



Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols

Sunday,
December 15
5:00 PM

All Saints' Episcopal Church
525 Lake Concord Rd. NE
Concord, NC 28025
www.allsaintsconcord.org



PRELUDE

Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior

Adoro te devote, arr. Cathy Mocklebust

From All Things Bright and Beautiful, arr. Cathy Mocklebust
© 2015 Choristers Guild

O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel, arr. Jason W. Krug

The Bells of All Saints'

O Come, Emmanuel, arr. Jason W. Krug
© 2023 Grassy Meadow Music

INTROIT Matin Responsory

G. P. da Palestrina, ed. Cleobury

Jennifer Cook & Jeff Crew, soloists

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?

“Matin Responsory” adapted from a Magnificat by G. P. da Palestrina, ed. by Stephen Cleobury
© 2000 Oxford University Press

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN O come, O come, Immanuel Plainsong, adapted by T. Helmore, arr. John Rutter

Women O come, O come, Immanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

Men O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save, And give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

Choir O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by thy advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

Men 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 you, O Israel!

All O come, thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

BIDDING PRAYER

Book of Occasional Services, p. 31

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

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

**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.**

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.**

Please be seated.

LESSON I

Genesis 3:1-22

Read by a Youth.

Reader A lesson 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.” To the woman he said, “I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.” And to the man he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all living. And the Lord God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them.

Then the Lord God said, “See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever”—therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain seated.

CAROL Adam lay ybounden

Luke D. Rosen

Adam lay ybounden, Bounden in a bond,
Four thousand winter Thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple, an apple that he took,
As clerkes finden written In their book.

Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been,
Ne had ne'er Our Lady abeen heav'ne queen.

Blessed be the time That apple taken was.
Therefore we moun singen Deo Gratias.

“Adam lay ybounden” Text: Norfolk carol, 15th century; Music by Luke D. Rosen
© 2022 E. C. Schirmer Music Company, Inc.

LESSON II

Isaiah 11:1-9

Read by the Lay Reader Coordinator.

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

A shoot shall come out from the stump 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.**

Please remain seated.

CAROL The Father's Love

arr. William Roger Price

Of the Father's Love begotten, ere the worlds began to be;
He is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he;
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see
Evermore and Evermore.

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung.
Of Jesse's lineage coming As men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

This flower, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air.
Dispels with glorious splendor, The darkness everywhere.
True man but very God, From sin and death he saves us,
And lightens every load.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, This is he whom heaven taught singers
Sang of old with one accord, Whom the scriptures of the prophets,
Promised in their faithful word, Now he shines, the long-expected,
Let creation praise its Lord: Evermore and evermore.

Licensed permission granted by Saint James Music Press, User ID #6813.

LESSON III

Baruch 4:36-5:9

Read by a member of the Choir of All Saints'.

A reading from the Book of Baruch.

Look toward 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 forever 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 splendor everywhere under heaven.
For God will give you evermore the name,
"Righteous Peace, Godly Glory."

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height;
 look toward 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.**

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN There's a voice in the wilderness crying

The Hymnal 1982 - 75
Ascension

1 There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
 a call from the ways untrod:
 Prepare in the desert a highway,
 a highway for our God!
 The valleys shall be exalted,
 the lofty hills brought low;
 make straight all the crooked places
 where the Lord our God may go!

2 O Zion, that bringest good tidings,
 get thee up to the heights and sing!
 Proclaim to a desolate people
 the coming of their King.
 Like the flowers of the field they perish,
 like grass our works decay,
 the power and pomp of nations
 shall pass like a dream away;

3 but the word of our God endureth,
the arm of the Lord is strong;
he stands in the midst of nations,
and he will right the wrong.
He shall feed his flock like a shepherd,
the lambs he'll gently hold;
to pastures of peace he'll lead them,
and bring them safe to his fold.

These words are in the public domain.

Please be seated.

LESSON IV

Isaiah 40:1-11

Read by the Director of Music.

A reading from 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 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.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain seated.

CAROL Comfort, Comfort Ye, My People *Freu dich sehr O meine Seele/arr. Robert J. Powell*

Comfort, comfort ye my people,
speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
comfort those who sit in darkness,
mourning 'neath their sorrow's load;
speak ye to Jerusalem
of the peace that waits for them;
tell her that her sins I cover,
and her warfare now is over.

For the herald's voice is crying
in the desert far and near,
bidding all men to repentance,
since the kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way!
Let the valleys rise to meet him,
and the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked,
make the rougher places plain:
let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits his holy reign,
For the glory of the Lord
now o'er the earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token
that his word is never broken.

St. James Music Press. Licensed permission. User ID #6813

LESSON V

Isaiah 64:1-9a

Read by the Coordinator of the 9 AM Welcome Team.

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—

as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
and do not remember iniquity forever.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN O heavenly Word, eternal light

The Hymnal 1982 - 64
O Heiland, reiss

- 1 O heavenly Word, eternal Light, begotten of the Father's might,
who in these latter days wast born for blessing to a world forlorn;
- 2 pour light upon us from above, and fire our hearts with ardent love,
that, as we hear thy truth today, all wrong desires may burn away;
- 3 and when, as judge, thou drawest nigh the secrets of our hearts to try,

to recompense each hidden sin and bid the saints their reign begin;
4 O let us not, for evil past, be driven from thy face at last,
but with thy saints for evermore behold thee, love thee, and adore.

5 To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, ever One,
praise, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally.

Hymn permission used by Rite Song a one-time use reprint license for congregational use.

Please be seated.

LESSON VI

Zephaniah 3:14-18

Read by the Chair of the Altar Guild.

A reading from the Prophet Zephaniah.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!
The Lord has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.
The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.
I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates

The Hymnal 1982 - 436
Truro

1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
 behold the King of glory waits!
The King of kings is drawing near;
 the Savior of the world is here.

2 O blest the land, the city blest,
 where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes
 to whom this King of triumph comes!

3 Fling wide the portals of your heart;
 make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
 adorned with prayer and love and joy.

4 Redeemer, come! I open wide
my heart to thee: here, Lord, abide!
Let me thy inner presence feel:
thy grace and love in me reveal.

5 So come, my Sovereign; enter in!
Let new and nobler life begin;
thy Holy Spirit guide us on,
until the glorious crown be won.

These words are in the public domain.

Please be seated.

LESSON VII

Isaiah 65:17-25

Read by the Junior Warden.

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

For I am about to create new heavens
 and a new earth;
the former things shall not be remembered
 or come to mind.
But be glad and rejoice for ever

in what I am creating;
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy,
and its people as a delight.
I will rejoice in Jerusalem,
and delight in my people;
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,
or the cry of distress.
No more shall there be in it
an infant that lives but a few days,
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.
They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat;
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
They shall not labor in vain,
or bear children for calamity;
for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—
and their descendants as well.
Before they call I will answer,
while they are yet speaking I will hear.
The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,
the lion shall eat straw like the ox;
but the serpent—its food shall be dust!
They shall not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
says the Lord.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain seated.

The congregation joins the choir where noted.

Choir:

No more sickness, no more crying, your mourning will turn to dancing;
I will make a pathway in the wilderness, and a river in the dry land.

No more hatred, no indifference, unfairness will yield to justice;
I will make a passage to a free land, where all colors there are blessings.

I will wipe away your tears, I will wipe away your tears from your eyes.

A new Jerusalem arise, A new creation come alive; Into the dawning after dark.

Only kindness, only goodness, all people will live compassion,
Hand in hand they love and work together, walking in the spirit.

I will wipe away your tears, I will wipe away your tears from your eyes.

A new Jerusalem arise, A new creation come alive; Into the dawning after dark.

I am making all things new, I am making all things new.

After fire, after flood, after rain, I am making all things new.
Through the dark, through the doubt, through the pain, I am making all things new.

Congregation/Choir:

A new Je - ru - sa - lem — a - rise, —

— A new cre - a - tion come — a - live; —

— In - to the dawn - ing af - ter dark, —

— a - rise! — A - rise! —

— A new Je - ru - sa - lem a - rise, —

— A new cre - a - tion come a - live; —

— In - to the dawn - ing af - ter dark, —

— a - rise! —

Choir:
Come, people! All people! Arise, A new Jerusalem arise!

“A New Jerusalem Arise” words & music by Kyle Pederson/ed. by Dan Forrest
© 2022 Hal Leonard LLC

Lesson VIII

Micah 5:2-4

Read by a former Senior Warden.

A reading from the Prophet Micah.

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.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN Savior of the nations, come!

The Hymnal 1982 - 54
Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

1 Savior of the nations, come!
Virgin's Son, make here your home.
Marvel now, both heaven and earth,
that the Lord chose such a birth.

2 Wondrous birth! Oh, wondrous child
of the Virgin undefiled!
Mighty God and Mary's son,
eager now his race to run!

3 Thus on earth the Word appears,
gracing his created spheres;
hence to death and hell descends,
then the heavenly throne ascends.

4 Come, O Father's saving Son,
who o'er sin the victory won.
Boundless shall your kingdom be;
grant that we its glories see.

Hymn permission used by Rite Song a one-time use reprint license for congregational use.

Please be seated.

LESSON IX

Luke 1:26-56

Read by the Rector.

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, 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 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.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain seated.

CAROL Behold the Rose

Chaz Bowers

The whispered breath of angels stirs the silent, drifting snow;
‘neath darkened skies the earth still sleeps untouched by stars’ soft glow,
Crowned with thorns, a blood-red rose springs forth from snow-swept field
What Mary holds within her heart, to man yet unrevealed.

Behold the Rose, the herald of God's prophecy foretold:
the coming of our Savior, his glory to unfold.

The Child of Mary's virgin womb springs forth upon the earth:
A flower born of Jesse's stem, a miracle his birth.
O Son of God, O Prince of Peace, O glorious King of Kings:
The promise of salvation the new-born Christ-child brings.

Behold the Rose, whose sweet perfume of joy fills the air
For ma-kind, soon to be redeemed in answer to its prayer.

The word awakens as the hopes of man are realized,
A blazing star lights up the earth, hosannas fill the skies;
And awestruck shepherds bow before the blessed little one,
While angels sing with joyful praise to God's most holy Son.

Behold the Rose that ever blooms, behold the beacon for our race;
Its holy chalice overflows with God's redeeming grace.

"Behold the Rose" Text: Donna Lee Kurland; Music by Chaz Bowers
© 2022 GIA Publications, Inc.

Please stand as you are able.

Collect

Let us pray.

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 Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Solemn Blessings

Open wide, O Lord, the gates of heaven and visit your people in peace. **Amen.**

Send forth your Spirit from on high, that their hearts may be uplifted unto you. **Amen.**

O Lord, who for our sake was of a Virgin born, make holy your people, and bless thine heritage. **Amen.**

PROCESSION INTO THE WORLD

Lo! he comes, with clouds descending

Helmsley, arr. John Rutter

All 1. Lo! He comes, with clouds descending, once for favored sinners slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! God appears, on earth to reign.

Choir 2. Ev'ry 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.

All 4. Yea, Amen! let all adore thee, High on thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory: Claim the kingdom for thine own:
O come quickly, O come quickly, O come quickly! Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

“Lo! He comes with clouds descending” Text: Charles Wesley; Music: 18-cent. English mel, arr. R. Vaughan Williams
© 2000 Collegium Music Publications: Worldwide by Oxford University Press

The congregation is invited to be seated for the postlude.

POSTLUDE *Helmsley*

arr. Robert J. Powell

“Jesus Comes with Clouds Descending,” from *Five Advent Preludes*, arr. Robert J. Powell
© 2005 Paraclete Press

You are invited to a reception in the Welcome Center following the Postlude.

The offering this evening will support PFLAG Concord/Kannapolis.
Please give generously.

Many thanks to all those involved in making this evening possible:

Readers

A Youth. Esther Ringgenberg
The Coordinator of the Lay Readers. Andrea Holdren
A member of the Choir of All Saints'. Lynda Waller
The Director of Music. Brian Sapp-Moore
The Coordinator of the 9 AM Welcome Team. Deanna Phillips
The Chair of the Altar Guild. Brenda Trott
The Junior Warden. Rhonda Kovar
A former Senior Warden. Nancy Hunter
The Rector. The Rev. Nancy L.J. Cox

Choir of All Saints'

<u>Sopranos</u>	<u>Tenors</u>
Julia Davison	Rebecca Bahn
Charlotte Grossman	Jeff Crew
Alice Smith	Susan Furr
Courtney Steinberg	Tom Holder
	Charles McKinley
	George Monroe

<u>Altos</u>	<u>Basses</u>
Jennifer Cook	Chris Cook
Mary Holder	Paul Davison
Rhonda Kovar	John Erickson
Lynda Waller	Don Smith

Bells of All Saints'

Alice Baxter Gary Kovar
Michelle Bohrer Rhonda Kovar
Martin Ericson Charles McKinley
Mandy Porter

Clarinetist

Keagan Ringgenberg

2024-25

Advent to Epiphany

SCHEDULE

December 15 – Third Sunday of Advent

Advent Lessons and Carols – 5 PM

EYC White Elephant Party

December 21

Service of Light – 7 PM

December 22 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

9 & 11:10 AM Services

EYC Cookie Sale

Hanging of the Greens

EYC Family Caroling

December 24

Christmas Eve Family Service – 4 PM

Nativity of our Lord – 5:30 PM

with violinist, Vasily Gorkovoy

Nativity of our Lord – 9 PM

with Choir of All Saints'

December 25

Christmas Day Service – 10 AM

December 29

First Sunday after Christmas – Holy Eucharist – 10 AM

January 5 – Epiphany

Holy Eucharist – 10 AM

Gathering with Grace Lutheran for Chili Cook Off,
Service of Epiphany & Burning of the Greens – 5:30 PM