

A Service for Advent with Carols



Sunday November 28th, 2021
5 P.M.

We are creative, progressive partners in God's mission of radical love.

We are delighted that you have decided to join us today and to give a small gift of your time and attention back to God through worship. It's our hope that this encounter with God—through word, sacrament, beauty, and togetherness—enriches your day and gives you food for the journey!

Saint Mark's is a Cathedral of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, a network of faith communities gathered together in common identity and cause, each engaging God's mission in their own unique time and place and out of their own unique gifts. As a statewide (and global) community of faith, we pray for one another, support one another, learn from one another, partner with one another, and cheer for one another, knowing full well that we can do far more together than we could ever do apart.

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Want to learn more about Saint Mark's? Please go to ourcathedral.org to find out more about who we are and ways to connect through Prayer, Study, & Service. Saint Mark's is on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter. Subscribe to our email news by going to ourcathedral.org, or text "ourcathedral" to 22828

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- Mail a check to Saint Mark's at 519 Oak Grove St, Minneapolis, MN 55403

Land Acknowledgment

Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral acknowledges that we are located on the ancestral homeland of the Dakota People. We are in close proximity to the territories of the Anishinabe and Ho-Chunk peoples. This land has been stewarded as a living relative by the Dakota for generations. The United States government effectively stole this land from the Dakota people through a series of unjust treaties and broken promises, followed by targeted efforts of genocide, ethnic cleansing, and forced removal.

Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, born out of White Protestantism, recognizes our complicity in these matters. The United States government often carried out this injustice in cooperation with institutionalized white churches. The trauma of forced assimilation and the boarding school system is a stain that cannot be washed away. But we can repent of that past and turn towards a more just future.

We look now to the Dakota people and indeed all Native American communities located in the State of Minnesota as examples of resilience, resistance, and strength. We stand resolute in our commitment to oppose any threat to Indigenous culture or tribal sovereignty, be it political, industrial, or religious. We were wrong, we can do better, we will do better.

Adapted for Saint Mark's from the Minnesota Council of Churches

SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

On Loring Park
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Please, while on the cathedral campus, wear your mask at all times. Our risk management protocols include no community singing, asking for consideration to your physical distancing and wearing a mask.

Thank you for following these requirements.

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

Lectors

David Karges
Karen Sandness
Linda Brandt
Susannah Smith
Barbara Knowles Hanson
Linda Schelin
Joan Potter

Choir Section Leaders

Elizabeth Pemberton
Shannon McGee
Susan Druck
Kristi Bergland
Steve Pearthree
Thore Dosedall
Rick Moon
Andrew Kane

Please Stand. Those who are able are asked to stand through the Bidding Prayer.

HYMN: O come, O come, Emmanuel

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.**

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden

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."

CAROL: The Truth from Above

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.

And they did eat, which was a sin, and thus our 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.

*Words: Traditional English
Music: arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams*

THE SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

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

CAROL: Drop down, ye heavens, from above

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*

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.

CAROL: Jesus Christ the apple tree

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 found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and wait awhile:
Under the shadow I will be of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive:
Which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

*Words: Anonymous
Music: Elizabeth Poston*

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.

HYMN: Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes

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

CAROL: 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 deafe 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 SIXTH LESSON

Zephaniah 3:14-18

The Lord will be among us; we are summoned to rejoice and sing

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.

HYMN: Prepare the way, O Zion

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.

CAROL: 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*

Please 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.**

Please be seated

HYMN: Lo! He comes with clouds descending

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

Saint Mark's is part of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, which is a diocese of the Episcopal Church. The Episcopal Church welcomes all who worship Jesus Christ, in 111 dioceses and regional areas in 17 nations. The Episcopal Church is a member province of the worldwide Anglican Communion.

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The Right Reverend Craig Loya *Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota*

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The Reverend Tim Kingsley *Canon Pastor*
The Reverend Siri Hauge Hustad *Part-time Associate for Liturgical Coordination*
The Reverend Anna Ostenso Moore *Part-time Associate for Family Ministries*
The Venerable Rena Turnham *Archdeacon & Part-time Associate for Community Engagement*
Raymond Johnston *Canon Musician*
Mary Lusk *Canon Community Developer*
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