

SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

A Service for Advent with Carols



December 1st, 2024
5.00 P.M.

ADVENT

The season of Advent is traditionally a time of preparation for Christmas, and its observance dates from the sixth century in Gaul. It stretched from St. Martin's Day (11th November) to Christmas Eve and was known as 'The Lent of St. Martin'. This title suggests the parallel between Advent and Lenten fasting, and meditations on the themes of judgment and the last things were developed for each of the Sundays prior to Christmas Day. At the same time, Advent is not formally a time of fasting and Advent Sunday, the first Sunday of the Christian year, is properly a day of joyful anticipation of Christ's coming.

The ancient people of God, the Jews, looked forward to the coming of God's Kingdom when there would be a new order of justice and righteousness. The early Church saw that this kingdom had been anticipated and experienced through the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, but still prayed "Thy Kingdom come", looking forward to a second coming and the final consummation of all things.

The pattern of this Advent service reflects the season's growing anticipation, both of the first coming of Christ and of that Day when the prayer "Thy Kingdom come" is finally and fully answered.

PARTICIPANTS

Officiant: The Reverend Siri Hauge Hustad
St. Mark's Cathedral Choir
Raymond Johnston, Canon Musician

We stand through the Bidding Prayer

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

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.

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.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust thy mighty power to save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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.

O come, thou Day-spring from on high,
And cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadow put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, the season of Advent bids us prepare ourselves both for the celebration of Christ's nativity as also for the day when he shall come to judge the hearts of us all. So, in sorrow and penitence, let us confess our failures and shortcomings, and renew in ourselves the vision of God's perfect kingdom, which is the end of all our strivings and the consummation of God's loving purposes for us.

In word and music we will give voice to the hope set forth in the scriptures, that God's kingdom will come; and, with John the Baptist and the Blessed Virgin Mary, we will prepare for its coming, celebrating its dawning in the birth, life, and death of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

But first let us pray for those who, by reason of their adversity, yearn especially for its coming: the hungry and the homeless, the sick and the sorrowful, the lonely and the unloved; those who sit in the darkness of despair or who walk in the shadow of death.

Let us pray for the leaders of the nations and for all who strive for the establishment of justice, righteousness and peace; and, that it may bear witness to this hope in a world divided by wrath and sorrow, let us pray for the well-being and unity of Christ's body, the Church.

Let us then pray for the coming of God's kingdom, in the words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

**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.**

May the Lord find us watching and waiting. **Amen.**

We sit

ANTHEM

'Advent Responsory'

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.

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

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?

Words: First Responsory of Advent Sunday
Music: adapted from Palestrina

We stand

THE MESSAGE OF ADVENT

Officiant: Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

Officiant: The glory of the Lord shall be revealed.
People: **And all flesh shall see it together.**

COLLECT

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy 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 quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. **Amen.**

We sit

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown

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.

CAROL

'A Tender Shoot'

A tender shoot hath started up from a root of grace,
As ancient seers imparted from Jesse's holy race.
It blooms without a blight,
Blooms in the cold bleak winter turning our darkness into light.

This shoot, Isaiah taught us, from Jesse's root should spring.
The Virgin Mary brought us the branch of which we sing.
Our God of endless might,
Gave her this child to save us, turning our darkness into light.

Words: William Bartholomew
Music: Otto Goldschmidt

God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption

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 forever. 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.

ANTHEM

'Drop Down, Ye Heavens'

Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry:
I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions; fear not, for I will save thee:
For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.

Words: Advent Prose
Music: arr. Judith Weir

We stand

HYMN

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art:
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver;
Born a child, and yet a king,
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne.

THE WORD OF GOD

Officiant: O people of Zion, behold the Lord is nigh at hand to redeem the nations,
and in the gladness of your heart the Lord shall cause his glorious voice to be
heard.

Officiant: Declare his honor unto the nations:
People: **And his wonders unto all people.**

COLLECT

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience, and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

We sit

THE THIRD LESSON

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A new covenant is promised which will be written in our hearts

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.

ANTHEM

‘Never Weather-Beaten Sail’

Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore,
Never tired pilgrims’ limbs affected slumber more,
Than my wearied sprite now longs to fly out of my troubled breast:
O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest.

Ever blooming are the joys of Heaven’s high Paradise,
Cold age deafs not there our ears nor vapour dims our eyes:
Glory there the sun outshines; whose beams the blessed only see:
O come quickly glorious Lord, and raise my sprite to Thee.

Words: Thomas Campion
Music: Richard Shephard

THE FOURTH LESSON

Micah 5:2-4

The one who is to rule Israel will be born in the village of Bethlehem

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

We stand

HYMN

Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let every heart prepare a throne,
And every voice a song.

He comes, the prisoners to release
In Satan's bondage held;
The gates of brass before him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

He comes, the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure:
And with the treasures of his grace
To enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim;
And heaven's eternal arches ring
With thy beloved Name.

THE PROPHE'TIC CALL

Officiant: Behold, I will send my messenger and he shall prepare the way before me.

Officiant: Prepare ye the way of the Lord.

People: **Make his paths straight.**

COLLECT

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messengers to prepare the way before thee: grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready the way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who liveth and reigneth with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

We sit

THE FIFTH LESSON

Isaiah 35:1-10

The prophet proclaims that God will come and save us

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; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

ANTHEM

'Canite Tuba'

Blow ye the trumpet in Sion, for the day of the Lord is at hand.
See, he cometh for our salvation:
He will make the crooked ways straight and the rough places plain:
Come, O Lord, and do not delay.

Words: from Joel and Isaiah
Music: Francisco Guerrero

THE SIXTH LESSON

Matthew 3: 1-11

The proclamation of John the Baptist

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

We stand

CAROL

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.
Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

THE CHRIST BEARER

Officiant: Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Officiant: Unto us a child is born:
People: Unto us a son is given.

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, who didst stoop to raise our fallen race by the child-bearing of blessed Mary: Grant that we, who have seen thy glory manifested in our flesh, and thy love perfected in our weakness, may daily be renewed in thine image, and conformed to the likeness of thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

We sit

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

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

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, favored 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 favor 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 forever, 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.

ANTHEM

'Bogoroditse Devo'

Rejoice, O virgin mother of God, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee:
Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb,
For thou hast borne the savior of our souls.

*Words: Russian Orthodox All-Night Vigil
Music: Sergei Rachmaninov*

We stand

THE 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.**
Officiant: We wait for your loving kindness, O Lord.
People: **In the midst of your temple.**

A COLLECT FOR ADVENT

O God, who makes us glad with the yearly expectation of your coming; grant that we, who with joy receive your only begotten Son as our Redeemer, may without fear behold him when he shall come to be our Judge, even your Son our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

HYMN

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.

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.

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!

Yea, Amen! Let all adore thee,
High on thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the power and glory;
Claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

THE BLESSING

May 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 among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Postlude: Toccata on Veni Emmanuel

Andrew Carter

All are welcome and encouraged to support Saint Mark's financially as an expression of gratitude for God's generosity. Your gift in this offering, or through a pledge commitment, automatic transfer or online, sustains and enriches our prayer, learning and community service. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

A photograph of a decorated Christmas tree with lights and ornaments, next to a fireplace mantel with stockings and a red toy car. The scene is dimly lit, creating a warm, festive atmosphere.

Saint Mark's Music Series Presents
A Great British Christmas

December 14 at 7:30pm

The Snowman - Howard Blake
Fantasia on Christmas Carols- Ralph Vaughan Williams,
and a selection of Carols by John Rutter & David Willcocks.
Audience participation is required!

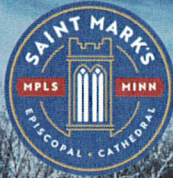
Baritone Soloist: Andrew Kane,
Cathedral Choir, Choral Society, and Orchestra
directed by Raymond Johnston

Tickets available online or at the door
\$25 13 and older

A circular logo for Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral. The outer ring contains the text "SAINT MARK'S" at the top and "EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL" at the bottom. Inside the ring, there is a stylized illustration of a cathedral facade with the text "MPLS" on the left and "MINN" on the right.A square QR code located at the bottom center of the poster, likely linking to the church's website for ticket information.

The Longest Night Service

Saturday, December 21st | 2pm



Christmas Eve Services

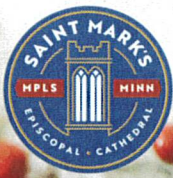
Tuesday, December 24th

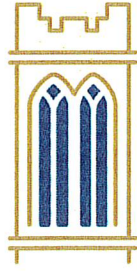
Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols | 4pm
Carols with Brass | 10:30pm
Choral Eucharist | 11pm

The logo for Saint Marks Episcopal Cathedral is positioned on the left side of the text. The background is a dark blue sky filled with numerous bright, white starburst lights and a string of white lights that forms a stylized Christmas tree shape.

Christmas Day Service

Choral Eucharist
December 25th | 10am





SAINT MARK'S

EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

— *Minneapolis* —

The Most Reverend Sean Rowe Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church
The Right Reverend Craig Loya Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota

Cathedral Ministry Team

The Reverend Tim Kingsley *Cathedral Provost*

The Reverend Siri Hauge Hustad *Priest - Part-time Associate for Liturgical Coordination*

The Reverend Neptali Rodriguez *Misionero Hispano*

Raymond Johnston *Canon Musician*

Mary Lusk *Canon Community Developer*

Tina Kraby *Campus Services & Welcome Center Supervisor*

The Reverend Terry M. Erickson *Deacon- & Part-time Sacristan*

**Dr. Helen E. Hansen Shared Ministry - Pastoral Care Minister*

**The Reverend Lowell B. Johnson Deacon: Shared Ministry - Community Connections*

**The Reverend Mary Beth Farrell Priest - Shared Ministry Team, Staff Chaplain*

**The Reverend Kent Rahm Priest - Shared Ministry Team*

**The Reverend Jay Phelan Priest – Shared Ministry Team*

**Non Stipendiary Ministry Team Members*

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