



Carols by Candlelight

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL

DECEMBER 21, 2008 AT FOUR O'CLOCK PM

*Please set all pagers, phones, and alarm watches to silent settings.
Special amplification for the hearing impaired can be arranged with an usher.
Please, no unauthorized photography (video or still) during the service.*

ORGAN PRELUDE

Carol Prelude on "Venite adoremus"

Carol Prelude on "Greensleeves"

La Nativité

David Gehrenbeck (b. 1931)

M. Searle Wright (1918–2004)

Jean Langlais (1907–1991)

The people remain seated.

DEAN'S WELCOME

INTROIT

Susanni

Sung by the Cathedral Choir.

Richard Rodney Bennett (b. 1936)

A little child there is yborn, *Eia, susanni*. And he sprang out of Jesse's thorn, *Alleluya*. To save us all that were forlorn. Now Jesus is the childes name. *Eia, susanni*. And mary mild she is his dame, *Alleluya*. And so our sorrow's turned to game. It fell upon the high midnight. *Eia, susanni*. The stars they shone both fair and bright. *Alleluya*. The angels sang with all their might. Three Kings there came with their presents, *Eia, susanni*. Of gold and myrrh and frankincense, *Alleluya*. As clerkes sing in their sequence. Now sit we down upon our knee. *Eia, susanni*. And pray we to the Trinity, *Alleluya*. Our help and succour for to be.

14th century

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION*Sung by all, standing.**Adeste fideles**O come, all ye faithful*

O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,
 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;
 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -
 dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord.

BIDDING

Beloved ones, we meet in this holy season with excitement and joy as we anticipate the wondrous gift of the birth of Jesus. As the shepherds huddled around the manger to welcome the Holy Child, so we gather to hear the transforming story and to offer God our thanksgiving with songs of praise.

In the warmth and safety of this sacred space, let us pray.

Dear God, help us to remember those who are cold and alone, that they might find a warm hearth for rest. Bring strength to all who live and work in the midst of violence; give comfort to those who are in distress; give the joyous sensitivity to the grieving, and above all, make our lives show forth your love in the world. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

The people are seated.

ANTHEM*Sung by Cathedral Voices and the Cathedral Choir.**Sussex Carol*

arr. David Willcocks (b. 1919)

On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring – news of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth. Then why should men on earth be so sad, since our Redeemer made us glad, when from our sin he set us free, all for to gain our liberty? When sin departs before his grace, then life and health come in its place; angels and men with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King. All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night: 'Glory to God and peace to men, now and for evermore. Amen.'

*A period of silent reflection will follow each reading.***FIRST LESSON***In which the prophet proclaims hope for the future*

Isaiah 40:1–2, 10–11

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. 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.

COLLECT*The people stand.*

Delivering God: You rescue us from all our captivities. Your voice calms us like a lullaby and your peace sustains us. In all of our exiles, may we know that you travel beside us as guardian and protector. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

*The people are seated.***ANTHEM***Sung by Cathedral Voices.**Small wonder the star*

Paul Edwards (b. 1956)

Small wonder the star, small wonder the light, the angels in chorus, the shepherds in fright; but stable and manger for God – No small wonder! Small wonder the kings, small wonder they bore the gold and the incense, the myrrh, to adore: but God gives his life on a cross – No small wonder! Small wonder the love, small wonder the grace, the power, the glory, the light of his face; but all to redeem my poor heart – No small wonder!

SECOND LESSON*In which the prophet foretells the birth of the Savior in Bethlehem*

Micah 5:2–5a

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

COLLECT*The people stand.*

God of small things: You surprise us. Coming among us in a small town, born in a lowly manger to a virgin mother, Christ taught us that glory is found in the most unlikely places. May we look to hidden corners and humble dwellings for glimpses of your likeness. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

*The people are seated.***ANTHEM***African Noel**Sung by the Cathedral Choir.*

arr. André Thomas (b. 1952)

Sing Noel, O come, ye people, gather here to hear the news of good cheer. The King of Kings, the Lamb of God is born today in Bethlehem. Sing Noel.

HYMN

*Sung by all, standing.**O little town of Bethlehem**Forest Green*

Unison or harmony

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 *4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,
 5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;
 5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,
 5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.
 5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

The people are seated.

THIRD LESSON

In which the angel Gabriel appears to Mary

Luke 1:26–35

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, favored 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 favor 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."

COLLECT

The people stand.

O God of unexpected opportunities: You give us the fresh air of new beginnings, but we often shy away from them in fear. Give us strength to embrace the changes of this world, knowing that you will lead us to a place more glorious than we could imagine. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

ANTHEM

Sung by Cathedral Voices.

Away in a manger

arr. Reginald Jacques (1894–1969)

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me for ever, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

FOURTH LESSON

In which Jesus is born

Luke 2:1–7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

COLLECT

The people stand.

Humble God: You came to us as a little baby, born in straw and mud; helpless and vulnerable, but with wide-eyed curiosity, you cherished all you greeted. May we be as caring and vulnerable as the smallest of babies, that we may know others as you know us. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

ANTHEM

Sung by the Cathedral Choir.

O magnum mysterium

Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

O magnum mysterium et admirabile sacramentum, ut animalia viderent Dominum natum jacentem in praeseptio. O beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Jesum Christum. Alleluja.

O great mystery and wondrous sacrament, that animals should see the birth of the Lord, and Him lying in a manger.
O blessed Virgin whose womb was worthy to carry the Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia.

Matins Responsory, Feast of the Nativity

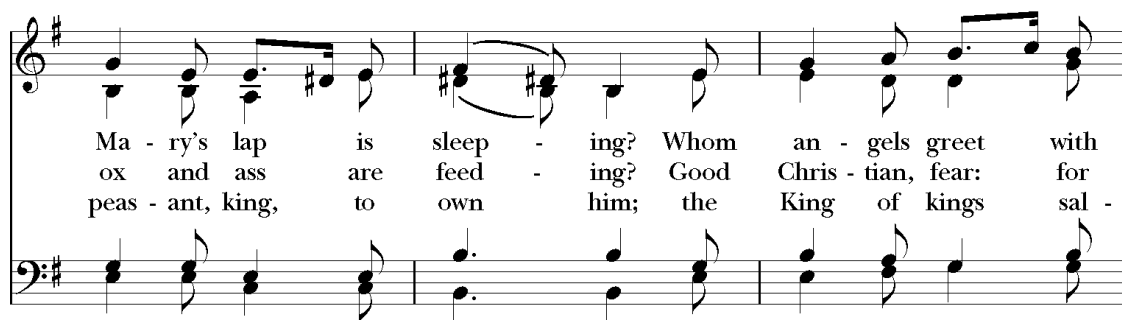
HYMN

*Sung by all, standing.**Greensleeves**What child is this?*

Unison or harmony



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,



Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with
 ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for
 peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

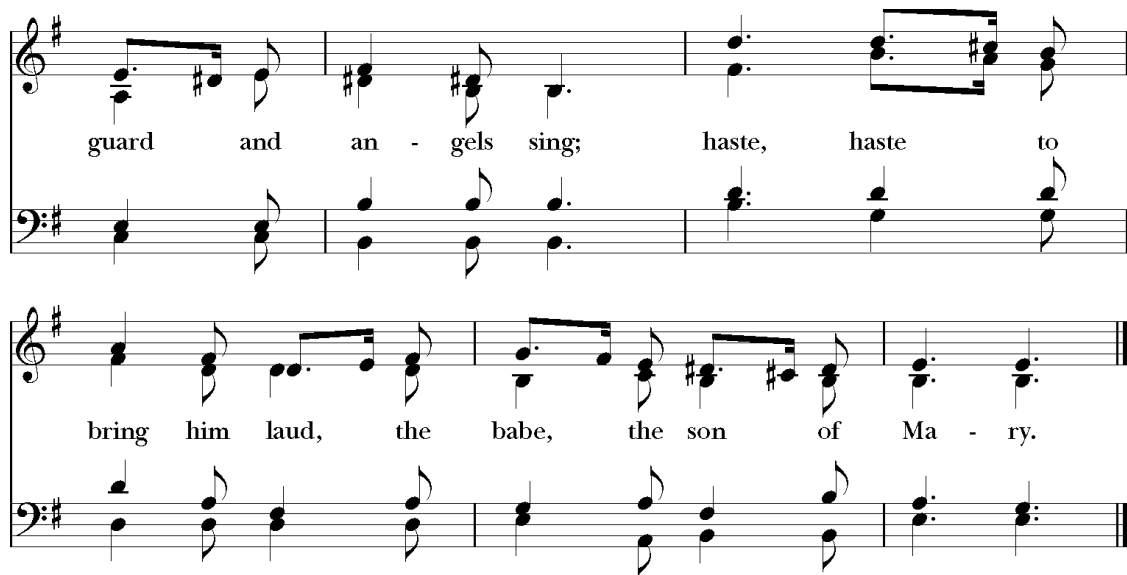


an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

Refrain



This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds



The people are seated.

FIFTH LESSON

In which the Word became flesh and lived among us

John 1:1–14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of human will, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

COLLECT

The people stand.

Glorious God: From the tabernacle of heaven you came to earth to illuminate our humanity. As we search for the light you kindle may we find it shining forth in ourselves and others. For as long as your light shines in our world, we will find you among us. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

ANTHEM

Sung by the Cathedral Choir.

Alleluya! A new work is come on hand

Peter Wishart (1921–1984)

Alleluya! A new work is come on hand through might and grace of God's son to save the lost of every land. For now is free that erst was bound. We may well sing Alleluya! Now is fulfilled the prophecy of David and of Jeremy and also of Isaiah. Sing we therefore both loud and high Alleluya! Alleluya, this sweetè song out of a green branch it sprung; God send us the life that lasteth long. Now joy and bliss be him among that thus can sing Alleluya!

The people stand.

HYMN

Joy to the world!

Sung by all.

Antioch

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
*3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
3 far as the curse is found, far
4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
peat the sound - ing joy,
as the curse is found,
won - ders of his love,

The people are seated.

MEDITATION

Dean Lloyd

ANTHEM

Sung by the Boy and Girl Choristers.

Balulalow

Peter Warlock (1894–1930)

O my dear hert, young Jesu sweet, Prepare thy creddil in my spreit. And I sall rock thee in my hert, and ne-ver mair from thee depert. But I sall praise thee evermore, with sangis sweet unto thy glor. The knees of my hert sall I bow, and sing that richt Balulalow.

INVITING THE OFFERING

An offering is received to support the ministries of the Cathedral. Alms basins will be passed by the ushers, then the congregation's tapers will be lighted from the Advent wreath by the acolytes. To pass the light, please hold lighted tapers upright and allow others to light their wicks from the flame. As always, we ask the congregation to be mindful of their own safety, and that of others, when holding lighted candles.

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

Sung by the Cathedral Choir and Cathedral Voices.

O holy night

Adolphe Adam (1803–1856)

arr. John Rutter (b. 1945)

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining, it is the night of the dear Savior's birth; long lay the world in sin and error pining, till he appeared and the soul felt its worth. A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn. Fall on your knees! Oh hear the angel voices! O night divine! O night when Christ was born, O night divine. Led by the light of faith serenely beaming, with glowing hearts by his cradle we stand; so, led by light of a star sweetly gleaming, here came the wise men from the Orient land. The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger, in all our trials born to be our friend; He knows our need, to our weakness no stranger; behold you King! Before him lowly bend! Truly he taught us to love one another; his law is love and his Gospel is peace. Chains shall he break for the slave is our brother, and in his name all oppression shall cease. Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, let all within us praise his Holy Name. Christ is the Lord, then ever, ever praise we, his pow'r and glory ever more proclaim.

PRAYERS

The people stand.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

As your Church throughout the world prepares to welcome the miracle of Christ's birth, open our hearts to receive him, that he may be born in us. Light of the world,

Shine in our hearts.

As Christ, the Prince of Peace draws near, we pray for harmony among nations. We pray for those in the war-torn areas of our world especially Iraq, Afghanistan, and Darfur. May you keep your human family from harm this night. Light of the world,

Shine in our hearts.

As you sheltered the holy family in the poverty of the stable, so keep in your care all who are in pain, despair, or distress this night. Shine the healing light of your countenance upon them. Light of the world,

Shine in our hearts.

As Christ lived among us in human flesh to restore our life in heaven and on earth, we pray for those who are dying and those who have died, that they may know the light of your unending day. Light of the world,

Shine in our hearts.

We bless you, Holy God, for you have visited your people. In human fragility you reveal the face of divinity. Gather into your arms all the peoples of the world, that in your embrace we may find blessing, peace, and the fullness of our inheritance as your daughters and sons. **Amen.**

In the words that Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Holy God, you spoke and your Word became flesh, breathing a new song of joy and praise into the world. Grant that we may bear the good news of your salvation, proclaiming glad tidings of peace, and welcoming Christ in our midst. **Amen.**

The people stand or kneel.

HYMN

Silent night

Sung by all.

Stille Nacht

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts—sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

BLESSING

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered all things earthly and heavenly into one, bestow upon you the fullness of peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

HYMN IN PROCESSION

Hark! the herald angels sing

The people stand to sing.

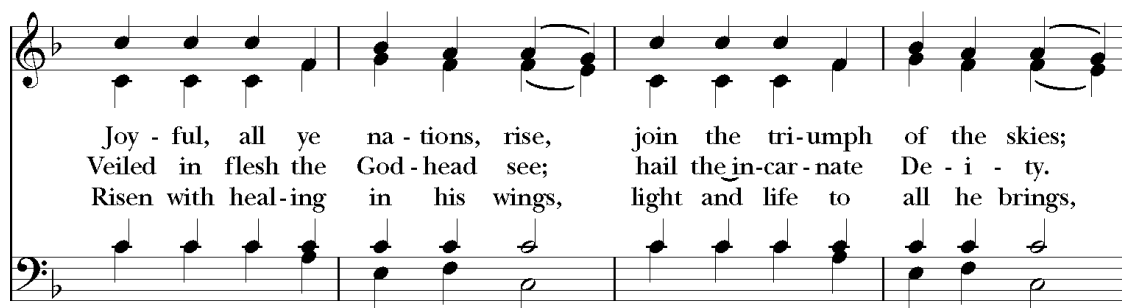
Mendelssohn



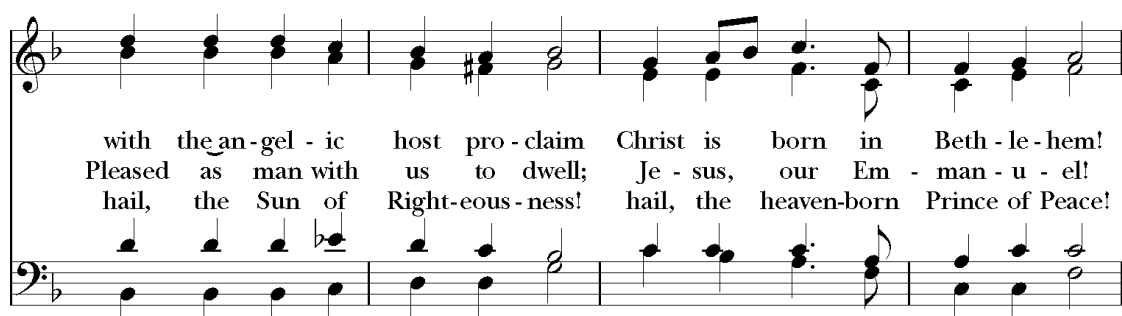
1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!
 2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



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.
 Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,



with the an-gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right-eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the radiant light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Please gently extinguish your candles and hold them upright until the wax hardens to avoid dripping wax. Upon your departure kindly place used tapers in the baskets provided.

POSTLUDE

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella

Keith Chapman (1945–1989)

OFFICIANTS

The Reverend Canon Carol L. Wade, The Reverend Canon Stephen Huber,
The Reverend Canon John L. Peterson, The Reverend Gwendolyn W. Tobias,
The Reverend Canon Preston B. Hannibal

HOMILIST

The Very Reverend Samuel T. Lloyd III

READERS

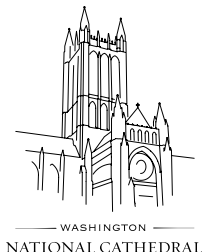
Joyce McCannon, William Blake, Melanie Mullen, Haley Hilliard, Jack Pannell, Jr.

MUSICIANS

The Cathedral Choir
Cathedral Voices
Michael McCarthy, *Director of Music*
Scott Dettra, *Organist*
Christopher Jacobson, *Assistant Organist*

The Advent greens throughout the Cathedral are given to the glory of God. The greens at the high altar are given in memory of Hibbard G. James; the Advent wreath at mid-nave is given in loving memory of Sarah Stewart Scarborough; the Advent wreath in St. Mary's Chapel is given in thanksgiving; the greens at the altar in St. Mary's Chapel are given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Larz Anderson; the greens at the altar in Holy Spirit Chapel are given in memory of Ann Wilson; the greens at the altar in Children's Chapel are given in memory of Wayne Evan Matejik; the greens at the altar in Ware Memorial Chapel are given in memory of Margaret H. Howard; the Advent wreath in Bethlehem Chapel is given in memory of Joan Sager Vandemark; and the greens at the altar in Bethlehem Chapel are given in honor of David, Michael, and Peter Lee.

PERMISSIONS *O come, all ye faithful.* Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others. Music: *Adeste fideles*, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906. Public Domain. *O little town of Bethlehem.* Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893). Music: *Forest Green*, English melody; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). By permission of Oxford University Press. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-709283. *What child is this, who, laid to rest.* Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898). Music: *Greensleeves*, English melody; harm. *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871. Public Domain. *Joy to the world! the Lord is come.* Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Antioch*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872). Public Domain. *Silent night, holy night.* Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885). Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910). Public Domain. *Hark! the herald angels sing.* Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Mendelssohn*, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915). Public Domain.



Massachusetts and Wisconsin Avenues, NW
Washington, DC 20016-5098
(202) 537-6200
www.nationalcathedral.org