

THE SEVENTH LESSON. Mark 1 : 1-4 and 7-15

Jesus proclaims the coming of the Kingdom.

ST PAUL'S CHURCH RONDEBOSCH

AN ADVENT PROCESSION OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday 29th November 2009 at 7pm

CHOIR: Sleepers, Wake!

Zion hears the watchmen's voices,
With gladness all her heart rejoices,
She eager wakes to greet the day.
See, her Lord from heav'n descending
With grace and truth, and power unending,
Her daystar dawns with brightest ray.
O come thou blessed One,
Lord Jesu, God's own Son, Hosianna!
We follow there Thy feast to share,
And taste the joys beyond compare.

Text: P. Nicolai tr J Rutter

Music: J. S. Bach (from Cantata 140)

COLLECT AND BLESSING

ALL:

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
Once for favoured sinners slain;
Thousand, thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of this train:
Alleluia!
God appears on earth to reign.

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!

Every eye shall now behold him
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing
Shall the true Messiah see.

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!

CHOIR: VESPER RESPONSORY

Judah and Jerusalem fear not, nor be dismayed. Tomorrow go ye forth and the Lord, he will be with you. Stand ye still and ye shall see the salvation of the Lord. Tomorrow go ye forth and the Lord, he will be with you. Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. Tomorrow go ye forth and the Lord, he will be with you.

Priest: We wait for thy loving kindness O Lord
People: In the midst of thy temple



CHOIR: MATIN RESPONSORY

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 leadeth 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, 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?"

Music adapted from Palestrina

CHOIR: Come, thou redeemer of the earth

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
And manifest thy virgin birth:
Let every age adoring fall;
Such birth befits the God of all.

O equal to the Father, Thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now;
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate.

Forth from his chamber goeth He,
That royal home of purity,
A giant in two-fold substance one,
Rejoicing now His course to run.

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

From God the Father he proceeds,
To God the Father back he speeds;
His course he runs to death and hell,
Returning on God's throne to dwell.

All laud to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to thee:
All glory, as is ever meet,
To God the Holy Paraclete. Amen.

Text: St Ambrose (340-97) tr. J M Neale

Music: Melody adapted M Praetorius (1571-1621)

THE BIDDING PRAYER

CHOIR: This is the truth sent from above

This is the truth sent from above,
The truth of God, the God of love,
Therefore don't turn me from your door,
But hearken all both rich and poor.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes,
Till God the Lord did interpose;
And so a promise soon did run
That He would redeem us by His Son.

The first thing which I do relate
Is that God did man create;
The next thing which to you I'll tell
Woman was made with man to dwell.

And at that season of the year
Our blessed redeemer did appear;
He here did live, and here did preach,
And many thousands he did teach.

Thus He in love to us behaved,
To show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way,
Be pleased to hear what He did say.

Text: English traditional carol

Music: arr. Vaughan Williams

THE FIRST LESSON. Isaiah 40: 1-8

The Prophet proclaims good news to a people in exile.

Tibi caelesti nuntio,
Tanti secreti conscio,
Consentiens,
Et cupiens videre
Factum quod audio;
Parata sum parere,
Dei consilio.

Eia mater Domini,
Quae pacem redidisti
Angelis et homini,
Cum Christum genuisti:
Tuum exora filium
ut se nobis propitium
Exhibeat,
Et deleat peccata:
Praestans auxilium
Vita frui beata
Post hoc exsilium

Direct. English Translation
When the angel came secretly to the Virgin in her room, soothing the maiden's fear, he said: "Hail! Hail, Queen of virgins. While yet untouched by man you shall conceive and bear the Lord of heaven and earth, salvation for mankind. You have become the gate of heaven, a remedy for sins."
"How can I conceive, since I have not known a man? How can I break the vow I made with firm intent?" "The grace of the Holy Spirit shall bring all this to pass. Fear not, but rejoice, secure in the knowledge that pure chastity shall remain yours through God's mighty power." To this the noble Virgin replied, saying:
"I am the lowly handmaiden of Almighty God. I bend my will to you, O celestial messenger, who share so great a mystery, and I long to see performed what I now hear. I am ready to yield myself to God's design."

Ah, mother of the Lord, who gave back peace to angels and mankind when you bore Christ, pray your son to be gracious to us, and wipe away our sins, granting us aid to enjoy a blessed life after this exile.

Words: Trad Latin Hymn 14th Century origin

Music: David Willocks

ALL:

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings from the King of kings.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,
Our refuge, and our great reward;
Without thy grace we waste away,
Like flowers that wither and decay.

Then cleansed be every breast from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
prepare we in our hearts a home,
where such a mighty guest may come.

To heal the sick, stretch out thy hand,
And bid the fallen sinner stand;
Shine forth, and let thy light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent sets thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Ghost for evermore. Amen

Text: C Coffin (1676-1749)

Music: *Winchester New*

ALL:

For Mary, Mother of our Lord,
God's holy name be praised,
Who first the Son of God adored,
As on her child she gazed.

The busy world had got no space
Or time for God on earth;
A cattle manger was the place
Where Mary gave him birth.

Brave, holy Virgin, she believed,
Though hard the task assigned,
And by the Holy Ghost conceived
The Saviour of mankind.

She gave her body as God's shrine,
Her heart to piercing pain;
She knew the cost of love divine,
When Jesus Christ was slain.

God's handmaid, she at once obeyed,
By her 'Thy will be done';
The second Eve love's answer made
Which our redemption won.

Dear Mary from your lowliness
And home in Galilee
There comes a joy and holiness
To every family..

Hail, Mary, you are full of grace,
Above all women blest;
And blest your Son, whom your embrace
In birth and death confessed

Text: J R Peacey (1896-1971)

Music: *St Botolph* Gordon Slater (1896-1979)

THE SIXTH LESSON. Luke 1 : 26-35, 3

The Angel Gabriel salutes the blessed Virgin Mary

CHOIR: Angelus Ad Virginem

Angelus, as virginem
Sub intrans in conclave,
Virginis formidinem
Demulcens, inquit: Ave!
Ave regina virginum;
Caeli terraeque Dominum
Concipies
Et paries intacta
Salutem hominum;
Tu porta caeli facta,
Medela criminum.
Quomodo conciperem
Quae virum non cognovi?

Qualiter infringerem
Quod firma mente vovi?
Spiritus Sancti gratia
Perficiet haec omnia;
Ne timeas,
Sed gaudeas, secura
Quod castimonia
Manebit in te pura
Dei potentia.
Ad haec virgo nobilis
Respondens inquit ei:
Ancilla sum humilis
Omnipotentis Dei.

All:

Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding;
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;
'cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day.'

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;

Wakened by the solemn warning,
Let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.

that when next he comes with glory,
and the world is wrapped with fear,
with his mercy he may shield us,
and with words of love draw near.

Honour, glory, might and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit,
while eternal ages run. Amen.

Text: Latin tr. E Caswall (1814-78)

Music: *Merton* W H Monk (1823-89)

CHOIR: People look east

People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the guest, is on the way.

Birds, though ye long have ceased to build,
Guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the bird, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the rose, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce to man and beast
He who cometh from the east.
Set every peak and valley humming
With the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Words: Eleanor Farjeon

Music: arr Martin Shaw

THE SECOND LESSON. Jeremiah 23 : 5-6

The Lord promises to send his people a righteous King.

CHOIR: A Tender Shoot

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 mid-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.

Text: trans. W Bartholomew

Music: Otto Goldschmit (1829-1907)

THE THIRD LESSON: Zechariah 9: 9-10

The Lord promises that the King will come to Israel in peace

ALL:

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.

Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

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

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

Text: Charles Wesley (1707-88)

Music *Cross of Jesus* John Stainer (1840-1901)

CHOIR: Remember

Remember, O thou man
O thou man, O thou man,
Remember, O thou man,
Thy time is spent:
Remember, O thou man,
How thou cam'st to me then,
And I did what I can,
Therefore repent.

The angels all did sing,
O thou man, O thou man,
The angels all did sing,
On Sion hill:
The angels all did sing
Praise to our heavenly King,
And peace to man living,
With right good will.

Give thanks to God always,
O thou man, O thou man,
Give thanks to God always,
With hearts most jolly :
Give thanks to God always
Upon this blessed day ;
Let all men sing and say,
Holy, holy.

Thomas Ravenscroft, 1611.

Music: Thomas Ravenscroft *Melismata*, 1611.

THE FOURTH LESSON: Haggai 2:6-9

The prophet foretells the advent of the desire of all nations

ALL:

O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear:
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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:

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:

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:

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:

THE FIFTH LESSON. Isaiah 35 : 1-6

The prophet foretells the glory of the kingdom of God

CHOIR: Hymn to the Virgin

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 might come to thee
Maria.

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

Lady, flower of everything,
Rose sine spina,
Thou bear Jesu, heavens king,
Gratia divina:
Of all thou bearst the prize,
Lady, queen of paradise
Electa:
Maid mild, mother es
Effecta.

Words: Anon 13th Century

Music: Benjamin Britten