

St Mary's



ADVENT FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday 1 December 2024

7.00pm

ST MARY'S NORTH MELBOURNE

The Presider, The Reverend Robyn Boyd

Director of Music: Beverley Philips

St Mary's Parish Choir and Friends

Welcome to St Mary's North Melbourne.

Thank you for joining us in worship.

*Please join in saying the text marked in **bold**
and singing the musical responses and hymns.*

Processional

Choir: Introit: “*Arise the kingdom is at hand*” Text: C. Tye (1505-1575)
 “*Arise, the kingdom is at hand, the King is drawing nigh; O come with joy, thou faithful band, to meet the Lord most high? Look up, ye souls weighed down with care, the Sovereign is not far; look up, faint hearts, from your despair, behold the Morning Star.*”

Congregation: Processional: “*O Come, O come Emmanuel*” TiS 265

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three staves. The first staff has a melody with chords Em, Am, Em, G, Em, Am, Em above it. The second staff continues the melody with chords Am, G, D, Am, Em, Am, Em above it. The third staff is labeled 'Refrain' and has a different melody with chords D, G, Bm, Em, Am, Em, C, Am, Bm, Em above it. The lyrics 'Re-joyce! re-joyce! Em-ma - nu-el shall come to you, O Is - ra-el.' are written below the third staff.

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
 and ransom captive Israel,
 that mourns in lonely exile
 here
 until the Son of God appear.

Response

2. O come, O come, great Lord
 of might
 who to the tribes on Sinai's
 height
 in ancient times did give the
 law
 in cloud and majesty and awe.

Response

3. O come, O key of David,
 come,
 and open wide our heavenly
 home,

make safe the way that leads
 on high
 and close the path to misery.

Response

4. O come, O branch of Jesse, free
 your own from Satan's tyranny:
 from depths of hell your people
 save
 and give them victory o'er the
 grave. *Response*

5. O come, O dayspring, come and
 cheer
 our spirits by your advent here;
 disperse the gloomy clouds of
 night
 and death's dark shadows put to
 flight. *Response*

The Bidding Prayer

Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go even to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger. Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of the God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against Him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus; 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 the whole world; for peace and justice on the earth; for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city. And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless; the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; as well as those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ. Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore. And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ himself has taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for 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.

First Lesson Sin of Adam reversed in the Birth of Christ

Isaiah 60: 1-5

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

Choir: *"This is the truth sent from above"* English Trad. R.V. Williams
*This is the truth sent from above, the truth of God, the God of love:
Therefore don't turn me from your door, but hearken all, both rich and
poor. The first thing which I do relate is that God did man create, the next
thing which to you I'll tell, woman was made with man to dwell. Then, after
this, 'twas God's own choice to place them both in Paradise, there to
remain from evil free except they ate of such a tree. But they did eat which
was a sin, and thus their ruin did begin. Ruined themselves, both you and
me and all of their posterity. Thus we were heirs to endless woes, till God
the Lord did interpose, And so a promise soon did run that he would redeem
us by his Son.*

Second Lesson Witness of the Prophets

Jeremiah 31:31-34

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.

Congregation: “*Long ago prophets knew*” TiS 283

Verses

Refrain

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Long ago, prophets knew Christ would come, born a Jew, come to make all things new, bear his people’s burden, freely love and pardon. <i>Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!</i> <i>Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!</i> <i>When he comes,</i> <i>when he comes.</i> <i>who will make him welcome?</i></p> | <p>3. Mary, hail! Though afraid, she believed, she obeyed. In her womb God is laid: till the time expected, nurtured and protected. <i>Refrain</i></p> |
| <p>2. God in time, God in man, this is God’s timeless plan: he will come, as a man, born himself of woman, God divinely human. <i>Refrain</i></p> | <p>4. Journey ends: where afar Bethlem shines, like a star, stable door stands ajar. Unborn Son of Mary, Saviour, do not tarry. <i>Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!</i> <i>Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!</i> <i>Jesus comes,</i> <i>Jesus comes:</i> <i>we will make him welcome.</i></p> |

Third Lesson Waiting and Expecting

Isaiah 65:17-25

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 labour 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.

Congregation: "Isaiah the Prophet" TiS 663

Gtr. Capo 1 Fm(Em) Bbm(Am) C7(B7) Fm(Em) Bbm(Am)

C7(B7) Fm(Em) C7(B7) Fm(Em) Bbm(Am)

C7(B7) Db(C) Bbm(Am) C7(B7) Fm(Em) F7(E7)

F7(E7) Bb(A) Gm(F#m) Am(G#m) Dm(C#m) Gm(F#m)

C7(B7) F(E) F7(E7) Bb(A) Gm(F#m)

Am(G#m) Dm(C#m) v. 2 Gm(F#m) C7(B7) Bb(A) F(E)

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). It consists of six staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three flats, and a 3/4 time signature. The notes are quarter notes and half notes. The second staff continues the melody with some notes beamed together. The third staff includes a double bar line and a key signature change to two flats (B-flat, E-flat). The fourth staff continues the melody. The fifth staff includes a double bar line and a key signature change to one flat (B-flat). The sixth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line and a key signature change to no sharps or flats.

1. 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 seas.
2. 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.

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Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 40: 1-11

Comfort, comfort my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and proclaim to her
that her hard service has been completed,
that her sin has been paid for,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice of one calling:

"In the wilderness prepare
the way for the Lord;
make straight in the desert
a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be raised up,
every mountain and hill made low;
the rough ground shall become level,
the rugged places a plain.

And the glory of the Lord will be revealed,
and all people will 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 like grass,
and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.

The grass withers and the flowers fall,
because the breath of the Lord blows on them.

Surely the people are grass.

The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the word of our God endures forever."

You who bring good news to Zion,
go up on a high mountain.

You who bring good news to Jerusalem,
lift up your voice with a shout,

lift it up, do not be afraid;
say to the towns of Judah,

"Here is your God!"

See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power,

and he rules with a mighty arm.
See, his reward is with him,
and his recompense accompanies him.
He tends his flock like a shepherd:
He gathers the lambs in his arms
and carries them close to his heart;
he gently leads those that have young.

Choir: *“Comfort, comfort ye my people”* Johann Olearius
Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!” So says our God. Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load. To God’s people now proclaim that God’s pardon waits for them! Tell them that their war is over; God will reign in peace forever. For the herald’s voice is crying in the desert far and near, calling us to true repentance, since the Kingdom now is here. Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God away! Let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him! Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain! Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign! For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad, and all flesh shall see the token that God’s word is never broken.

Fifth Lesson

Isaiah 64:1-9a

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 for ever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Congregation: "Darkness lay" TiS 793 Song of Grace

D A D G A7 D
Bm D Em A D G A7 D A7
D F#m G D A7 D F#m Bm G A7
D Bm Em A D G A7 D

1. Darkness lay upon the waters
and the starless heavens
swirled,
as the formless earth awaited
the creating of a world.
Over all the Spirit brooded,
like a patient mother bird,
for the leaping of the morning
at the speaking of a word.
2. In another age of darkness
children stumbled, blind from
birth,
as the Word of God,
incarnate,
moved again upon the earth,
with the re-creating promise
3. Every soul will sit with
darkness,
every eye will long for light,
every heart will lose direction
in the swirling, starless night.
Still the one who speaks the
morning
moves beside us on the way;
knowing this we know that
darkness
always holds the hope of day.

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Sixth Lesson *Isaiah 35:1-10*

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 traveller, 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.

Congregation: "Wake, awake" TiS 266



1 'Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing,' the
 watch-men on the heights are cry - ing, 'A -
 - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!' Mid-night hears the wel-come
 voi - ces, and at the rou - sing cry re - joi -
 - ces: 'Where are you, all you vir - gins wise? The
 bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your light - ed lamps then
 take. Hal - le - lu - jah! With joy pre - pare to
 meet him there; the roy - al wed - ding feast is near.

2. Zion hears the watchmen singing,
 and in her heart new joy is springing;
 she wakes, she rises from her gloom.
 For her Lord now comes all-glorious,
 and strong in grace, in truth victorious;
 her star has risen, her light has come.
 Now come, O precious crown,
 Lord Jesus, God's own Son.
 Hail, hosanna!
 O lead us all
 into the hall
 where you provide your joyful meal.

3. Now let all the heavens adore you,
and saints and angels sing before you
with harp and cymbal's joyful tone.
Gates of pearl in heaven are shining;
there, with the angel-choir combining,
we gather round your radiant throne.
No eye has seen that sight,
no ear heard such delight.
What rejoicing!
Yet there will we
eternally
with songs acclaim your majesty.

Philipp Nicolai 1556–1608 *tr.* Catherine Winkworth 1827–78 *alt.*
The earlier version of this chorale may be found in *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1973, at 487.. Reproduced with permission

Seventh Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-15

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: ‘Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good.

Choir: “*A tender shoot*” Otto Goldschmidt (1829-1907)

A tender shoot hath started up from the 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, our God of endless might, gave her this child to save us, thus turning darkness into light.

Eighth Lesson

Micah 5:2-4

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 labour 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;

Choir: “*Bird of Dawning*” Roland Martin, violinist: Elizabeth Brookes
*Some say that ever ‘gainst that season comes Wherein our Saviour’s birth is
celebrated, the bird of dawning singeth all night long; and then, they say, no
spirit can walk abroad; The nights are wholesome; then no planets strike
no fairy takes, nor witch hath power to charm so hallowed and so gracious
is the time, So hallowed and so gracious is the time. (William Shakespeare)*

Ninth Lesson

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

Congregation: “*Veni redemptor gentium*” NEH 26



Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
and manifest thy virgin-birth.
Let every age adoring fall:
such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will
but of the Spirit, thou art still
the Word of God in flesh arrayed,
the Saviour, now to man displayed.

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

From God the Father he proceeds,
To God the Father back he speeds,
Runs out his course to death and hell,
Returns on God's high throne to dwell.

O equal to thy Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
And darkness glow with new-born light,
No more shall night extinguish day,
Where love's bright beams their power display.

O Jesu, Virgin-born, to thee
Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

Prayer

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your 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 living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Choir: *“Vesper Responsory”* G.P. da Palestrina (remain standing)
Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.
Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Blessing

Christ 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.

Congregation: "Lo he comes with clouds" TiS 273

G Em C G
 D G D G C G D G Em
 C G D G D
 G C G D D D7 G
 (v. 2 deep - ly shamed be - fore him,
 Em C D G Am D
 deep - ly shamed be - fore him, deep - ly shamed be - fore him.)
 G Em D C G D G

1. Lo! he comes with clouds descending,
 once for favoured sinners slain;
 thousand thousand saints attending
 swell the sound of this refrain:
 Hallelujah, hallelujah,
 hallelujah!
 God appears on earth to reign.
2. Every eye shall now behold him
 robed in awesome majesty;
 those who have betrayed and sold him,
 pierced and nailed him to the tree,
 deeply shamed before him,
 deeply shamed before him,
 deeply shamed before him
 shall the true Messiah see.
3. Those dear tokens of his passion
 still his dazzling body bears,
 cause of endless exultation
 to his ransomed worshippers:
 with what rapture, with what rapture,
 with what rapture
 gaze we on those glorious scars!
4. Sing amen! let all adore you,
 high on your eternal throne;
 Saviour, take the power and glory,
 claim the kingdom for your own;
 O come quickly, O come quickly,
 O come quickly;
 hallelujah! Come, Lord,
 come.

Postlude:

“*Besançon/ Carol of the Advent*” carillon Rebecca Groom te Velde (b.1956)

St Mary’s Choir is open to all. If you are interested, please contact the DOM for further information or speak to a chorister.

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