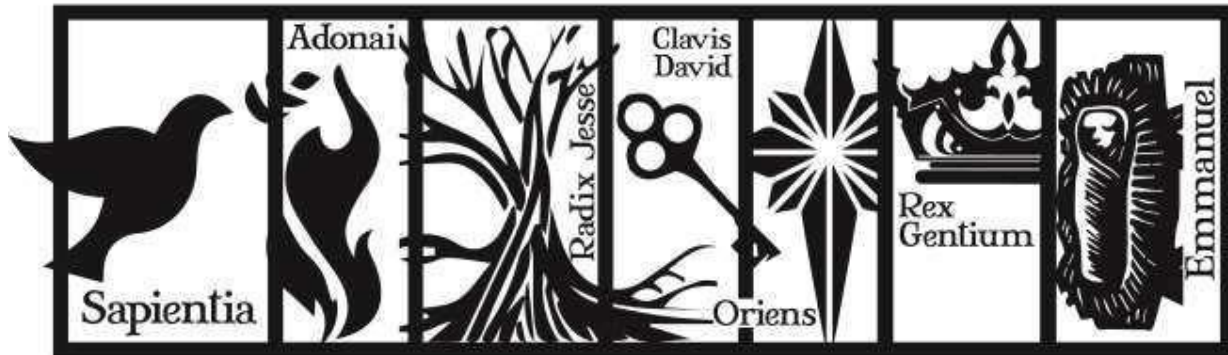


SARC ORE



ERO CRAS

...Veni

Service of Advent Lessons and Carols

From Darkness to Light

10 December 2023

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

16 Bradley Avenue

Brattleboro, Vermont

Today's Lessons and Carols are built around the Great O Antiphons of Advent, ancient chants that originated in the 5th or 6th century. Each chant describes a characteristic or name of God and a vision of the time when spiritual darkness turns to light. As we light the candles, may we each hold in our heart all who seek the healing light of justice, healing, mercy, and joy.

The O Antiphons bring a wide representation of imagery and imagination to describe the Divine: Wisdom; Source of Order; Fire; Morning Star; Cornerstone; Root; Key; and finally: God that dwells within us. As you hear them, you may want to use this imagery to help you experience that particular aspect of the sacred in your life or in the world around you.

MATIN RESPONSORY

All stand.

BLESSING OF THE LIGHT

Presider: The Lord is my light and my salvation:

All: **Our God shall change the darkness into light.**

P: Blessed are you, Lord God, Creator of the day and of the night.

As darkness falls, we ask you to reveal to us the light of your presence. Dispel the darkness of our hearts and of our world, that we may walk as children of light and sing your praises.

All: **Blessed be God forever. Amen**

ENTRANCE HYMN 66 "Come, thou long-expected Jesus"



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

ADVENT BIDDING

The people are seated.

FIRST LESSON

John 1:1-5, 10-14

ANTHEM

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” by John Rutter

COLLECT

The first candle is lit.

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 3:1-15

ANTHEM

“Adam Lay Ybounden” by Howard Skempton

ANTIPHON

The second candle is lit.

THIRD LESSON

Exodus 3:1-6

HYMN 61

“Sleepers, awake!”

Hymn printed on next page

1 "Sleep - ers, wake!" A voice a - stounds us, the
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her
 3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let

shout of ram - part - guards sur - rounds us: "A -
 heart with joy - ful hope is spring - ing, she
 saints and an - gels sing be - fore you, as

wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!" Mid - night's peace their
 wakes and hur - ries through the night. Forth he comes, her
 harps and cym - bals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the

cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum - mons clear - ly spo -
 Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in truth vic - to -
 ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to join the im - mor -

ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!
 rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.
 tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.

Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de -

sight. Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and
 Word, Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and
 light: Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to

has - ten there, that you the wed - ding feast may share."
 heed your call to come in - to the ban - quet hall.
 greet our King; for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

ANTIPHON

The third candle is lit.

FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

ANTHEM

“Sure on this Shining Night” by Morten Lauridsen

ANTIPHON

The fourth candle is lit.

FIFTH LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

HYMN 67

“Comfort, comfort ye my people”



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,
let the val - leys rise to meet him
and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - ver.
and the hills bow down to greet him.
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

ANTIPHON

The fifth candle is lit.

SIXTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-9

HYMN 81

“Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming”

1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,
* 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,

Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung,
with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.
dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;

It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the
To show God's love a - right, she bore to
true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and

cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.
us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.
death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

Words: St. 1-2 German, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934). St. 3, Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859): tr. Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925); ver. *Hymnal 1940*. St. 3, Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Es ist ein Ros*, melody from *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1599; harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621).

ANTIPHON

The sixth candle is lit.

SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

ANTHEM

“O Magnum Mysterium” by Tomas Luis de Victoria

ANTIPHON

The seventh candle is lit.

EIGHTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-15

HYMN 102

“Once in royal David’s City” (v. 1, 2, 4, 6)

Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty, stood a low - ly cat - tle__

shed, where a mo - ther laid her ba - by, in a man - ger for his head. Ma - ry

was that mo - ther mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle__ child.

2. He came down to earth from Heaven,
 Who is God and Lord of all.
 And his shelter was a stable,
 And his cradle was a stall.
 With the poor, the scorned, the lowly,
 Lived on earth our Savior holy.

4. And our eyes at least shall see him,
 Through his own redeeming love;
 For that child who seemed so helpless
 Is our Lord in heaven above.
 And he leads his children on
 To the place where he is gone.

6. Not so in that poor lowly stable,
 With the Oxen standing round,
 We shall see him; but in heaven
 where his saints his throne surround;
 Christ, revealed to faithful eye
 Set at God’s right hand on high---

ANTIPHON

The eighth candle is lit.

NINTH LESSON

Luke 1:68-79

ANTHEM

“The Blessed Son of God” by Ralph Vaughan Williams

COLLECT

The ninth candle is lit.

INTERCESSIONS



Come O Em - man - u - el: Hear our prayer.

ADVENT BLESSING

HYMN 82

“Of the Father’s love begotten”



1 Of the Fa - ther’s love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be -
2 O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin,
3 Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
prais - es sing; powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him,
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing,



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that
bore the Sa - vior of our race; and the Babe, the
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on
and un - wea - ried prais - es be; hon - or, glo - ry



are, that have been, and that fu - ture
world’s Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his
earth be si - lent, ev - ery voice in
and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal



years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

This hymn may be performed in equal note values: ♩ ♩ ♩ ♩

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410?); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt. Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th cent.; adapt. *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956).

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to prepare the way of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

All are invited to a reception in the Undercroft following the service.

THE SINGERS:

Valerie Abrahamsen
Carol Beninati
Pam Carr
Nora Gordon
Craig Hammond
David Hayden
Jenny Karstad
Bruce Landenberger
Margit Lilly
Margery McCrum

Patty Meyer
George Moore
Jared Rediske
Lucy Spahr-Blazej
John Spooner
Talley Summerlin
Matthew Wojcik
Rosie Wojcik
Donald Woodford

READERS: Elizabeth Fisher, Annie Landenberger, Gabriel Sistare, Anne Black, Diane Morris, Thomas Evans, Janice Paran, Alli Ackerman-Hovis and Donald Woodford

USHERS: Elizabeth Freese and David Treadwell

LAY ASSISTANT: Greg Lesch

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Keane Southard

PRESIDER: The Reverend Mary D. Lindquist

UPCOMING SERVICES

Available In-Person & by Livestream

Christmas Eve Pageant and Holy Communion, Sunday December 24, 4 pm

Festival Candlelight Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion, Sunday December 24, 8 pm

Christmas Day Service, Monday December 25, 10 am

Christmas Lessons & Carols, Sunday December 31, 10:15 am