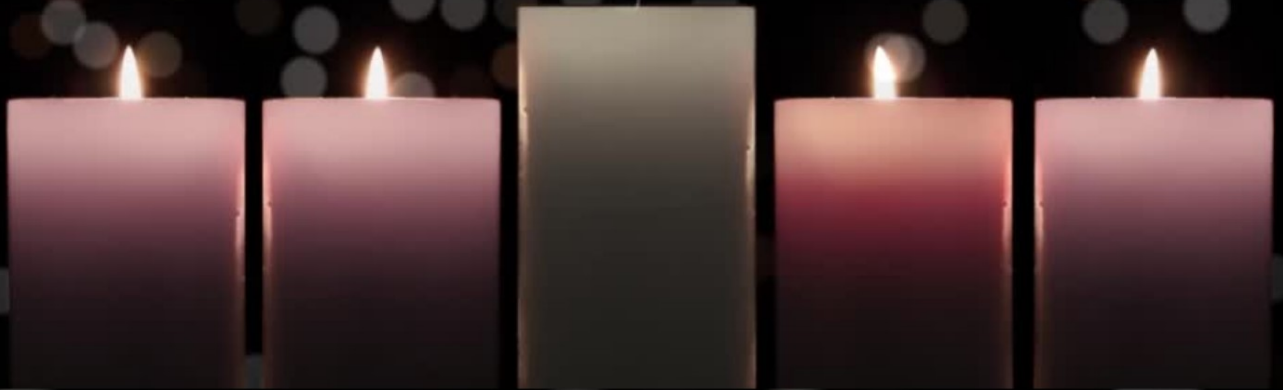


ADVENT 4  
CEREMONY OF ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS  
BASED IN PART ON KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL: LONDON  
DECEMBER 18, 2022  
10:30 AM

*Love*  
THE SEASON  
OF ADVENT



*Welcome to our home!  
We would love for you to join  
our family!*

## The Liturgy of the Word

The English service of lessons and carols in Advent originated in Cornwall, in southern England, where Bishop Edward Benson created the liturgy to be sung at his cathedral in the city of Truro. In 1918 the service was adapted by Eric Milner-White for Kings College, Cambridge, and in that form it has become a beloved tradition in many cathedrals and parishes in England and North America. The lessons provide for focus on the creation and re-creation (or redemption) of humankind, especially the words of the prophets proclaiming God's promises of a "new heaven and a new earth" through the coming of the Messiah. This year's program is centered around the seven "O Antiphons" (also called the "Greater Antiphons" or "Major Antiphons") which are prayers that come from the Breviary's Vespers during the Octave before Christmas Eve, a time which is called the "Golden Nights." Each Antiphon begins with "O" and addresses Jesus with a unique title which comes from the prophecies of Isaiah (Isaiah) and Micheas (Micah), and whose initials, when read backwards, form an acrostic for the Latin "Ero Cras" which means "Tomorrow I come." Those titles for Christ are:

<b>Latin</b>	<b>English</b>
<b>Sapientia</b>	Wisdom
<b>Adonai</b>	Lord of Israel
<b>Radix Jesse</b>	Root of Jesse
<b>Clavis David</b>	Key of David
<b>Oriens</b>	Radiant Dawn
<b>Rex Gentium</b>	King of All Nations
<b>Emmanuel</b>	God With US

An antiphon (*Greek* "opposite"+"voice") in Christian music and ritual, is a "responsory" by a choir or congregation, usually in Gregorian chant, to a psalm or other text in a religious service or musical work.

### Advent Candle Lighting

**Reader 1:** According to tradition, each candle has a special meaning. The fourth candle symbolizes love. Christmas happened because of God's great love for all people.

**Reader 2:** "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." John 3:16.

**Reader 1:** At Christmas, God gave us the best gift ever. He sent his Son, Jesus, to live among us and show us the way.

**Reader 2:** During this week, take a moment to reflect on God's love in Jesus as our greatest Christmas gift.

*All four candles are lit and all say:*

**People:** **Four candles, burning bright, chasing away the darkness from light.  
Four candles, glowing light, the blessing of God, giving new sight.**

**Processional Hymn: #56**

**O come, O come Emanuel  
(v. 1,2,6,8)**

*Please stand & sing as you are able.*

### Opening Acclamation

**Celebrant:** Blessed are you, holy and living One.

**People:** **You come to your people and set them free.**

### Collect For Purity

**Celebrant:** Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Trisagion

*Please remain standing.*



Ho-ly God, Ho-ly Might-y One, Ho-ly Im-mor-tal One Have mer-cy on us and on the whole world.

Ho-ly God, Ho-ly Might-y One, Ho-ly Im-mor-tal One Have mer-cy on us and on the whole world.

Ho-ly God, Ho-ly Might-y One, Ho-ly Im-mor-tal One Have mer-cy on us and on the whole world.

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The melody is a simple, flowing line with a final cadence marked 'rit.' (ritardando) on the third staff.

## Collect of the Day

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray. Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Bidding Prayer

*Book of Occasional Services p. 32*

*Celebrant:* 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 to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of 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 his whole world, for peace and justice on 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 unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## Antiphon I: O Sapientia (sa.pi.'en.ti.a)

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

*People:* **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

## Reading I:

**Knowledge of good and evil**

**Genesis 3:1-15**

## Hymn: #423

**Immortal Invisible (v.1,3,4)**

*Please remain seated.*

**Antiphon II: O Adonai**

*Celebrant:* O come, o come, Thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times did give the law, in cloud, and majesty, and awe.

*People:* **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**Reading II: Prepare the way of the Lord *Isaiah 40:1-11***

**Song: Prepare the Way** *Please remain seated.*

**Antiphon III: O Radix Jesse**

*Celebrant:* O come, Thou Rod of Jesse's stem, from ev'ry foe deliver them that trust Thy mighty power to save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

*People:* **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**Reading III: The way of the redeemed *Isaiah 35:1-10***

**Hymn: #66 Come, thou long expected Jesus** *Please remain seated.*

**Antiphon IV: O Clavis David**

*Celebrant:* O come, Thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home, make safe the way that leads on high, that we no more have cause to sigh.

*People:* **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**Reading IV: Immanuel, God with us *Isaiah 7:10-15***

**Hymn: #76 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's cry (v. 1, 2, 5)** *Please remain seated.*

**Antiphon V: O Oriens**

*Celebrant:* O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh; disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death's dark shadow put to flight.

*People:* **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**Reading V: The King will come from Bethlehem *Micah 5:2-4***

**Hymn: #79 O Little Town of Bethlehem (v. 1, 5)** *Please remain seated.*

**Antiphon VI: O Rex Gentium**

*Celebrant:* O come, Desire of the nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind; bid every strife and quarrel cease and fill the world with heaven's peace.

*People:* **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**Reading VI: A little child shall lead them *Isaiah 11:1-9***

**Hymn: #81 Lo How a Rose (v. 1-2)** *Please remain seated.*

**Antiphon VII: O Emmanuel**

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

*People:* **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**Reading VII: Luke 1:26-38 Mary Consents** *Please remain seated.*

**Solo: Mary Did You Know? *Lora Sellers***

## Nicene Creed

*Please stand as you are able.*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

*Form VI—BCP p. 392*

*Please kneel, sit or stand.*

*Reader:* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence.*

*Reader:* For all people in their daily life and work;

*People:* **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

*Reader:* For this community, the nation, and the world;

*People:* **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

*Reader:* For the just and proper use of your creation;

*People:* **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

*Reader:* For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

*People:* **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

*Reader:* For the peace and unity of the Church of God, especially St. Paul's, Clinton; Whirlwind Mission, Watonga; Diocese of Western Massachusetts; Diocese of Albany; and The Church of Bangladesh;

*People:* **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

*Reader:* For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Poulson, our Bishop; Chris & Tom, our clergy; Alex & Pat, our wardens; our vestry and delegates;

*People:* **For all who serve God in his Church.**

*Reader:* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

*Reader:* Hear us, Lord;

*People:* **For your mercy is great.**

*Reader:* We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence. The People may add their own thanksgivings.*

*Reader:* We will exalt you, O God our King;

*People:* **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

*Reader:* We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

*Reader:* Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
*People:* **Who put their trust in you.**  
*Reader:* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Reader & People:* **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Absolution**

*Please kneel, sit, or stand.*

*Celebrant:* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

## **Peace**

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People:* **And also with you.**

*Greet one another in the name of Christ.*

## **Announcements, Birthdays & Anniversary Blessings**

*Please be seated.*

*Welcome to our guests today. If you are new to Grace for the first time or even if you have been here once or twice before, please fill out a visitor card and put it in the plate. We promise not to harass you, but we would like to include you on our weekly email broadcasts and other event notifications. Thank you for the blessing of your presence today.*

*Celebrant:* Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.  
*Ephesians 5:2*

## **Offertory Music:**

***Think About His Love***

***Choir***

## **Doxology**

*Please stand as you are able.*

*Celebrant:* All things come of thee, O Lord,  
*People:* **And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

## **We Share the Meal**

*Celebrant:* Almighty Father, whose dear Son, on the night before He suffered, instituted the Sacrament of His Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, Who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant:* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*Celebrant & People:* **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.**

**Celebrant:** The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*At Grace Episcopal Church, all baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please tell the usher if you need communion brought to you at your seat. IF you wish to receive the bread only, hold your palms upward, consume the bread, and cross your arms over your chest when the chalice bearer approaches. Those who do not wish to receive Holy Communion are invited to come to the altar rail to receive a Blessing, indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest when the priest approaches.*

## **Communion Music**

### **We Go Into the World**

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

**Celebrant & People:**

**Gracious Father, we give you praise and thanks for this Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of your beloved Son Jesus Christ, the pledge of our redemption; and we pray that it may bring us forgiveness of our sins, strength in our weakness, and everlasting salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Advent Blessing**

**Celebrant:** May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## **Recessional Hymn: #100**

***Joy to the World ( Vs. 1-2,4)***

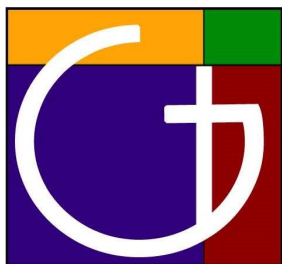
*Please stand & sing.*

## **Dismissal**

**Celebrant:** Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

*You are invited to join us in the parish hall for coffee hour .  
We would like to get to know you better.*



Grace Episcopal

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**Social Media:** [Facebook.com/GraceMuskogee](https://www.facebook.com/GraceMuskogee) & [Twitter.com/GraceMuskogee](https://twitter.com/GraceMuskogee)

**Ministers:** All the People of God (BCP p. 855)

**Priest in Charge:** The Rev. Chris Cole

**Sr. Warden:** Alex Wilson

**Jr. Warden:** Pat Wilcox

**Deacon Emeritus:** The Rev. Thomas A. Harrington

**Music Director:** Ken Yadon

**Youth & Children's Director:** Nancy Scott

