

THE NATIONAL CATHEDRAL  
AND COLLEGIATE CHURCH  
OF SAINT PATRICK, DUBLIN



**A Sequence of Music  
& Readings for Advent**  
Sunday 29th November 2020

# Hymn



1. 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 thee, O Israel.*
2. 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.
3. O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
our spirits by thine advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
and death's dark shadows put to flight.
4. 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.
5. 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.

*Music, 15th Century French  
Arrangement, John Rutter (b 1945)  
Text, 18th Century Latin trans. J.M.Neale*

## **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 Saviour, 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

May the Lord when he comes find us watching and waiting. **Amen.**

### **Antiphon** *O Sapientia*

*O wisdom, coming forth from the Most High, filling all creation and reigning to the ends of the earth; come and teach us the way of truth.*

O loving wisdom of our God! When all was sin and shame, a second Adam to the fight and to the rescue came. *Amen, come, Lord Jesus.*

### **Anthem**

I came forth from the mouth of the Most High, and covered the earth like a mist. I dwelt in high places, and my throne is in a pillar of cloud. Alone I compassed the circuit of heaven and walked the depths of the abyss. In the waves of the sea and in all the earth, and over every people and nation I got a possession. With all these I sought rest. And I took root in a people that was glorified, in the portion of the Lord's own inheritance. I was exalted like a cedar in Libanus, and as a cypress on the mountains of Hermon. I was exalted like a palm tree on the sea shore, and as a fair olive tree in the plain. And my branches are branches of glory and grace, and my flowers are the fruit of glory and riches. Come unto me, ye that are desirous of me, and ye be filled with my fruits. For my thoughts are filled from the sea, and my counsels from the great deep. And I came out as a stream from a river I said, I will water my garden and will water abundantly my garden-beds. And lo, my stream became a river, and my river became a sea.

*Music, Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)*

*"A Song of Wisdom"*

*Text, Ecclesiasticus 24*

### **The First Reading** *Isaiah 6: 1-8*

*God commissions Isaiah as the Prophet of the Advent*

### **Antiphon** *O Adonai*

*O Lord of Lords, and ruler of the House of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush, and gave him the law on Sinai: come with your out-stretched arm and ransom us.*

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood: He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food. *Amen, come Lord Jesus.*

## **Anthem**

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 rest 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.

*Music, Elizabeth Poston (1905-87)*

*Text, 'Divine Hymns or Spiritual Songs' (1784)*

## **The Second Reading** *Isaiah 11: 1-9*

*God's Kingdom of righteousness is foreshown*

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

*O root of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations; kings will keep silence before you for whom the nations long; come and save us and delay no longer.*

Though the lowliest for doth veil thee, as of old in Bethlehem, here, as there, thine angels hail thee, branch and Flower of Jesse's stem. Alleluia! We in worship join with them. *Amen, come, Lord Jesus.*

## **Anthem**

A Rose e'er blooming, a lovely Rose, from tender root hath sprung. Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming, from tender root hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung. Brought forth a flower bright, amid the cold of winter, and in the dark midnight. A Rose e'er blooming, a lovely Rose, where-of Isaiah told. The Rose, which I am singing, where of Isaiah told, in Mary, purest maiden, who bears the holy child. At God's eternal will, she bore to us a Saviour, yet stays a virgin still. O flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air, dispel in glorious splendour the darkness everywhere; True man, yet very God, from sin and death now save us, and share our every load. A Rose e'er blooming. A Rose.

*Music, Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)*

*Arrangement, David Blackmore (b.1961)*

## The Third Reading *Zechariah 2: 10-13*

*The prophet foretells the coming of the Lord*

### Antiphon *O Clavis David*

*O key of David and sceptre of the House of Israel; you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come free the captives from prison, and break down the walls of death.*

Hail to the Lord's Anointed! Great David's greater Son; Who comes to break oppression, to set the captive free; To take away transgression, and rule in equity. *Amen, come, Lord Jesus.*

### Hymn



1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed!  
Great David's greater Son;  
Hail, in the time appointed,  
His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
to set the captive free,  
to take away transgression,  
and rule in equity.
2. He comes with succour speedy  
to those who suffer wrong;  
To help the poor and needy  
and bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing,  
their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying,  
were precious in his sight.

3. He shall come down like showers  
upon the fruitful earth;  
And love, joy, hope, like flowers,  
spring in his path to birth:  
Before him on the mountains  
shall peace the herald go;  
And righteousness in fountains  
from hill to valley flow.
4. Kings shall fall down before him,  
and gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore him,  
His praise all people sing;  
To him shall prayer unceasing  
and daily vows ascend;  
His kingdom still increasing,  
a kingdom without end.
5. O'er every foe victorious,  
He on his throne shall rest,  
from age to age more glorious,  
all-blessing and all-blest:  
The tide of time shall never  
His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand for ever;  
That name to us is Love.

*Music, Traditional English Melody*  
*Arrangement, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)*

### **The Fourth Reading** *Matthew 25: 1-13*

*The Lord warns us to be watchful and faithful*

#### **Antiphon** *O Oriens*

*O morning star, splendour of the light eternal and bright sun of righteousness: come and bring light to those who dwell in darkness and walk in the shadow of death.*

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ the true, the only light, Sun of righteousness, arise, Triumph o'er the shades of night; Dayspring from on high be near; Daystar, in my heart appear. *Amen, come, Lord Jesus.*

## Hymn



1. Hark! what a sound, and too divine for hearing,  
stirs on the earth and trembles in the air.  
Is it the thunder of the Lord's appearing?  
Is it the music of his people's prayer?
2. Surely he cometh, and a thousand voices  
shout to the saints, but to the deaf are dumb;  
Surely he cometh, and the earth rejoices,  
glad in his coming who hath sworn, 'I come'.
3. This hath he done, and shall we not adore him?  
This shall he do, and can we still despair?  
Come, let us quickly fling ourselves before him,  
cast at his feet the burden of our care.
4. Yea, through life, death; through sorrow and through sinning  
he shall suffice me, for he hath sufficed:  
Christ is the end, for Christ was the beginning,  
Christ the beginning, for the end is Christ.

*Music, Richard Terry (1865-1938)*

*Text, Frederic Myers (1843-1901)*

## The Fifth Reading *Mark 1: 1-8*

*John Baptist announces that the Kingdom is near*

### **Antiphon** *O Rex: Gentium*

*O King of the nations, you alone can fill their desires: cornerstone, binding all together: come and save the creature you fashioned from the dust of the earth.*

The highest place that heaven affords is his, is his by right: The King of kings and Lord of lords, and heaven's eternal might. *Amen, come Lord Jesus.*

## Anthem

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: Such a way as gives us breath; Such a truth as ends all strife, such a life as killeth death. Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: Such a light as shows a feast, such a feast as mends in length, such a strength as makes his guest. Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: Such a joy as none can move, such a love as none can part, such a heart as joys in love.

*Music, David Cooper (1949-2008)*

*Text, George Herbert (1593-1633)*

## The Sixth Reading *Luke 1: 39-45*

*Elizabeth salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary*

## Antiphon *O Emmanuel*

*O Emmanuel, God with us, our King and Lawgiver, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, O Lord our God.*

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity! Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. *Amen, come, Lord Jesus.*

## Anthem

Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore. Never tired pilgrim's 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!

*Music, Richard Shephard (b 1949)*

*Text, Thomas Campion (1567-1620)*

## The Seventh Reading *Luke 1: 26-33*

*The annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary*

## **Canticle** *Magnificat*

My soul doth magnify the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations. He hath shewed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel: as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever. Glory be to the Father: and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

*Music, Herbert Howells (1892-1983)*

*from the Gloucester Service*

*Text, Luke 1*

## **The Prayers**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour 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 Ghost, now and ever. **Amen.**

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

# Hymn



1. Lo! he comes; with clouds descending,  
Once for favoured sinners slain;  
Thousand thousand saints attending  
Swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia! God appears, on earth to reign.
2. 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, 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 gaze we on those glorious scars!
4. Yea, Amen; let all adore thee,  
High on thine eternal throne:  
Saviour, take the power and glory;  
Claim the kingdom for thine own,  
O come quickly! Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!

*Music, Thomas Olivers (1725–99)*

*Last Verse arranged Martin J. How (b.1931)*

