

A SERVICE OF ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS



*Sunday, December 13, 2020, at 5 o'clock in the evening
The Third Sunday of Advent*

Church of the Atonement
5749 N. Kenmore Ave. Chicago, IL 60660
www.atonementchicago.org

Welcome to the Church of the Atonement!

We are so glad that you have chosen to join us in prayer and song in this holy season of Advent.

You are most welcome to worship with us any day and every day and to join us in serving our neighborhood and the world in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Weekly Worship Schedule

Daily, Morning Prayer at 8:30 am on Facebook Live (@ atonementchicago)

Tuesday, Evening Prayer at 6:30 pm (Zoom)

Saturday, Holy Rosary at 9:30 am on Facebook Live (@atonementchicago)

Sunday, Sung Mass at 11:00 am (Zoom)

Choral Evensong on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm as scheduled.

Choral Evensong & Benediction on Sundays at 4:00 pm as scheduled.

Check our website for updates about in-person worship in the new year.



PRELUDE (*sung by the Schola*)

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.

Judith Weir

*Throughout the service, the People say or sing that which appears in **bold print**.*

RESPONSORY

Chant

I look from afar: and lo, I see the power of God coming
and a cloud covering the whole earth.
Go ye out to meet him, and say, "Tell us, who art thou?
Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel?"
High and low, rich and poor, one with another:
go ye out to meet him, and say, "Art thou he that should come?"
Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep:
"Tell us, art thou he?"
Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come:
come to reign over thy people Israel.
Glory be to God: Glory to the Son: Glory to the Spirit.

The Rector prays

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, as we await the great festival of Christmas let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning. Let us hear, in lessons from Holy Scripture, how the prophets of Israel foretold that God would visit and redeem his waiting people. Let us rejoice, in our carols and hymns, that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled. Let us celebrate the promise that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, will bring all people and all things into the glory of God's eternal kingdom. The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them. But first, let us pray for the world which God so loves, for those who have not heard the good news of God, or who do not believe it; for those who walk in darkness and the shadow of death; and for the Church in this place and everywhere, that it may be freed from all evil and fear, and may in pure joy lift up the light of the love of God. These our prayers and praises let us humbly offer to God, in the words which Christ himself taught us:

All say together

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.

HYMN (recorded in 2012)

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds descend - ing, once for
 2 Ev - every eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-8

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD's hand double for all her sins. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodness thereof is as the flower of the field: The grass withereth, the flower

fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

The St. Cecilia Choir sings

ANTHEM

Charles Wood

O Thou the central orb of righteous love,
Pure beam of the most high,
Eternal light of this our wintry world,
Thy radiance bright awakes new joy in faith,
Hope soars above, above.

Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine,
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine.

Thy saints with holy lustre round Thee move,
As stars about thy throne, set in the height
of God's ordaining counsel, as Thy sight
gives measur'd grace to each, Thy power to prove.

Let Thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin,
Our nature all shall feel eternal day,
In fellowship with Thee,
Transforming day to souls while ere unclean,
now pure within, now pure within. Amen.

(H.R. Bramley)

The People sing the Hymn on the following page.



HYMN

1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
 2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
 3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er

saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
 far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
 pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,

mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
 since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
 as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry

ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
 cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
 of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;

tell her that her sins I cov - er,
 let the val - leys rise to meet him
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken

and her war - fare now is o - ver.
 and the hills bow down to greet him.
 that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

THE SECOND LESSON

Jeremiah 23:5-6

Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

1 Sa - vior of the na - tions, come! Vir - gin's
 2 Won - drous birth! Oh, won - drous child of the
 3 Thus on earth the Word ap - pears, grac - ing
 4 Come, O Fa - ther's sav - ing Son, who o'er

Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, both
 Vir - gin un - de - filed! Might - y God and
 his cre - a - ted spheres; hence to death and
 sin the vic - tory won. Bound - less shall your

heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
 Ma - ry's son, ea - ger now his race to run!
 hell de - scends, then the heaven - ly throne a - scends.
 king - dom be; grant that we its glo - ries see.

THE THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 35:1-6

The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing: the glory of Lebanon shall be given unto it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD, and the excellency of our God. Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.

The Schola sings

ANTHEM

Ralph Vaughan 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.

And 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.

And at that season of the year
Our blest Redeemer did appear;
He here did live, and here did preach,
And may thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved,
To show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way,
Be pleased to hear what he did say.

HYMN



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

THE FOURTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-35

And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born

of thee shall be called the Son of God. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

The combined Atonement Choirs sing

CANTICLE

Magnificat

Herbert Brewer

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
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 showed 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 to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE FIFTH LESSON

Mark 1:1-15

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins. And John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey; And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose. I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost. And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him: And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And immediately the spirit driveth him into the wilderness. And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him. Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

ANTHEM (*Atonement Choir, recorded in 2016*)

Jonathan Dove

Seek Him that maketh the seven stars and Orion
and turneth the shadow of death into the morning.
Alleluia, yea, the darkness shineth as the day,
the night is light about me.
Amen.

ANTHEM

Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme

J. S. Bach



If you would like to make a donation to support Atonement's ministries, including music ministries, please donate online at www.atonementchicago.org/donate, by mailing a check to 5749 N. Kenmore Ave., Chicago, IL, 60660, or by clicking "donate" on our Facebook page (@atonementchicago). Thank you for your gift!



THE VESPER RESPONSORY

Priest Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;
Choir Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.
Priest Stand ye still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.
Choir Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.
Priest Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
Choir Tomorrow go ye forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Priest We wait for thy loving kindness, O Lord;

People **in the midst of thy temple.**

Priest Let us pray. O God, who makest us glad with the yearly expectation of thy coming: Grant that we, who with joy receive thy only-begotten Son as our Redeemer, may without fear behold him when he shall come to be our Judge, even thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.
Amen.

THE BLESSING

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people, love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

HYMN

Descant

2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
 2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
 3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par-don down from heaven;
 4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.
 5 with the ev - er - last-ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, O ye child-ren of the day."
 2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.
 3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;
 4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
 5 with the ev - er - last-ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

VOLUNTARY

Toccata on *Veni Emmanuel*

Andrew Carter

PARTICIPANTS

The Very Rev'd Erika L. Takacs, Officiant
Charles T. Segal, Director of Music and Organist
Dr. Christopher Windle, Associate Director of Music and Choirmaster

Readers

Hugo Kim
Aron Dunlap
Sarah Idzik
The Rev'd Jason Elliott
The Very Rev'd Erika L. Takacs

Offertory Musicians

Dave Barford (French horn)
Debbie Barford (English horn)

The Choirs of Atonement

St. Cecilia Choir

Dave Barford
Debbie Barford
Dave Beil
Howell Browne
Marian DeBerry
Joe Gauss
Tanya Evanoff
Martin Hill
Don Hovey
Sarah Idzik
Anne Katzfey
Carl Klein
Nancy Klein

Kate Mayer
Jeremy McElroy
Meghan Murphy-Gill
Joanne Pekieser
John Perryman
Daniel Polley
Malia Ropp
Jack Taipala
Peg Tomaszek-Witry
Cate Schmittle
Hugh Smart
Ed Spire
Carole Trapp

Schola

Justin Berkowitz
Katelyn Lee
Molly Phelan
William Roberts
Joe Shadday
Ryan Strand
Anna VanDeKerchove
Max Weir