



# Advent Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

4:00 pm

St. Dominic Chapel

As the fall semester ends, the Church's liturgical year begins. Advent is a time of preparation, and Lessons and Carols offers us readings and music to meditate on the ways in which Christ comes to us.

Please join us in singing the hymns and carols in this booklet. We hope that this wonderful Providence College tradition will help you enter more deeply into Advent. May God bless you and your families as we prepare for the celebration of Christmas!

- Gilbert Donohue, Director of Liturgical Music

*Please hold any applause until the end of the service.*

## Prelude Music

**Two Preludes on Veni Emmanuel**

Charles Callahan (1951-2023)

Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

**Es ist ein Ros entsprungen**

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

**Rorate Caeli**

Jeanne Demessieux (1921-1968)

Organists: Gregory Scimeca '26, Matthew Dolan '27

**Matin Responsory** G.P. Palestrina (1525-1594) arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Soloists: Brian Ladino '28, Claire Dancause '26

Alessandra Vicinanzo '28, Jade Bocciarelli '27

*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, 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:*

*Hear, O thou shepherd of Israel,  
thou that ledest Joseph like a sheep.*

*Tell us, art thou he that should come*

*Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come,  
to reign over thy people Israel*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. I look from afar...*

# Processional Hymn

*Please stand and join in singing:*

## O Come, O Come Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

*All* 1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,  
*Women only* 2. O come, O Wis - dom from on high,  
*Men only* 3. O come, O come, great Lord of might,  
*All* 4. O come, O Rod of Jes - se's stem,

And ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,  
 Who or - der all things might i - ly;  
 Who to your tribes on Si - nai's height  
 From ev - 'ry foe de - liv - er them

That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 To us the path of knowl - edge show,  
 In an - cient times once gave the Law  
 That trust your might - y power to save,

Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 And teach us in her ways to go.  
 In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
 And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Veni, veni Emmanuel*; Latin 9th C.; tr. by John M. Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Tune: VENI EMMANUEL, LM with refrain; Mode I; adapt. by Thomas Helmore, 1811–1890; acc. by Richard Proulx, 1937–2010

## Introductory Rites

*Please be seated.*

### First Lesson: The Fall of Man

Genesis 3:9-15, 20

*Phoebe Hall, '29*

#### Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston (1905-1987)

*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.*

### Second Lesson: A New Davidic King

Isaiah 11:1-9

*Sean McKeever, '28*

*Please stand and join in singing:*

#### Come, O Long Expected Jesus

STUTT GART



1. Come, O long ex - pect - ed Je - sus,
2. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion,
3. Born your peo - ple to de - liv - er;
4. By your own e - ter - nal Spir - it



Born to set your peo - ple free; From our fears and  
You, the hope of all the earth, Dear de - sire of  
Born a child and yet a king! Born to reign in  
Rule in all our hearts a - lone; By your all suf -



sins re - lease us; Free us from cap - tiv - i - ty.  
ev - 'ry na - tion, Come, and save us by your birth.  
us for ev - er, Now your grac - ious king - dom bring.  
fi - cient mer - it Raise us to your glo - rious throne.

Text: Haggai 2:7; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

Tune: STUTTGART, 8 7 8 7; Christian F. Witt, 1660-1716; adapt. by Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-1876

## Third Lesson: The Promise of Salvation

Isaiah 40:1-5

Molly Werner, '27

*Please stand and join in singing:*

### Comfort, Comfort O My People

GENEVA

Organist: Matthew Dolan, '27



1. Com - fort, com - fort O my peo - ple, Speak of peace, now says our God.  
2. Hark, the voice of one who's cry - ing In the de - sert far and near,  
3. O make straight what long was crook - ed, Make the rough - er pla - ces plain.



Com - fort those who dwell in dark - ness, Mourn - ing un - der sor - rows' load.  
Bid - ding all to full re - pen - tance Since the king - dom now is here.  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, As be - fits his ho - ly reign.



Speak un - to Je - ru - sa - lem Of the peace that waits for them.  
Oh that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a - way!  
For the glo - ry of the Lord Now o'er earth is shed a - broad.



Tell of all the sins I co - ver, And that war - fare now is o - ver.  
Let the val - leys rise to meet him, And the hills bow down to greet him.  
And all flesh shall see the to - ken That God's word is ne - ver bro - ken.

## Fourth Lesson: The Annunciation

Luke 1:26-38

Colin Formisano, '26

### A Maiden Most Gentle

Andrew Carter (b. 1939)

*A maiden most gentle and tender we sing,  
of Mary the mother of Jesus our King. Ave, ave, ave Maria...*

*How blessed was the birth of that heavenly child,  
Who came to redeem us in Mary so mild. Ave, ave, ave Maria...*

*The Archangel Gabriel foretold by his call  
The Lord of creation, and Savior of all. Ave, ave, ave Maria...*

*Three Kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare,  
And marvelled in awe at the babe in her care. Ave, ave, ave Maria...*

*Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray;  
Sing praise to the Savior, sing endless 'Ave.' Ave, ave, ave Maria...*

## Fifth Lesson: The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Luke 2:1-7

Allyse Gruslin, Director of Evangelization

### The Lamb

John Tavener (1944-2013)

Poem by William Blake (1757-1827)

*Little Lamb who made thee?  
Dost thou know who made thee?  
Gave thee life and bid thee feed.  
By the stream and o'er the mead;  
Gave thee clothing of delight,  
Softest clothing wooly bright;  
Gave thee such a tender voice,  
Making all the vales rejoice?  
Little Lamb who made thee?  
Dost thou know who made thee?*



Little Lamb I'll tell thee,  
 Little Lamb I'll tell thee:  
 He is called by thy name,  
 For he calls himself a Lamb.  
 He is meek and he is mild;  
 He became a little child.  
 I, a child, and thou a lamb,  
 We are called by his name.  
 Little Lamb God bless thee!  
 Little Lamb God bless thee!

*Please stand and join in singing:*

## Hark the Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN, arr. David Willcocks



1. Hark the her - ald an - gels sing — Glo - ry to the new - born King;  
 2. Christ by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ the e - ver - last - ing Lord,  
 3. Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace, Hail the Son of Right-eous-ness,



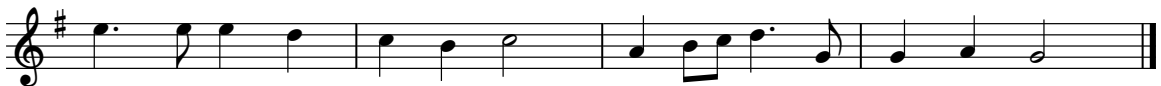
Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, — God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled:  
 Late in time be - hold him come, — Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
 Light and life to all he brings, Risen with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful all ye na - tions rise, — Join the tri - umph of the skies, —  
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see, — Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty, —  
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, — Born that man no more may die, —



With th'an - gel - ic host pro-claim, Christ is — born in Beth - le - hem.  
 Pleased as man with man to dwell, Je - sus — our Em - man - u - el.  
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to — give them sec - ond birth.



*Hark the her - ald an - gels sing Glo - ry — to the new - born King.*

## Sixth Lesson: The Shepherds Learn of the Birth

Luke 2:8-20

Dr. Michael Wahl, Assistant Professor of Theology

### In the Bleak Midwinter

Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

*In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan  
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow.  
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.*

*Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor the earth sustain  
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.  
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed:  
The Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.*

*Angels and archangels may have gathered there,  
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air.  
But his mother only in her maiden bliss,  
Worshipped the beloved with a kiss.*

*What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part.  
Yet what I can, I give him: give my heart.*



# Seventh Lesson: Prologue of the Gospel of John

John 1:1-15

Rev. Kenneth Sicard, O.P., President of Providence College

Please stand and join in singing:

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELIS, arr. David Willcocks

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant,  
2. God of God, Light of light,  
3. Sing choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
4. Yea, Lord we greet thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing,

O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem.  
Lo, he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb.  
Sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heav'n a - bove;  
Je - su, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n;

Come and be - hold him, born the King of An - gels,  
Ve - ry God, Be - got - ten, not cre - a - ted,  
Glo - ry to the God, Glo - ry in the high - est,  
Word of the Fa - ther, Now in flesh ap - pear - ing,

O come let us a - dore - him, O come let us a - dore him,

O come let us a - dore him Christ the Lord!

## Concluding Rites

### Recessional Hymn

Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending

HELMSLEY, arr. John Rutter (b.1945)



1. Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing, Once for fa - vored  
Choir 2. Ev 'ry eye shall now be - hold him, Robed in dread - ful  
3. Yea, a - men let all a - dore thee, High on thine e -



sin - ners. slain, Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing,  
ma - jes - ty, Those who sought at naught and sold him,  
ter - nal throne, Sa - viour, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of his train, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
Pierced and nailed him to the tree, Deep - ly wail - ing, Deep - ly  
Claim the king - dom for thine own, O come quick - ly, O come



lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! God ap - pears on earth to reign.  
wail - ing, Deep - ly wail - ing Shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
quick - ly, O come quick - ly, Al - le - lu - ia! Come, Lord, come!

## Postlude

Hallelujah Chorus

George Friedric Handel (1685-1759)

*Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.  
The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord,  
And of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.  
King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, Hallelujah.*

## Ministers and Musicians

Presider: Rev. Kenneth Sicard O.P., President of Providence College

Readers: Phoebe Hall, '29  
Sean McKeever, '28  
Molly Werner, '27  
Colin Formisano, '26  
Allyse Gruslin, Director of Evangelization  
Dr. Michael Wahl, Assistant Professor of Theology

Trumpet: Jon Clark  
Robert Williamson  
Trombone: Peter Fanelli  
Timpani: David Heath, '09  
Organ: Gregory Scimeca, '26  
Matthew Dolan, '27  
Patrick Aiken  
Rehearsal Pianist: Michael Kregler  
Conductors: Dr. Krishan Oberoi  
Gilbert Donohue

Providence College Chorus  
Dr. Krishan Oberoi, Director of Choral Activities

*Soprano*

Meg Bemis '29  
Claire Dancause '26  
Josephine Gleason '29  
An Ho '26  
Gabriella Linnell '28  
Margaret Mello '27  
Maya Rezendes '28  
Gianna Ribiero '28  
Natalie Votto '29  
Alessandra Vicinanzo '28

*Alto*

Madeline Azar '27  
Jade Bocciarelli '27  
Faith Crawford '27  
Leah DaSilva '29  
Ella DePaolo '29  
Erin Harrington '29  
Kayla Kutes '26  
Sophie Walther '29  
Amelia Westfall '27

*Tenor*

Joe Derr '28  
Dylan DiCaprio '27  
Jackson McWilliams '27

Evan Starr '26

Thomas Sullivan '29  
Will Donahue '29

*Bass:*

Matt Dolan '27  
Luke O'Brien '29  
Henry Perrine '29  
Eli Rosado '28  
AlanMichael Rubin '28  
Alan Santee '28  
Greg Scimeca '26  
Oleh Yeromenko '26 G

Providence College Liturgical Choir  
Gilbert Donohue, Director of Liturgical Music

*Soprano*

Meg Bemis '29  
Carlie Burns '27  
Alyssa Caniera '26  
Sofia Cuddeback '29  
Claire Dancause '27  
Hannah DePuydt '26  
Phoebe Hall '29  
Maeve Kelly '28  
Grace McCavanagh '27  
Alessandra Vicinanzo '28

*Alto*

Anna Alvarado '29  
Kemi Amedu '28  
Mya Azueta '28  
Hannah Fanelli '29  
Maggie Hammel '28  
Gabriella Lamendola '27  
Gianna Lamendola '28  
Emma Lynch '25  
Celia Nickerson '28  
Maria Mantini '26  
Sophia Mutti '26  
Liz Perda '26  
Elissa Schlap '29  
Anastasia Sutton '28  
Natalie Votto '29

*Tenor*

Pete Bratschi '27  
JR Breslav '28  
Joseph Campione '28  
Brian Ladino '28  
Luke Martin '29

*Bass:*

Ben Bergeron '29  
Matt Dolan '27  
Nico Notaro '27  
John O'Hanlon '28  
Konrad Rogowski '28  
Eli Rosado '28  
Greg Scimeca '26  
Thomas Straub '26