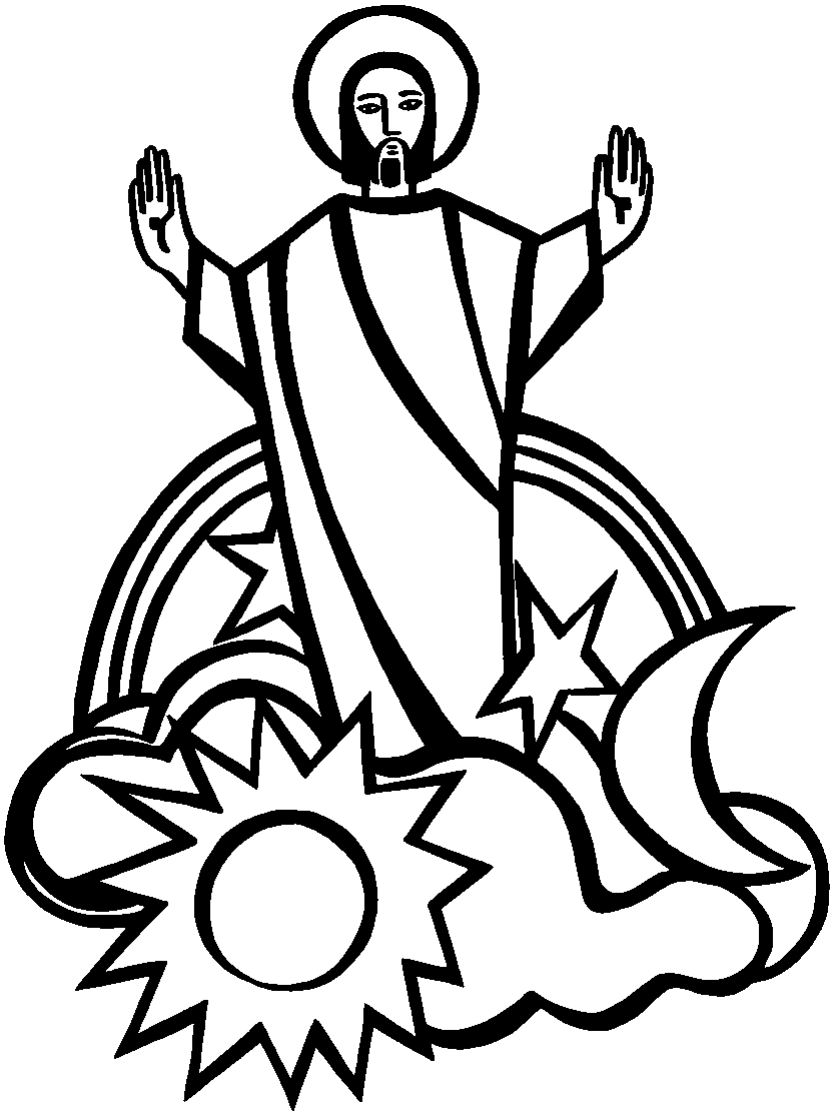
Emmanuel Church

The Episcopal Church on Mercer Island



THE HOLY EUCHARIST

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT | LESSONS & CAROLS

NOVEMBER 29, 2026 | 10:00AM

Preacher/Celebrant: The Reverend Ted Renaud

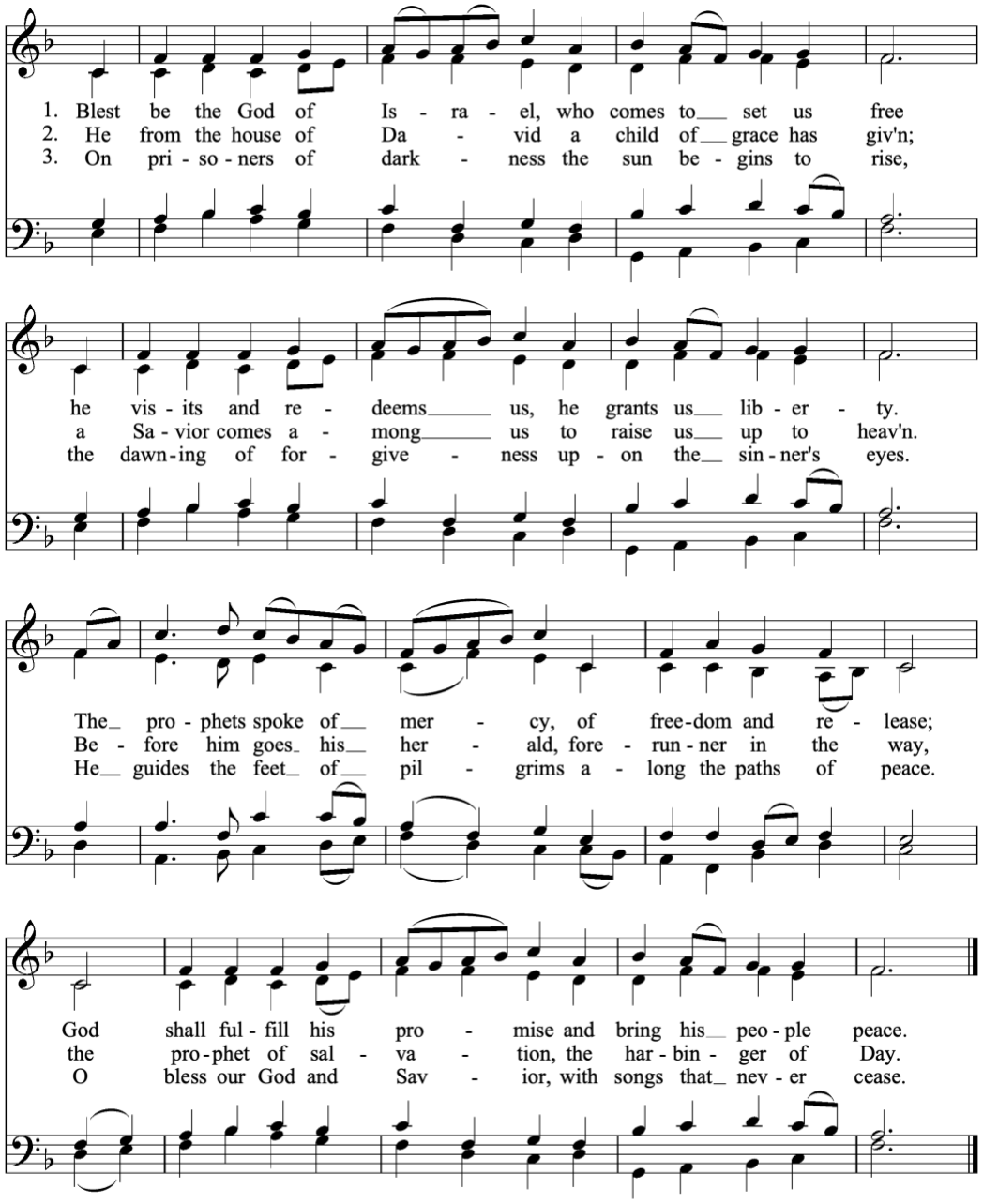
Eucharistic Minister: Debbie Wiegand | Lector/Intercessor: Jane Morton

LESSONS AND CAROLS

VOLUNTARY – Improvisation on Savior of the Nations, Come *Paul Manz*

After the Voluntaries a period of silence is kept. A bell rings and the People stand.

PROCESSION – Blest be the God of Israel Tune: *Forrest Green*



THE BIDDING PRAYER. *Remain standing, as able, as the Celebrant addresses the People.*

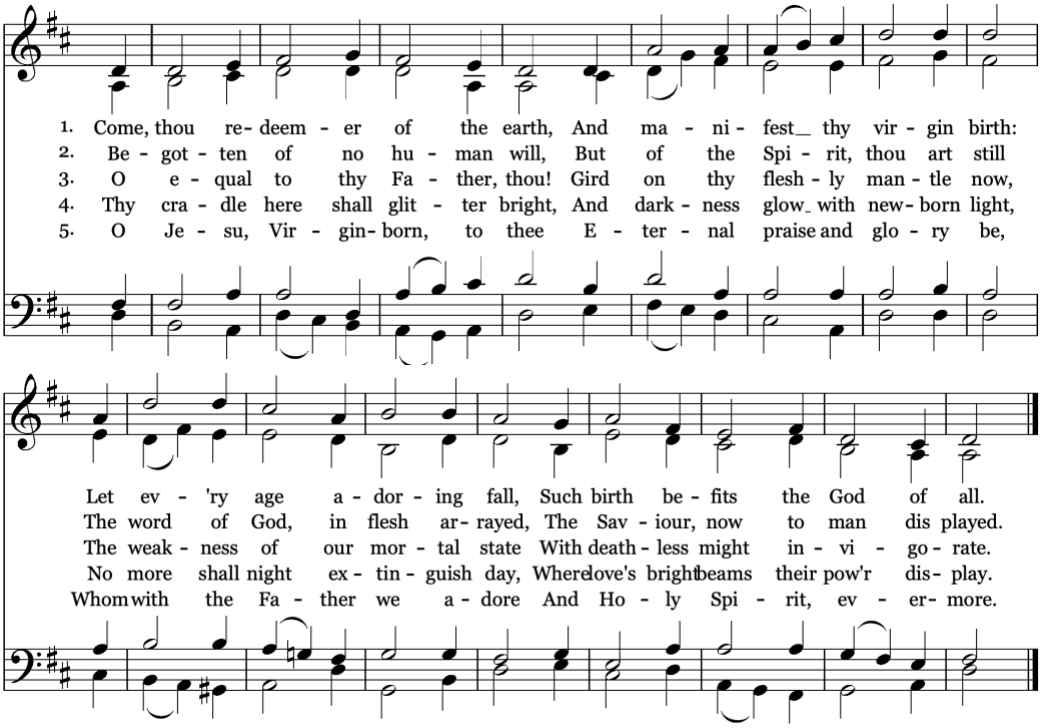
BELOVED in Christ, today we enter into the solemn season of Advent, in which the Church bids us to prepare for the coming of Christ: a coming that we recall in the Child of Bethlehem; a coming that we experience in the gift of his Spirit, in the sacrament of the Eucharist, in the joy of human lives that are shared in faith, hope and love; and a coming that we still await, when God will gather up and redeem all things in Christ, who is Emmanuel, God with us.

Throughout this Advent season let us remember and pray for those who, by reason of their adversity, yearn especially for Emmanuel's coming: the hungry and the homeless, the sick and the sorrowful, the lonely and the unloved; those who despair or who walk in the shadow of death. Let us pray for the leaders of the nations and for all who strive for the establishment of justice, righteousness and peace; and let us pray for the well-being and unity of Christ's body, the Church, that we may bear witness to our faith and hope in a world ever divided by wrath and sorrow.

And now, in word and music, let us hear and give voice to the hope set forth in Holy Scripture, that God's just and loving reign will come; and, with John the Baptist and the Blessed Virgin Mary, let us prepare for the coming of God's reign, celebrating its dawning in the birth, life, death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

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. Amen.

CAROL – Come thou redeemer of the earth Tune: *Puer Nobis*



THE FIRST LESSON – Genesis 3: 1-22

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."

He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."

The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, 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; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you."

And to the man he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

And the Lord God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them.

Then the Lord God said, "See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"

A period of silence follows each reading; there is no other response.

CAROL – **Hymnal 1982, #54 –** Savior of the nations, come

THE SECOND LESSON – Jeremiah 31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the Lord', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

A period of silence follows the reading; there is no other response.

CAROL – Hymnal 1982, #66 – Come, thou long-expected Jesus

THE THIRD LESSON – Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

A period of silence follows the reading; there is no other response.

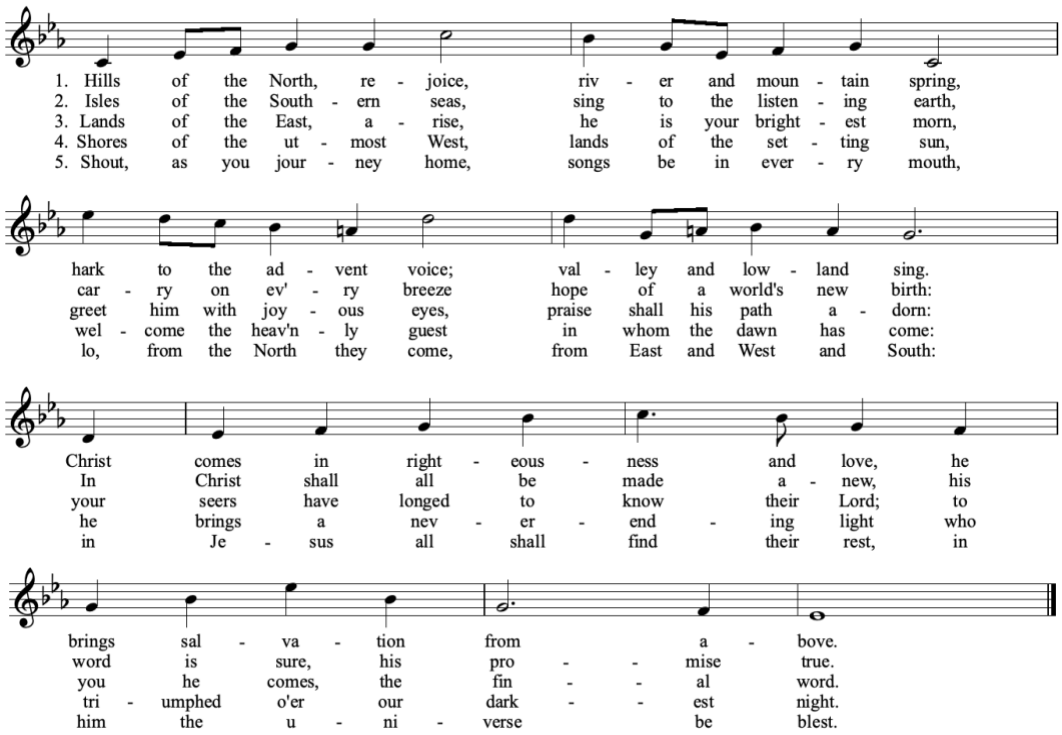
CAROL – Hymnal 1982, #67 – Comfort, comfort ye my people

THE FOURTH LESSON – Matthew 24:36-44

"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

A period of silence follows the reading; there is no other response.

CAROL – Hills of the north, rejoice Tune: *Little Cornard*



THE FIFTH LESSON – Baruch 4:36-5:9

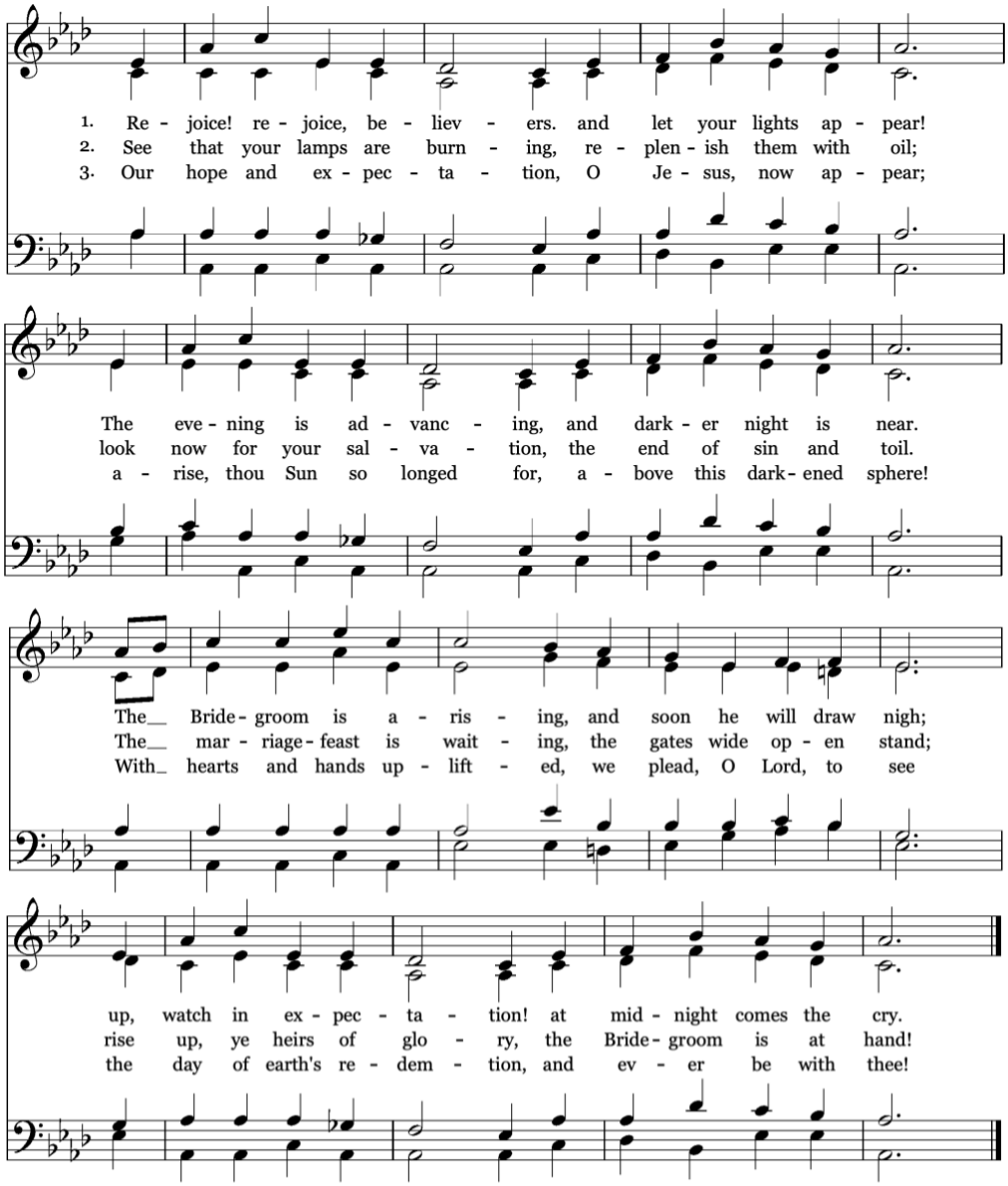
Look towards the east, O Jerusalem, and see the joy that is coming to you from God.
Look, your children are coming, whom you sent away; they are coming, gathered from east and west, at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing in the glory of God.

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God.
Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven.
For God will give you evermore the name, Righteous Peace, Godly Glory'.

Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look towards the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them.
For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies;
but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne.
For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.
The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command.
For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

A period of silence follows the reading; there is no other response.

CAROL – Rejoice, rejoice believers



THE SIXTH LESSON – Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, '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 holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

A period of silence follows the reading; there is no other response.

CAROL – Hymnal 1982, #438 – Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord

THE SEVENTH LESSON – Revelation 21:5-7, 22:12, 20

And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children. 'See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. The one who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

A period of silence follows the reading; there is no other response.

ANTHEM – Advent Blessing Roger Summers

Come into the world with blessing, come, fulfill the prophecy.
Come, Emmanuel, as promised, and set your people free.
Come into the world, O light, light of mercy light of grace.
Shine upon our world of chaos, warming hearts with love's embrace.
Come, Jesus, Glory be to God, alleluia!

THE COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us Pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your 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 living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

ADVENT BLESSING

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. Amen. May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love.

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

CAROL – Hymnal 1982, #57 – Lo! He comes with clouds descending