



ST. GERTRUDE  
CHURCH



ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 10, 2023 at 3 P.M.



# ORDER OF SERVICE

Advent Lessons and Carols

## THE PROCESSION

*All gather in silence.*

### PROCESSION

*At the ringing of the sacristy bell, all stand and sing as follows:*



*Solo:* 1. Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, thy peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,  
*Choir:* 2. Our Fa - ther heard the help - less cry of all cre - a - tion doomed to die,  
*All:* 3. Thou cam - est, Bride - groom of the bride, as drew the world to eve - ning tide,  
 4. To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



Je - su, Re - deem - er, save us all, and hear thy ser - vants when they call.  
 And saved our lost and guil - ty race By heal - ing gifts of heav'n - ly grace.  
 Pro - ceed - ing from a vir - gin shrine, the spot - less Vic - tim all di - vine.  
 laud, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

*Words: seventh century — Conditore alme syderum, trans. John Mason Neale  
 Music: Plainchant, arr. Christopher Holman*

### INVOCATION

*The Pastor says:*

Let us pray. O Christ, our refuge and strength, the hope of mankind, most ardently desired and longed for, whose light shines from afar upon the dark clouds which hang about us: behold, the time of your coming draws near. O Wisdom, O Adonai, O Root of Jesse, O Key of David, O Radiant Dawn, O King of the nations, O Emmanuel: behold, your faithful people cry unto you. Hear us, O God, our Savior, who are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of those afar on the wide sea. Guide us among the tempests that beset our course, and bring us safely to the haven of those eternal shores, where there shall be no death, neither sorrow, nor crying, nor any more pain. Let the faith you have planted in our hearts work in us, so that at the hour of our death, we may be made worthy of salvation to eternal life.

**Amen.**

*Words: Saint Gertrude the Great*

# I. O WISDOM

## ANTIPHON

*All sit as the Novitiate Choir sings:*

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, who proceeded from the mouth  
of the Most High,  
reaching from one end to the other,  
and ordering all things with power and love:  
come to teach us the path of knowledge.

*Music: Dominican Chant*

## LESSON

*Read by the President of the Pastoral Council*

Now the snake was the most cunning of all the wild animals that the Lord God had made. He asked the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You shall not eat from any of the trees in the garden?’” The woman answered the snake: “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; it is only about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden that God said, ‘You shall not eat it or even touch it, or else you will die.’” But the snake said to the woman: “You certainly will not die! God knows well that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, who know good and evil.” The woman saw that the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eyes, and the tree was desirable for gaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

When they heard the sound of the Lord God walking about in the garden at the breezy time of the day, the man and his wife hid themselves from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. The Lord God then called to the man and asked him: “Where are you?” He answered, “I heard you in the garden; but I was afraid, because I was naked, so I hid.” Then God asked: “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I had forbidden you to eat?” The man replied, “The woman whom you put here with me — she gave me fruit from the tree, so I ate it.” The Lord God then asked the woman: “What is this you have done?” The woman answered, “The snake tricked me, so I ate it.”

Then the Lord God said to the snake: “Because you have done this, cursed are you among all the animals, tame or wild; on your belly you shall crawl, 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; they will strike at your head, while you strike at their heel.”

To the woman he said: “I will intensify your toil in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Yet your urge shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.”

To the man he said: “Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat from it,’ Cursed is the ground because of you! In toil you shall eat its yield all the days of your life. Thorns and thistles it shall bear for you, and you shall eat the grass of the field. By the sweat of your brow you shall eat bread, until you return to the ground, from which you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

The man gave his wife the name “Eve,” because she was the mother of all the living. The Lord God made for the man and his wife garments of skin, with which he clothed them. Then the Lord God said: See! The man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil! Now, what if he also reaches out his hand to take fruit from the tree of life, and eats of it and lives forever?

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Genesis 3:1–22*

## CAROL

*The Schola Cantorum sings:*

The Lord at first did Adam make out of the dust and clay,  
And in his nostrils breathed life, e'en as the Scriptures say.  
And then in Eden's paradise he placed him to dwell,  
That he within it should remain, to dress and keep it well.

And thus within the garden he was set, therein to stay;  
And in commandment unto him these words the Lord did say:  
“The fruit which in the garden grows to thee shall be for meat,  
except the tree in the midst thereof, of which thou shalt not eat.

“For in the day thou shalt it touch or dost to it come nigh,  
If so thou do but eat thereof, then thou shalt surely die.”  
But Adam, he did take no heed unto that only thing,  
But did transgress God's holy Law and so was wrapt in sin.

Now mark the goodness of the Lord which he to mankind bore;  
His mercy soon he did extend, lost man for to restore:  
And therefore to redeem our souls from death and hell and thrall,  
He said his own dear Son should be the Savior of us all.

Now let good Christians wake from sleep, let darkness turn to day,  
And sinners find in mutual love, the straight and narrow way.

*Words and music: traditional West English, arr. C. Holman*

## RESPONSORY

*All stand*

Come, O Wisdom, sweeter than all sweetest delights.  
*Come, O Wisdom, and do not disdain your poor people.*

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Words: Saint Gertrude the Great*

## COLLECT

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that we, who are weighed down from of old by slavery  
beneath the yoke of sin, may be set free by the newness of the long-awaited Nativity of your  
Only Begotten Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for  
ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*All sit*

## II. O ADONAI

### ANTIPHON

O Adonai, et dux domus Israëli,  
qui Moyse in igne flammae rubi apparuisti,  
et ei in Sina legem dedisti:  
veni ad redimendum nos in brachio extento.

*O Lord and leader of the house of Israel,  
who appeared to Moses in red flames  
and on Sinai gave him the law:  
come to free us with your outstretched arm.*

*The Novitiate Choir sings:*

*Music: Dominican Chant*

### LESSON

Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. Leading the flock across the desert, he came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There an angel of the LORD appeared to Moses in fire flaming out of a bush. As he looked on, he was surprised to see that the bush, though on fire, was not consumed. So Moses decided, “I must go over to look at this remarkable sight, and see why the bush is not burned.”

When the LORD saw him coming over to look at it more closely, God called out to him from the bush, “Moses! Moses!” He answered, “Here I am.” God said, “Come no nearer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your fathers,” he continued, “the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob.” Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. But the LORD said, “I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry of complaint against their slave drivers, so I know well what they are suffering. Therefore I have come down to rescue them from the hands of the Egyptians and lead them out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Exodus 3:1–8a*

## CAROL

*The Capella sings:*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence and stand with fear and trembling,  
and lift itself above all earthly thought.

For the King of kings and Lord of lords, Christ our God,  
cometh forth to be our oblation, and to be given for food to the faithful.

Before Him come the choirs of angels with every principality and power;  
the Cherubim with many eyes, and winged Seraphim,  
who veil their faces as they shout exultingly the hymn: Alleluia!

*Words: Liturgy of Saint James (Byzantine Rite)*

*Music: Edward Bairstow*

## RESPONSORY

*All stand*

Come, O Adonai, O sweetest Manna.

*Come, O Adonai, and satisfy our exceeding hunger.*

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Words: Saint Gertrude the Great*

## COLLECT

Stir up your power, we pray, O Lord, and come, that with you to protect us, we may find  
rescue from the pressing dangers of our sins, and with you to set us free, we may be found  
worthy of salvation. Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*All sit*

### III. O ROOT OF JESSE

#### ANTIPHON

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

*The Novitiate Choir sings:*

*O Root of Jesse,  
who stand as a sign among the peoples,  
kings fall silent in your presence,  
whom the Gentiles will seek:  
come to deliver us, do not delay.*

*Music: Dominican Chant*

#### LESSON

*Read by a Lay Dominican*

A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD, and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD. Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide, but he shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land's afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Justice shall be the band around his waist, and faithfulness a belt upon his hips. Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them. The cow and the bear shall be neighbors, together their young shall rest; the lion shall eat hay like the ox. The baby shall play by the cobra's den, and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair. There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD, as water covers the sea. On that day, the root of Jesse, set up as a signal for the nations, the Gentiles shall seek out, for his dwelling shall be glorious.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Isaiah 11:1–10*



## CAROL

*The Schola Cantorum sings:*

A tender shoot has started up from a root of grace,  
as ancient seers imparted from Jesse's holy race:  
It blooms without a blight, blooms in the cold bleak winter,  
turning our darkness into light.

This shoot Isaiah taught us, from Jesse's root should spring;  
The Virgin Mary brought us the branch of which we sing;  
Our God of endless might gave her this child to save us,  
Thus turning darkness into light.

*Words and music: Otto Goldschmidt, trans. William Bartholomew*

## RESPONSORY

*All stand*

Come, O Root of Jesse, heavenly Physician.  
*Come, O Root of Jesse, and heal our stricken souls.*

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Words: Saint Gertrude the Great*

## COLLECT

Almighty God, who command us to prepare the way for Christ the Lord, grant in your kindness, we pray, that no infirmity may weary us as we long for the comforting presence of our heavenly physician. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*All sit*

## IV. O KEY OF DAVID

### ANTIPHON

O Clavis David,  
et sceptrum domus Israël,  
qui aperis, et nemo claudit,  
claudis, et nemo aperuit:  
veni, et educ vincitum de domo carceris,  
sedentem in tenebris, et umbra mortis.

*The Novitiate Choir sings:*

*O Key of David,  
and scepter of the house of Israel,  
you open, and no one shuts,  
you shut, and no one opens:  
come, and lead the captive from prison,  
seated in darkness and in the shadow of death.*

*Music: Dominican Chant*

### LESSON

*Read by the Master of Novices*

Thus says the LORD: lo, I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the things of the past shall not be remembered or come to mind. Instead, there shall always be rejoicing and happiness in what I create; for I create Jerusalem to be a joy and its people to be a delight; I will rejoice in Jerusalem and exult in my people. No longer shall the sound of weeping be heard there, or the sound of crying; no longer shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not round out his full lifetime; he dies a mere youth who reaches but a hundred years, and he who fails of a hundred shall be thought accursed. They shall live in the houses they build, and eat the fruit of the vineyards they plant.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Isaiah 65:17–21*

## CAROL

*The Parish Choir sings:*

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I, John, saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things are passed away."

*Words: Revelation 21:1–4*

*Music: Edgar Bainton*

## RESPONSORY

*All stand*

Come, O Key of David, a thousandfold above all others beloved.

*Come, O Key of David, spring of inexhaustible sweetness.*

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Words: Saint Gertrude the Great*

## COLLECT

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that your family may walk in the way of salvation, and that those who trust in your compassion may share the unending banquet in a new heaven and a new earth, where the fullness of your peace will shine forth. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*All sit*

# V. O RADIANT DAWN

## ANTIPHON

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

*The Novitiate Choir sings:*

*O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light  
and sun of justice: come and shine on those who  
dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.*

*Music: Dominican Chant*

## LESSON

*Read by a Dominican sister*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They shall name him Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Isaiah 9:1–6a*

## CAROL

*The Parish Choir and Schola Cantorum sing:*

O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice:  
come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.  
Isaiah had prophesied, “the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.”

*Words: after “O Oriens” and Isaiah 9:1*

*Music: James MacMillan*

## RESPONSORY

*All stand*

Come, O Radiant Dawn, O bright and genial Sun.

*Come, O Radiant Dawn, scatter the thick darkness which hangs upon our souls.*

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Words: Saint Gertrude the Great*

## COLLECT

May the splendor of your glory dawn in our hearts, we pray, almighty God, that all shadows of the night may be scattered and we may be shown to be children of light by the advent of your Only Begotten Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*All sit*

## VI. O KING OF THE NATIONS

### ANTIPHON

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

*The Novitiate Choir sings:*

*O King of the nations,  
and their desire,  
the cornerstone,  
who makes both peoples one:  
come and save mankind,  
whom you formed from clay.*

*Music: Dominican Chant*

### LESSON

*Read by the Prior*

A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was with child and wailed aloud in pain as she labored to give birth. Then another sign appeared in the sky; it was a huge red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on its heads were seven diadems. Its tail swept away a third of the stars in the sky and hurled them down to the earth. Then the dragon stood before the woman about to give birth, to devour her child when she gave birth. She gave birth to a son, a male child, destined to rule all the nations with an iron rod. Her child was caught up to God and his throne. The woman herself fled into the desert where she had a place prepared by God.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: “Now have salvation and power come, and the Kingdom of our God and the authority of his Anointed One.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Revelation 12:1–6a, 10ab*

## CAROL

*The Parish Choir sings from the loft:*

Of one that is so fair and bright  
Velut maris stella,  
Brighter than the day is light,  
Parens et puella:  
I cry to thee, thou see to me,  
Lady, pray thy Son for me  
Tam pia,  
That I may come to thee.  
Maria!

All this world was forlorn  
Eva peccatrice,  
Till our Lord was y-born  
De te genetrix.  
With ave it went away  
Darkest night, and comes the day  
Salutis  
The well springeth out of thee.  
Virtutis.

Lady, flow'r of ev'rything,  
Rosa sine spina,  
Thou bare Jesu, Heaven's King,  
Gratia divina:  
Of all thou bear'st the prize,  
Lady, queen of paradise  
Electa:  
Maid mild, mother  
es Effecta.

*The Schola sings from the Altar of Our Lady:*

*like the star of the sea,*

*Mother and maiden:*

*so virtuous,*

*Mary!*

*through Eve, the sinner,*

*of you, the mother.*

*of salvation*

*of virtue.*

*Rose without thorn,*

*by divine grace:*

*Chosen One:*

*you are made.*

*Words: fourteenth century  
Music: Benjamin Britten*

## RESPONSORY

*All stand*

Come, O King of the nations, fairest of the sons of men.

*Come, O King of the nations, and enrich our great poverty.*

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Words: Saint Gertrude the Great*

## COLLECT

O God, Creator and Redeemer of human nature, who willed that your Word should take flesh in an ever-virgin womb, look with favor on our prayers, that your Only Begotten Son, having taken to himself our humanity, may be pleased to grant us a share in his divinity. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

*All sit*

# VII. O EMMANUEL

## ANTIPHON

*The Novitiate Choir sings:*

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

*O Emmanuel, our King and Governor,  
one awaited by the nations and their Savior:  
come to save us,  
O Lord our God.*

*Music: Dominican Chant*

## LESSON

*Read by the Pastor*

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and



will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his Kingdom there will be no end.” But Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?” And the angel said to her in reply, “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 called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God.” Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Luke 1:26–38*

## CAROL

*The Capella sings:*

Salve, Regina, Mater misericordiae,  
vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra, salve.  
Ad te clamamus exsules filii Hevæ,  
Ad te suspiramus, gementes et  
flentes in hac lacrimarum valle.

*Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercies,  
Our life, our sweetness, and our hope, hail.  
To you we cry, poor banished children of Eve;  
to you we send up our sighs, mourning and  
weeping in this valley of tears.*

Eia, ergo, advocata nostra, illos tuos  
misericordes oculos ad nos converte;  
Et Jesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui,  
nobis post hoc exsilium ostende.  
O clemens, O pia, O dulcis Virgo Maria.

*Ah, then, our advocate, those your  
eyes of mercy turn toward us;  
and Jesus, the blessed fruit of your womb,  
after this, our exile, show unto us.  
O clement, O pious, O sweet Virgin Mary.*

*Words: twelfth century  
Music: Herbert Howells*

## RESPONSORY

*All stand*

Hail Mary, fair Lily of the radiant and ever-peaceful Trinity.

*Hail Mary, radiant Rose of heavenly fragrance.*

**Uphold and aid us poor sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.**

*Words: Saint Gertrude the Great*

## COLLECT

O God, eternal majesty, whose ineffable Word the immaculate Virgin received through the message of an Angel and so became the dwelling-place of divinity, filled with the light of the Holy Spirit: grant, we pray, that by her example we may in humility hold fast to your will. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS

### THE RESPONSES

*All kneel as the cantor and Capella sing in dialogue:*

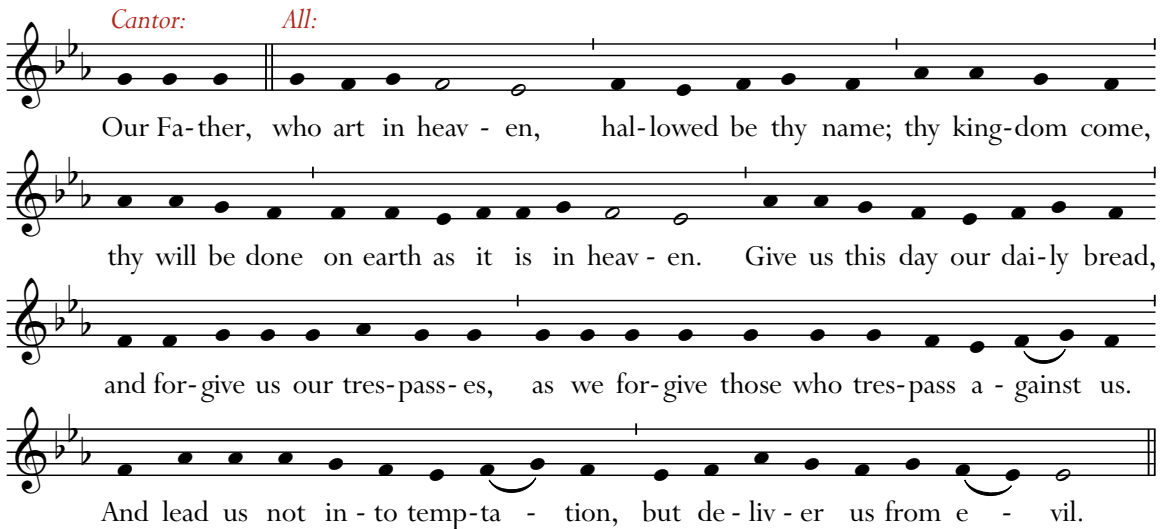
The Lord be with you.

*And with thy spirit.*

Let us pray.

*Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.*

*Cantor:*      *All:*



Our Fa-ther, who art in heav - en, hal-lowed be thy name; thy king-dom come,  
thy will be done on earth as it is in heav - en. Give us this day our dai-ly bread,  
and for-give us our tres-pass-es, as we for-give those who tres-pass a - gainst us.  
And lead us not in - to temp-ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.

*The cantor and Capella continue the dialogue:*

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

*And grant us thy salvation.*

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

*And make thy chosen people joyful.*

O Lord, save thy people.

*And bless thine inheritance.*

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

*Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.*

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

*And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.*

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor 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 Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.*

*Words: Responses of Evensong (Ordinariate Use)*

*Music: William Smith*

## INVOCATION

Let us pray together in the words of our patroness, Saint Gertrude the Great:

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

**Come and be present with me**

**in the meager chamber of my heart.**

**And though I have made ready nothing**

**which is becoming of your dazzling magnificence,**

**yet there will you find a heart that you love,**

**which tends to you alone,**

**and gives affections only to you. Amen.**

Saint Gertrude the Great:

**Pray for us.**

Holy Father Dominic:

**Pray for us.**

Holy Mary, Mother of God:

**Pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

## HYMN

*All stand and sing:*

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

*Saint Michael Hymnal 610: verses 1, 2, and 4*

*Descant: Christopher Holman*

## SOLEMN BLESSING

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

Bow down for the blessing.

*All bow*

May the almighty and merciful God, by whose grace you have placed your faith in the First Coming of his Only Begotten Son and yearn for his coming again sanctify you by the radiance of Christ's Advent and enrich you with his blessing.

**Amen.**

As you run the race of this present life, may he make you firm in faith, joyful in hope, and active in charity.

**Amen.**

So that, rejoicing now with devotion at the Redeemer's coming in the flesh, you may be endowed with the rich reward of eternal life when he comes again in majesty.

**Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

**Amen.**

Go in peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RECESSION

Magnificat primi toni: III. Gloria Patri

*Hieronymus Praetorius*