

GRACE CHURCH IN PROVIDENCE

Welcome to "Voices of Grace", our virtual worship experience that features parishioners leading worship from their own homes. We hope you join us from yours! Wherever you are, we pray for your health and well-being. God bless you!

Jonathan+

DECEMBER 20, 2020 ~ THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
VOICES OF GRACE "VIRTUAL" WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

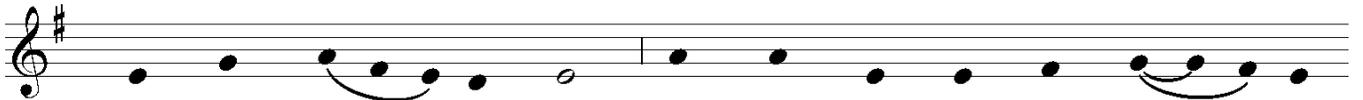
Gerald Near (b. 1942)

HYMN 56

Stanzas 1, 2, 4, & 7 only



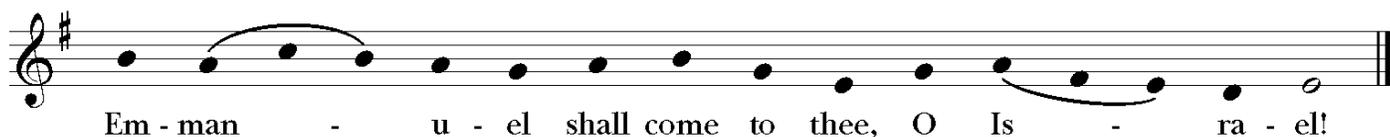
(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 (Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 (Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 (Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
 (Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
 (Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
 (Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the
 (Dec. 23) 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
 5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
 6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
 6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
 7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. Hymnal 1940, alt.
Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)

A PRAYER FOR ADVENT

Read by Juniper Segers

THE ADVENT WREATH PRAYERS

Sung by the Cantors

ADVENT IV

*Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, merciful and gentle:
to you be praise and glory for ever!*

Your light has shone in our darkened world
through the child-bearing of blessed Mary;
grant that we who have seen your glory
may daily be renewed in your image
and prepared like her for the coming of your Son,
who is the Lord and Saviour of all.
Blessed be God for ever.

Words: from *The Promise of His Glory*, 1990
Music: Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST LESSON

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Read by Mary Watkins

WHEN THE KING WAS SETTLED IN HIS HOUSE, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares

to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 89:1-4, 19-26

Said by all

Led by Peter Dugan

**Your love, O LORD, for ever will I sing; *
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; *
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.
“I have made a covenant with my chosen one; *
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
‘I will establish your line for ever, *
and preserve your throne for all generations.’”
You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: *
"I have set the crown upon a warrior
and have exalted one chosen out of the people.
I have found David my servant; *
with my holy oil have I anointed him.
My hand will hold him fast *
and my arm will make him strong.
No enemy shall deceive him, *
nor any wicked man bring him down.
I will crush his foes before him *
and strike down those who hate him.
My faithfulness and love shall be with him, *
and he shall be victorious through my Name.
I shall make his dominion extend *
from the Great Sea to the River.
He will say to me, ‘You are my Father, *
my God, and the rock of my salvation.’**



ANTHEM

AVE MARIA, gratia plena, Dominus tecum;
benedicta tu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis
peccatoribus, nunc et in hora mortis
nostrae. 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, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen.*

*Words: The Angelus Prayer, based on Luke 1:28
Music: Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)*

Erin Preston, Soprano ~ Nikki Lawrence, Mezzo-Soprano

THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

Read by Roberta Powell

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 forever, 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.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOMILY

The Rev. Hartwell Hylton, Deacon

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Led by William Galligan

Please join in responding to each petition saying:

Hear our prayer.



ADVENT PROSE

POUR DOWN, O HEAVENS, FROM ABOVE,
and let the skies rain down righteousness.

Turn your fierce anger from us, O Lord,
and remember not our sins forever.
Your holy cities have become a desert,
Zion a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation;
our holy and beautiful house,
where our fathers praised you.
Pour down, O heavens...

Comfort my people, comfort them;
my salvation shall not be delayed,
I swept your offences away like a cloud;
fear not for I will save you.
I am the Lord your God,
the Holy one of Israel, your redeemer.
Pour down, O heavens...

Music: Plainsong, Mode 1, arr. Stephen Cleobury (1948-2019)

~ PRAYER LIST ~

This week, we pray for: *Miriam Ganache, Ricky Birkes, Yran, Amana, Jacqui, Hope Brothers, Eli, Michael Tonry, Sue and Kevin Farley, Barbara Salisbury, Nancy Ducharme, Pat, Linda, Nyree, Brian, Tony McKeown, Sarah, Diana, Ruby, Lola, Jennifer, Art McGovern, Rob Compagna, Sean, Claire, Amanda, Jerry, Nancy, Nick, Richard and Christine Pelletier, Bill, Jen & Marc, Sarah, Robert Cramer, for the repose of the souls of John and Anne Sullivan, and all those caring for the sick, those seeking treatments and vaccines for the virus, and all those whose work places them in harm's way.* We also pray for those members of our church who are homebound.



GRACE CHURCH IN PROVIDENCE

300 Westminster Street • Providence • RI • 02903
401-331-3225 • www.GraceChurchProvidence.org

*All music in the service leaflet is reprinted with permission under onelicense.net.
License # A-722343*