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## Advent Carol Service 2020



## Introit

E'n so Lord Jesus quickly come – (Paul Manz)

## Bidding Prayers

**The service is introduced by Revd Canon Rachel Firth, Vicar of Huddersfield.**

**During the service we join in the words in bold type. You may wish to watch by candlelight.**

## Hymn

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear  
*Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou Day-Spring, come and cheer  
Our spirits by Thine advent here  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain.*

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
And order all things, far and nigh;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And cause us in her ways to go. *Refrain*

O come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,  
And be Thyself our King of peace. *Refrain*

Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour when the Son of Man will come.

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed:

**And all flesh shall see it together.**

### **Collect**

**Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **Antiphon: O SAPIENTIA**

*O Sapientia, quae ex ore Altissimi prodiisti, attingens a fine usque ad finem, fortiter suaviterque disponens omnia: veni ad docendum nos viam prudentiae.*

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High, reaching from one end to the other mighty and sweetly ordering all things: come and teach us the way of prudence.

### **Reading – Isaiah 11.1-5**

### **Anthem:**

Aria: Come, Jesus, come and bless thy church (from Bach Cantata BWV 61)

Sung by:

## **Antiphon: O Adonai**

*O Adonai, et Dux domus Israel, qui Moysi in igne flammae rubi apparuisti, et ei in Sina legem dedisti: veni ad redimendum nos in brachio extento.*

O Adonai, and leader of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai: Come and redeem us with an outstretched arm.

## **Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5.1-5,11**

*The call to be vigilant in preparation for the coming of the Lord*

## **Anthem:**

Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Edward Bairstow)

O people of Sion, 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.

Declare his honour unto the nations:  
**And his wonders unto all people.**

## **Collect**

**Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when you Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him. Amen.**

### **Antiphon: O Radix Jesse**

*O Radix Jesse, qui stas in signum populorum, super quem continebunt reges os suum, quem Gentes deprecabuntur: veni ad liberandum nos, jam noli tardare.*

O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign among the peoples; before you kings will shut their mouths, to you the nations will make their prayer: Come and deliver us and delay no longer.

### **Reading - Micah 4. 1–4**

*The prophet's vision of the last days,  
when the nations will be judged*

### **Anthem:**

O thou the Central Orb (Charles Wood)

### **Antiphon: O Clavis David**

*O Clavis David, et sceptrum domus Israel; qui aperis, et nemo claudit; claudis, et nemo aperit: veni, et educ vinctum de domo carceris, sedentem in tenebris, et umbra mortis.*

O Key of David, that openest and no man shutteth, and shuttest and no man openeth: Come and bring the prisoner out of the prison house.

### **Reading – Luke 4.16-21**

*The words of the Prophet Isaiah  
are fulfilled by Jesus Christ*

## 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.**

Behold, I will send my Messenger and he shall prepare the way  
before me.

Prepare ye the way of the Lord:  
**Make his paths straight.**

## Collect

**God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to  
prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to  
hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Antiphon: O Oriens**

*O Oriens, splendor lucis aeternae, et sol justitiae:  
veni, et illumina sedentes in tenebris, et umbra mortis.*

O Morning Star, splendour of light eternal and sun of righteousness:  
come and enlighten those who dwell in darkness.

## **Reading – Malachi 3.1-4**

*Micah prophecies John the Baptist  
and the Messiah who will be like refining fire.*

## **Anthem:**

How beautiful upon the mountains (John Stainer)

## **Antiphon: O Rex Gentium**

*O Rex Gentium, et desideratus earum, lapisque angularis, qui facis utraque  
unum: veni, et salva hominem, quem de limo formasti.*

O King of the Nations, and their desire; the Corner-Stone making  
both one: Come and save the human race which you fashioned from  
clay.

## **Reading: Matthew 3.1-3, 11**

*The proclamation of John the Baptist*

## **Hymn:**

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Come, then, and hearken, for he brings  
Glad tidings from the King of kings!**

**Then cleansed be every breast from sin;  
Make straight the way for God within;  
Prepare we in our hearts a home,  
Where such a mighty Guest may come.**

**To Him Who left the throne of Heaven  
To save mankind, all praise be given;  
Like praise be to the Father done,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One.**

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.'

Unto us a child is born:  
**Unto us a Son is given.**

## **Collect**

**Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Anthem:**

There is no Rose (Ricardo Frescatore)

## **Antiphon: O Emmanuel**

*O Emmanuel, Rex et legifer noster, expectatio Gentium, et Salvator earum:  
veni ad salvandum nos, Domine, Deus noster.*

O Emmanuel, our King and our Lawgiver, the hope of the nations and their saviour : Come and save us, O Lord our God.

## **Reading – Luke 1.39-49**

*Mary shares her joyful news with Elizabeth*

## **Anthem:**

Magnificat: Collegium Regale (Herbert Howells)

## **Reading – John 3.1-8**

*Jesus speaks with Nicodemus of the 'birth from above'*

Drop down, you heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness; let the earth open and bring forth a Saviour.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel:

**For he has visited and redeemed his people.**

## **Collect**

**Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. Amen.**

## **Anthem:**

Here is the little door (Herbert Howells)

## The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour 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. Lead us  
not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

## Hymn

**Lo, he comes with clouds descending,  
once for favoured sinners slain;  
thousand thousand saints attending  
swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
God appears on earth to reign.**

**Every eye shall now behold him  
robed in dreadful majesty;  
those who set at naught and sold him,  
pierced and nailed him to the tree,  
deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,  
shall the true Messiah see.**

**Yea, Amen, let all adore thee,  
high on thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the power and glory,  
claim the kingdom for thine own:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou shalt reign and thou alone.**

## The Blessing

"We will light a candle for Advent time  
and watch the small glow of it  
as we sing our hymns and psalms,  
we can carry thought of it within our minds,  
recall the constant light of Christ  
that lives within the everyday and pervades  
the constant clamour and deadening of dreams;  
this brightness was, and is,  
and gleams forever and beyond."<sup>i</sup>

With love and compassion **come, Lord Jesus.**

With judgement and mercy, **come, Lord Jesus.**

In power and glory, **come, Lord Jesus.**

In wisdom and truth, **come, Lord Jesus.**

May the light of our Lord Jesus Christ rest in our hearts  
and our homes, in our working and our resting, in our  
church and in our communities, in our brokenness and  
in our longings for a better world. And the blessing of  
God Almighty.....

Go, and God's light go with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Anthem:**

How brightly shines the morning star (J.S. Bach)

## Readers:

**Michael Bembridge, Jane Bembridge, Alan Eastwood,  
Revd Carol Hawkins.**

## The "O Antiphons"

According to Fr. William P. Saunders, "The exact origin of the O Antiphons is not known. [Boethius](#) (480–524AD) made a slight reference to them, thereby suggesting their presence at that time the sixth century. At the [Benedictine Fleury Abbey](#), these antiphons were recited by the abbot and other abbey leaders in descending rank, and then a gift was given to each member of the community. By the eighth century, they were in use in the liturgical celebrations in Rome. The usage of the O Antiphons was so prevalent in monasteries that the phrases, "Keep your O" and "The Great O Antiphons" were common parlance. One may thereby conclude that in some fashion the O Antiphons have been part of our liturgical tradition since the very early Church.

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<sup>i</sup> "Advent" by Doris Corti, taken from *A Christmas Miscellany: A collection of poetry by Doris Corti*, Smallscape Press, 2007. Reproduced by kind permission of the author.