



*A Solemn Service
of
Lessons & Carols
for
Advent Sunday*

**The Church of
St John the Evangelist
Gordon**

Rector Locum Tenens: Rev'd Fr Ernest Chau

Sunday, 29 November 2020 at 7.30pm

Live-streamed

with

music led by
cantor and organ

Advent Carols

Traditionally, the Church prepares for celebrating the coming of Christ during the season of Advent. The word 'advent' comes from the Latin adventus which, being translated, means 'coming'. It in turn comes from the Greek parousia which refers to the second coming of Christ.

The ancient people of God, the Jews, looked forward to the coming of a new order in the Kingdom of God. The early Christian Church saw this fulfilled in the coming of Christ, but looked forward, as we do, to a second coming and the final consummation of all; and so we ever pray, 'Thy Kingdom come!' Thus, in Advent we anticipate two comings.

The first coming of Christ is foretold by the prophets in the readings at Advent Carols as we trace salvation history. At the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols (on the last Sunday of Advent, the Sunday next before Christmas, at 7.30pm) we hear of Christ's first coming in his nativity at Bethlehem. The second coming we long for still.

Come, Lord Jesus.

*Cover picture from the Project Gutenberg EBook of Old Picture Books, by Alfred W. Pollard.
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*Gospel Alleluia from Missa Sancti Joannis by Brett McKern.
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Order of Service

Advent Carols

The church is lit by candlelight.

Prelude: Organ

Introit: *The Advent Prose* (Plainsong)

Sung by the cantor from the Sanctuary step

Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.

- 1. Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity for ever: thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation: our holy and beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee.*
- 2. We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing, and we all do fade as a leaf: and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away; thou hast hid thy face from us: and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.*
- 3. Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen; that ye may know me and believe me: I, even I, am the Lord, and beside me there is no Saviour: and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.*
- 4. Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry: I have blotted out 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.*

The cantor then leaves the chancel and joins the Sanctuary party for the candlelight procession.

Processional Hymn: 11 *O Come Immanuel*

Sung by all standing, by candlelight

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, 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.

**3. 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.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
*Immanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.***

**4. 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.**

**5. O come, thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.**

*Latin, twelfth century;
trans. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), 1851*

Remain standing.

The Congregation standing and holding their candles, shall be bidden to Prayer in these words:

The Bidding Prayer:

Rector: 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 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 Saviour, Jesus Christ, will bring all men 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 God so loves, for those who have not heard the good news of God, or 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 prayers and praises let us humbly offer to God, in the words which Christ himself taught us:

All: **Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come;
Thy will be done;
In earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that 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.**

All sit.

Carol: *Adam lay ybounden* (Peter Warlock)

Sung by a cantor

1. *Adam lay ybounden,
Bounden in a bond;
Four thousand winter
Thought he not too long.*

2. *And all was for an apple,
An apple that he took.
As clerkës finden written
In their book.*

3. *Ne had the apple taken been,
The apple taken been,
Ne had never Our Lady,
A-been heaven's queen.*

4. *Blessed be the time
That apple taken was!
Therefore we may singen
Deo gratias!*

15th Century English text
Music by Peter Warlock (1894-1930)

First Lesson: Isaiah 40:1-8

The Lector saith: *Here beginneth the fortieth chapter of the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

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 goodliness 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.

After a short pause, the Lector concludeth: *Here endeth the First Lesson.*

All stand.

Hymn: 3 *Come, thou long-expected Jesus* (Tune ii)

**1. 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.**

**2. Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art:
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.**

**3. Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king,
born to reign in us for ever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**4. By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.**

Charles Wesley (1707-1788), 1744

The congregation sits.

Second Lesson: Jeremiah 23:5-6

The Lector saith: Here beginneth the fifth verse of the twenty-third chapter of the book of Jeremiah.

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.

After a short pause, the Lector concludeth: Here endeth the Second Lesson.

Carol: *When came in flesh the incarnate Word (Anchors)*

Sung by a cantor

1. *WHEN came in flesh the incarnate Word,
The heedless world slept on,
And only simple shepherds heard
That God had sent his Son.*

2. *When comes the Saviour at the last,
From east to west shall shine
The judgement light, and earth aghast
Shall tremble at the sign.*

3. *Dwell in our hearts, O Saviour blest;
So shall thine advent's dawn
'Twixt us and thee, our bosom-guest,
Be but the veil withdrawn.*

Text by Joseph Anstice (1808-36)
Music from W. Anchor's *A Choice
Collection of Psalm Tunes* (1721)

Third Lesson: Zechariah 9:9-10

The Lector saith: Here beginneth the ninth verse of the ninth chapter of the book of Zechariah.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass. And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth.

After a short pause, the Lector concludeth: Here endeth the Third Lesson.

All stand to sing the hymn.

Hymn: 12 *On Jordan's Bank*

1. **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.**

2. **Then cleansed be every Christian breast,
And furnished for so great a guest!
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.**

3. **For thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without thy grace our souls must fade,
And wither like a flower decayed.**

**4. Stretch forth thine hand, to heal our sore,
And make us rise to fall no more;
Once more upon thy people shine,
And fill the world with love divine.**

**5. All praise, eternal Son, to thee
Whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom, with the Father, we adore,
And Holy Ghost, for evermore. Amen.**

*Charles Coffin (1676-1749)
Trans. John Chandler (1808-76)*

All sit.

Fourth Lesson: Haggai 2:6-9

The Lector saith: Here beginneth the sixth verse of the second chapter of the book of Haggai.

For thus saith the Lord of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts. The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts.

After a short pause, the Lector concludeth: Here endeth the Fourth Lesson.

Carol: O thou, the central orb (Wood)

Sung by a cantor

*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.*

*Text by Fr H.R. Bramley (1833-1917)
Music by Charles Wood (1866-1926)*

All stand to sing the hymn.

Hymn: 6 Hark the glad sound!

**1. Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,
The Saviour promised long!
Let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.**

**2. He comes the prisoners to release
In Satan's bondage held;
The gates of brass before him burst,
The iron fetters yield.**

**3. He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of his grace
Enrich the humble poor.**

**4. Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heaven's eternal arches ring
With Thy beloved Name.**

Philip Doddridge (1702-51)

All sit.

Fifth Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-6

The Lector saith: Here beginneth the thirty-fifth chapter of the book of the prophet Isaiah.

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.

After a short pause, the Lector concludeth: Here endeth the Fifth Lesson.

All stand to sing the hymn.

Hymn: 5 *Hark! a herald voice is calling*

1. **Hark! a herald voice is calling:
'Christ is nigh', it seems to say,
'cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!'**

2. **Startled at the solemn warning
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.**

3. **Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heaven;
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all to be forgiven.**

4. **So when next he comes in glory,
and earth's final hour draws near,
may he then as our Defender
On the clouds of heaven appear.**

5. **Honour, glory, virtue, merit,
To the Father and the Son,
With the co-eternal Spirit,
While unending ages run. Amen.**

*From the Latin
Trans. E. Caswall (1814-1878)*

The congregation sits.

Carol: *When an Angel Came* (McKern)

Sung by a cantor

Text by Steve Dawson, *sung with permission.*

Music by Brett McKern (b.1972) for Trent College, UK (1996), *sung with permission.*

Sixth Lesson: St Luke 1:26-35, 38

The Lector saith: Here beginneth the twenty-sixth verse of the first chapter of the Gospel according to St Luke.

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.

After a short pause, the Lector concludeth: Here endeth the Sixth Lesson.

Carol: *Wachet Auf*

Sung by a cantor

1. Chorale Prelude on 'Wachet Auf' (J.S. Bach) - organ
2. Chorale 'Wachet Auf' (trad. Lutheran, harmony by Mendelssohn)

*Wake, O wake! with tidings thrilling
the watchmen all the air are filling,
arise, Jerusalem, arise!
Midnight strikes! no more delaying,
'The hour has come!' we hear them saying.
Where are ye all, ye virgins wise?
The Bridegroom comes in sight,
raise high your torches bright!
Alleluia! The wedding song
swells long and strong:
go forth and join the festal throng.*

*Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608)
trans. F.C. Burkitt (1864-1935)*

*All remain standing for the singing of the hymn. Normally a **collection** would be taken during this hymn. Your offering for the work and ministry of the parish can be made as per the instructions on **page 17**. Thank you.*

Collection Hymn: *Christ is coming!* (Tune 351 Neander)

**1. Christ is coming! Let creation
From her groans and travail cease;
Let the glorious proclamation
Hope restore and faith increase:
Christ is coming! Christ is coming!
Come, thou blessed Prince of Peace.**

**2. Earth can now but tell the story
Of thy bitter Cross and pain;
She shall yet behold thy glory,
When thou comest back to reign:
Christ is coming! Christ is coming!
Let each heart repeat the strain.**

**3. Long thine exiles have been pining,
Far from rest, and home, and thee:
But, in heavenly vestures shining,
They their loving Lord shall see:
Christ is coming! Christ is coming!
Haste the joyous jubilee.**

**4. With that blessed hope before us,
Let no harp remain unstrung;
Let the mighty advent chorus
Onward roll from tongue to tongue:
'Christ is coming! Christ is coming!
Come, Lord Jesus, quickly come!'**

John Ross MacDuff (1818-95)

Remain standing to sing the Gospel Alleluia. All then turn to face the Gospeller as they process.

Gospel Alleluia

Brett McKern, ©2010

Al - le - lu - - - ia, al - le - lu - - -

ia, al - le - lu - - - - - ia.

Alleluia verse:

Cantor Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight | his paths:
all people shall see the sallvation of God.

Seventh Lesson: St Mark 1:1-15

Read by the Rector Locum Tenens, Fr Ernest Chau

Gospeller *All*

The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit.

Gospeller

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

All

+Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospeller 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.



This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The congregations returns to facing east after the Gospel Recession, and all remain standing.

Vesper Responsory

Sung by a cantor

Cantor Judah and Jerusalem, fear not, nor be dismayed;

Response Tomorrow go forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Cantor Stand still, and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord.

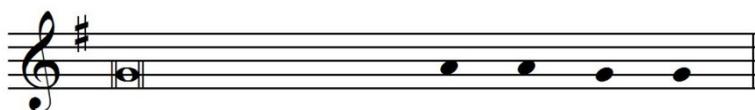
Response Tomorrow go forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Cantor Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

Response Tomorrow go forth, and the Lord, he will be with you.

Versicle & Response

Cantor



We wait for thy loving kind-ness, O Lord.

All



In the midst of thy tem - ple.

The Collect is intoned as followeth.

Collect

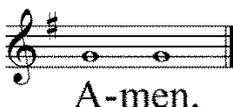


Fr Chau Let us pray.

All kneel.

Fr Chau 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.

All



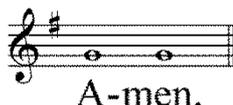
Blessing



Fr Chau Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all men; 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 Ghost, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

All



All stand.

Recessional Hymn: 9 *Lo! He comes with clouds descending*

**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!**

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

Organ Postlude: J.S. Bach, Chorale Prelude on *Herr Christ, der ein'ge
Gottes-Sohn*, BWV601



Offerings

Your financial gift for the work and ministry of the parish can be made by via:

- *EFT: Name: St John's Church Gordon
 BSB: 032083
 A/C: 810231*
- *Post to: Church of St John the Evangelist
 PO Box 295
 Gordon, NSW, 2072*

Thank you.

Upcoming services at St John's:

29 November	7.30pm	Advent Carols Service <i>Live-streamed on the St John the Evangelist Gordon Facebook page</i>
20 December	7.30pm	Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols <i>Live-streamed on the St John the Evangelist Gordon Facebook page</i>
24 December	11.00pm	Midnight Mass <i>Mode of delivery TBA</i>
25 December	8.00am	Festal Sung Communion <i>In-person; see Bulletin and website for registration requirements</i>
	10.00am	Festal Sung Eucharist <i>Live-streamed on the St John the Evangelist Gordon Facebook page</i>

Additionally, regular weekly Sunday services continue at:

8.00am	Sung Communion <i>In-person; see Bulletin and website for registration requirements</i>
9.30am	Solemn Sung Eucharist <i>Live-streamed on the St John the Evangelist Gordon Facebook page</i>

Evensong at St John's, Gordon in 2021 will continue to be sung on the second Sunday of the month at 4pm (March-November). The first Evensong in 2021 will be on 14 March.



ST JOHN'S MUSIC ASSOCIATION

St Augustine said that he who sings, prays twice. From before the building of the present St John's Church, for almost 145 years, music and liturgy have been important to the Parish.

The St John's Music Association Inc. was formed in 2009 to support, conduct and promote the performance of quality music at the Anglican Church of St John the Evangelist Gordon, in the Anglican Church in Australia and in the Sydney region through Anglican liturgical music, concerts and recitals, providing scholarships for organists and singers, maintaining and enhancing the organ of St John's, and providing musical scores and robes for use at St John's.

In 2011 the St John's Music Association was accepted on to the Register of Cultural Organisations. Donations of \$2 and over to the St John's Music Association Public Fund are tax deductible.

Please see Don Yorath (Association Public Officer) or Dr Brett McKern (Director of Music) for further information.

Please consider how you can support the Association or find out more about it. Just complete the information below and return it to PO Box 295 Gordon NSW 2072 or the Parish Office.



St John's Music Association Donation Form

Name:

Address:
.....

Email:

Phone:

- I wish to donate \$..... by -
- Cheque payable to St John's Music Association, or
- Direct credit to the Association's bank account BSB 032-089 A/c 274652. *Please include your name in the description box.*
Tax deductible receipts for donations of \$2 or more will be posted to donors.
- I wish to offer my services as a volunteer to the Association

The Public Officer's contact details:
Don Yorath – email musicassociation@stjohnsgordon.org.au Mobile 0419 285 263