Sacred Music at All Saints Concert Series presents

Advent Lessons and Carols



Saturday, December 6, 2025 7:30 PM

All Saints Catholic Church Manassas, VA

Welcome

Our wish for you is that, after having participated in this festival service, your hearts and minds will be more receptive to the wonder of the coming Christmas season. To facilitate this end, we ask that all cell phones and other electronic devices be switched off before the program and that you remain in place for the duration of the service. Please refrain from flash photography. Due to copyright laws, audio and video recording is not permitted. All are invited to join heartily in the singing of the carols found in the program and, if you are able, to stand where indicated in the program. As this service is a prayer, please refrain from applause until the conclusion of the service.



The Origins of the Festival of Lessons and Carols

The concept of this program developed from the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols made famous by the Christmas Eve service at Kings College, Cambridge. The service was conceived by F. W. Benson, the Bishop of Truro Cathedral who later became the Archbishop of Canterbury. The service was used for the first time on Christmas Eve in 1880 and as its popularity grew, it was formally adapted at Kings College in 1918 by Eric Milner-White, the Dean of Kings College. Since 1918, the service has been aired live by the BBC on Christmas Eve throughout the world. In 1934, sixteen years after the adaptation of the Nine Lessons and Carols, Eric Milner-White composed another order of service, a Procession with Carols on Advent Sunday. In the same format as the original Nine Lessons and Carols, the purpose of this service was to "not celebrate Christmas, but to expect it." The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols and the Procession with Carols on Advent Sunday both combine scripture and music in an intimate way to tell the story of the expectation and birth of Christ. It was Milner-White's belief that the scripture lessons were the backbone of the service and the "handmaid of the liturgy." Today we adapt these two liturgies for this time, this space, and this community. May your hearts and minds find openness to the coming of the Savior through these Lessons and Carols.

ORDER of SERVICE

INVITATORY CAROL

Creator of the Stars of Night

arr. Timothy Lewicki (b. 1989)

Choir

reator of the stars of night, Your people's everlasting light, O Christ, Redeemer of us all, We pray you hear us when we call.

In sorrow that the ancient curse Should doom to death a universe, You came, O Savior, to set free Your own in glorious liberty.

When this old world drew on toward night, You came; but not in splendor bright, Not as a monarch, but the child Of Mary, blameless mother mild. At your great Name, O Jesus, now All knees must bend, all hearts must bow: All things on earth with one accord, Like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.

Come in your holy might, we pray, Redeem us for eternal day; Defend us while we dwell below From all assaults of our dread foe.

To God Creator, God the Son, And God the Spirit, Three in One, Praise, honor, might, and glory be From age to age eternally.

Text: Conditor alme siderum, Latin 9th. c., tr. The Hymnal 1982, © 1985, The Church Pension Fund

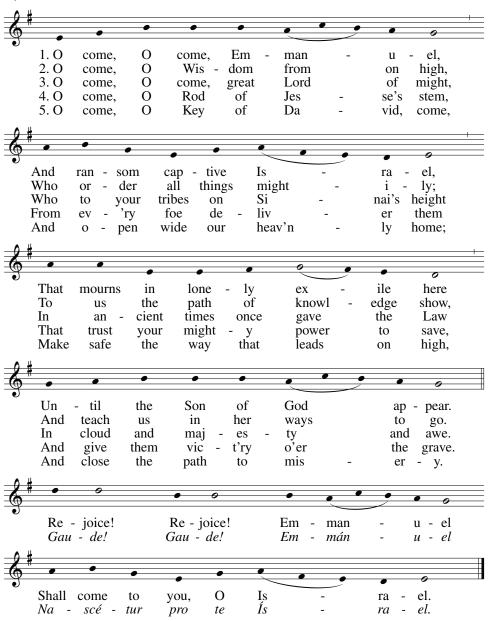
Please stand.



PROCESSIONAL CAROL

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Veni, Veni Emmanuel



THE BIDDING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CAROL



Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-8

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord!

CAROLS

Comfort, Comfort, O My People

omfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God; comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrow's load; speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them; tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near, bidding all men to repentance, since the kingdom now is here. Choir

arr. Claude Goudimel (c.1520-1572)

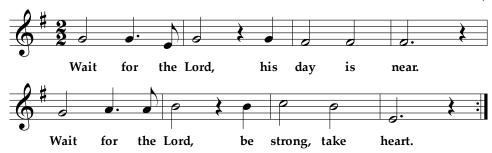
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way! Let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain: let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign, For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad, and all flesh shall see the token that his word is never broken.

5

Wait for the Lord

Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)



SECOND LESSON

Jeremiah 23:5-6

I will raise up a righteous branch for David.

CAROLS

Lift Up Your Heads

Peter Niedmann (b. 1960)

Choir

ift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits! The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.

O blest the land, the city blest, where Christ the ruler is confessed! O happy hearts and happy homes to whom this King of triumph comes!

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart from earthly

use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer come! I open wide my heart to thee: here, Lord, abide! Let me thy inner presence feel: thy grace and love in me reveal.

So come, my Sov'reign enter in! Let new and nobler life begin; thy Holy Spirit guide us on, until the glorious crown be won. Amen.

Text: Georg Weissel (1590-1635), translation by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

arr. Tyleen Stults

Resounding Joy: All Saints Handbell Choir

THIRD LESSON Zechariah 9:9-10

Behold: your king is come to you, a savior is he.

CAROLS

Come, Thou Redeemer of the Earth

Puer natus nascitur arr. Mark Schweizer (1956-2019)

Choir

ome, Thou Redeemer of the earth, And manifest Thy virgin birth: Let every age adoring fall; Such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will, But of the Spirit, Thou art still The Word of God in flesh arrayed, The promised Fruit to man displayed.

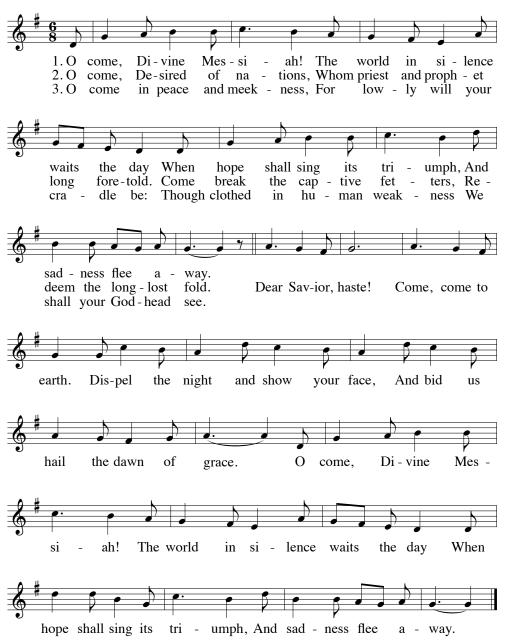
Thy cradle here shall glitter bright, And darkness breathe a newer light, Where endless faith shall shine serene, And twilight never intervene.

Praise, eternal Son, to Thee; Whose Advent sets thy people free, With whom the Father we adore, And Holy Ghost forevermore.

Text: St. Ambrose (340-397), tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866)

O Come, Divine Messiah

VENEZ, DIVIN MESSIE



Greater will be the glory of this house.

Please stand, as you are able, for the carol.

CAROLS

Wake, Awake For Night Is Flying

Wachet Auf Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Choir

ake, awake, for night is flying, The watchers on the heights are crying, Awake Jerusalem, at last! Midnight hears the welcome voices And at the thrilling cry rejoices: Come forth, you virgins, night is past! The Bridegroom comes, awake, Your lamps with gladness take, Alleluia! And for his marriage feast prepare, For you must go to meet him there.

Now let all the heav'ns adore thee, And men and angels sing before thee, With harp and cymbal's clearest tone; Of one pearl each shinning portal, Where we are with choir immortal Of angels round thy dazzling throne; Nor eye has seen, nor ear Has yet attained to hear, What there is ours; But we rejoice, and sing to thee Our hymn of joy eternally.

Text: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608), tr. Catherine Winkworth (1829-1878)

Advent Fantasy

arr. Judy Phillips (b. 1952)

All Saints Handbell Choir: Resounding Joy



Fifth Lesson Isaiah 35:1-6

Here is your God, he comes with vindication.

CAROL

Ecce virgo concipiet

Cristóbal de Morales (1500-1553)

Choir

Ecce virgo concipiet et pariet filium et vocabitur nomen ejus: Admirabilis, Deus Fortis.

Super solium David, et super regnum ejus sedebit in aeternum.

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called: Wonderful, Mighty God.

Over the throne of David, and over his kingdom, he will reign in eternity.

Text: cf. Isaiah 7:14; 9:6-7



Sixth Lesson Luke 1:26-35, 38

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.

CAROLS

Rorate Caeli Jeanne Demessieux (1921-1968)

Tim Lewicki, organ

Ave Maria Jacques Arcadelt (1507-1568)

Choir

ve Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum; benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis. Amen. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus Holy Mary, pray for us. Amen.

Text: Luke 1:28, 41

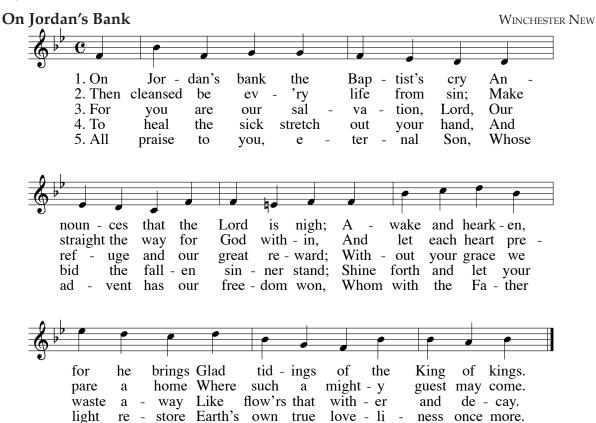
SEVENTH LESSON Mark 1:1-15

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.

Please stand, as you are able, for the carol.

ev - er - more.

CAROL



Ho - lv

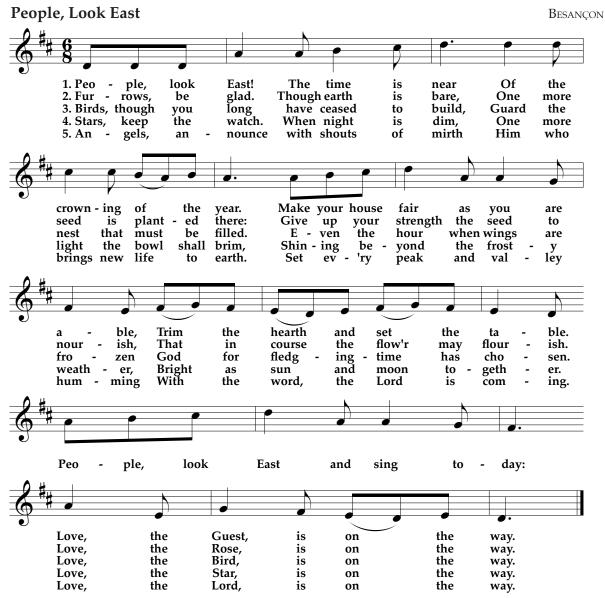
Spir - it,

CLOSING PRAYER and BLESSING

we

- dore, And





ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Sortie on 'Venez Divin Messie'

César Franck (1822-1890)

All are invited to a Christmas cookie reception following the organ voluntary.

Friends of the All Saints Concert Series

6

Archangels (\$1,000 and above)

Reine Evans, in memory of James Brooks

Angels (\$500-\$999)

Michael and Jan Ward, in memory of our parents and in celebration of Mike's second (and final) retirement! Rev. Msgr. Lee R. Roos

Saints (\$200-\$499)

George Brent Council of the Knights of Columbus Jane and Matt Carroll, in honor of Fr. Matthew Carroll, O.P. Dietlinde Doyle, in memory of William J. Doyle

Patrons (\$100-\$199)

Profs. Donald and Mary Gregory, in memory the Deceased of the Gregory-Settineri Families
Linda Gaynord, in memory of Bob Weaver
Richard P. Gibala
Joseph Snook

Mary White Carl and Margaret Berger

Sponsors (\$25-\$99)

John and Janet McAdon, in memory of Paulette Robinson and Mavis Samuels Jennifer Katebini Jon and Cythina Hauris

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Like us on Facebook: @AllSaintsVAConcerts
@AllSaintsVAMusic



RUSSELL WEISMANN, ORGANIST Friday, October 24, 2025 • 7:30 PM



Concert organist Russell Weismann, Director of Music and Organist and Adjunct Professor of Music at Georgetown University, opens our season with a program of organ repertoire. Works from various periods will showcase our Wicks Pipe Organ.

Maureen Walsh, Saxophonist Friday, January 23, 2026 • 7:30 PM

Local saxophonist Maureen Walsh is a prolific solo recitalist, presenting up to twenty solo recitals each



vear and has created 5 albums of music. We welcome Ms. Walsh to All Saints as she presents a concert of American music to celebrate the 250th birthday

of the United States. Enjoy music by Copland, Williams, Gershwin and others.

ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS Saturday, December 6, 2025 • 7:30 PM

Members of the All Saints Music Ministry present this beloved service of Scripture readings, hymns, and choral anthems to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ at Christmas. Enjoy



music for harp, handbells, choir and organ.

BLUE RIDGE SINGERS

JEFFREY ALBAN, conductor

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 • 7:30 PM

We welcome back the Blue Ridge Singers, who have appeared on the series each year, to present a concert



of choral music. This dedicated group of musicians under the direction of Dr.

Jeffrey Alban presents their Spring program.

All events are free and open to the public. A meet-the-artist recpetion follows each concert. A free-will offering will be taken to support current and future programming for this annual concert series.

Located just a few minutes from Old Town Manassas and its many restaurants and shops, All Saints has plenty of free parking adjacent to the church.





ALL SAINTS CHURCH PARISH CHOIR

Timothy Lewicki, Director of Music and Organist

ALL SAINTS CHURCH HANDBELL CHOIR: RESOUNDING JOY

Kathryn Moore, Director

Amy Godeaux, flute Emily Mason, harp and organ



Special thanks to:

Monsignor Lee R. Roos, Pastor of All Saints Church The Parish staff and clergy of All Saints Catholic Church All Saints Lectors

The choir members and their families for all their preparation and participation

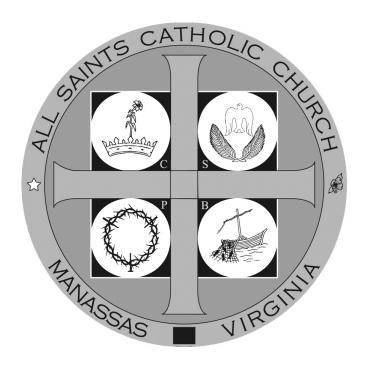
We wish you a peaceful remainder of this Advent season and a blessed Christmas!

Come, Lord Jesus!

Join us at our other events and liturgies this Advent and Christmas Season:



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ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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