

Music – Geoff Glead

Call to worship “Righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you” (Psalm 89; 14)

HYMN: O come all ye faithful (Essential Carols. King’s College Cambridge) Disc 1/9

<p>O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem. Come and behold Him, Born the King of Angels.</p> <p>O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.</p> <p>2) God of God Light of light eternal, Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb; Very God, Begotten not created</p>	<p>3) See how the shepherds, Summoned to his cradle , Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear, We too will thither Bend our joyful footsteps</p> <p>4) Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation, Sing all ye citizens of heaven above, "Glory to God In the highest"</p>
--	---

Fourth Candle of Advent: One candle to remind us of the prophets, the second for John the Baptist, the third for Mary, and the fourth is for us, as we join with them in looking for the coming of Jesus. (*)

Prayer Thanksgiving and Confession - Lord's Prayer

Bible Reading 1: Isaiah 9:2,6-7 Read by Anne Farrow

The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
 on them light has shined...

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
 authority rests upon his shoulders;
 and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
 His authority shall grow continually,
 and there shall be endless peace
 for the throne of David and his kingdom.
 He will establish and uphold it
 with justice and with righteousness
 from this time onwards and for evermore.
 The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Carol Sussex Carol (Essential Carols. King's College Cambridge) Disc 2/2

<p>1) On Christmas night all Christians sing to hear the news the angels bring 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</p>	<p>3) When sin departs before His grace then life and health come in its place 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 new-born King</p>
<p>2) Then why should men on earth be sad since our Redeemer made us glad Then why should men on earth be sad since our Redeemer made us glad When from our sin He set us free All for to gain our liberty</p>	<p>4) All out of darkness we have light which made the angels sing this night All out of darkness we have light which made the angels sing this night Glory to God and peace to men Now and forever more amen</p>

Poem: Advent 1957 (John Betjman) Read by Steve Brain

Carol Ding dong! Merrily on high (Essential Carols. King's College Cambridge) Disc 1/5

<p>Ding dong! merrily on high In heav'n the bells are ringing: Ding dong! verily the sky Is riv'n with Angel singing.</p> <p>Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!</p>	<p>E'en so here below, below, Let steeple bells be swungen, And "Io, io, io!" By priest and people sungen.</p> <p>Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!</p>	<p>Pray you, dutifully prime Your matin chime, ye ringers; May you beautifully rime Your evetime song, ye singers.</p> <p>Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!</p>
--	---	---

Prayer: Intercession - (prepared by Avril and Roy Lowes, read by David Leadbeater)

Reading 2: Luke 1: 26-38 Read by Peter Beale

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.

Dedication of the offerings

Sharing the Grace

Communion

Carol: Unto us is born a son (Essential Carols. King’s College Cambridge) Disc 1/8

<p>1. Unto us is born a son, King of choirs supernal: See on earth his life begun, Of lords the Lord eternal.</p> <p>2. Christ, from heav'n descending low, Comes on earth a stranger; Ox and ass their Owner know Becradled in a manger.</p> <p>3. This did Herod sore affray, And grievously bewilder, So he gave the word to slay, And slew the little childer.</p>	<p>4. Of his love and mercy mild This the Christmas story: O that Mary's gentle Child Might lead us up to glory!</p> <p>5. O & A and A & O, <i>Cum cantibus in choro,</i> Let our merry organ go <i>Benedicamus Domino.</i></p>
--	---

Blessing (*)

We have heard the words of the prophets. May we recognize God’s truth.
We have heard the words of angels. May we recognize God’s joy.
We have heard the words of promise. May we recognize God’s love.
And so may God bless us, Mystery of creation, child in the manger, Holy Spirit of Glory, and may we welcome and walk in the promise of God. AMEN

Music - Geoff Gleed

(*)Words from “Candles and Conifers”, ed Ruth Burges, Wild Goose Publications,
Iona Community
All words and music printed under Immanuel copyright licence. CCLI 547036