

THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS
with
✠ ACEDÉ CONSORT ✠



SATURDAY DECEMBER 5TH AT 7:00 PM
SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH
515 19TH STREET
WATERVLIET, NEW YORK

Organ Chorale: “Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland” Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

–Dan Foster, organ

Hymn: *Veni, veni, Emanuel*, verses 1–4

15th Century French Plain Song

–Thomas F. Savoy, organ

(printed on pg. 7 of this program)

Introduction & Bidding Prayer

Fr. Edward Deimeke

Reading: Genesis 3:8–15

Advent Carol: “Adam Lay Ybounden”

Boris Ord (1897–1961)

*Adam lay ybounden, Bounden in a bond; Four thousand winter, Thought he not too long
And all was for an apple, An apple that he took, As clerkes finden, Written in their book.
Ne had the apple taken been, The apple taken been, Ne had never our ladie, Abeen heavené queen.
Blessed be the time That apple taken was, Therefore we moun [must] singen. Deo gracias!*

–Anonymous 15th Century English, Sloane Manuscript 2593

Reading: *Adam and Christ*

Fred Pratt Green (1903–2000)

Advent Carol: “Out of your sleep”

Richard Rodney Bennett (born 1936)

1. *Out of your sleep arise and wake, For God mankind now hath ytake [taken]
All of a maid without any make [equal]; Of all women she beareth the bell.*
2. *And through a maidè fair and wise, Now man is made of full great price;
Now angels kneel to man’s service, And at this time all this befell.*
3. *Now man is brighter than the sun; Now man in heaven on high shall wone [dwell];
Blessèd be God, this game is begun And His mother Empress of Hell.*
4. *That ever was thrall, now is he free; That ever was small, now great is she;
Now shall God judge both thee and me Unto His bliss if we do well.*
5. *Now man may to heaven wend; Now heaven and earth to Him they bend;
He that was foe now is our friend; This is no nay that I you tell.*
6. *Now blessèd Brother grant us grace At doomès day to see Thy face,
And in Thy court to have a place, That we may there sing thee Nowel.*

–Anonymous 15th Century, Selden Manuscript, Bodleian Library, Oxford

Premier:

Canticles for Advent: The Season of the Now

(An Advent cantata in five readings and five movements)

Text by Bertrand Fay, music by Thomas F. Savoy

Reading: Revelation 7:9–17

1. Pæan

I am Virgin; Bride and Mother; I am Thousands upon Thousands;

Sealed From ev'ry tribe; The Strength of Israel;

I am that Multitude Numberless; Which none can count

Orans; Stand I at prayer; In this Season of the Now

David's Root; And Morning's Star; The Beginning and the End;

He comes; Let all who hear Bright Advent's song

Sing; Come; Yes, said He; I am coming soon

This is the time; The Now; The Season of the Coming

Oh. come then; Jesus Lord; Quickly come

Maranatha, Maranatha

Reading: Luke 1:57–65, 67–80

2. Benedictus

Zechariah Priest of God; Serving in his turn; Rubbed his eyes; How could it be?

An Angel, Bright within the fragrant smoke, A word upon his lips

I stand before the Lord as Gabriel; Fear not, You are past reproach; Righteous and observant

Elizabeth does bear a son; You are to name him John

For powered like Elijah, He Shall prepare a people for their God

Disbelieving; it could not be, Zechariah went into his house

Sitting there in silence 'Til the birthday of his boy

Then was the time, The Now To sing his Advent Song

Sing it to the joy of all his neighbors; Sing it to the joy of all his friends

*Blessed be the Lord our God Who comes to us, The God of Israel, Savior and Redeemer
He rescues us from this world's hate; Faithful to His covenant; Sworn to Abraham
Let us serve Him without fear; Our Lives but paths of justice; Holy on our way*

*O child, my son; Witness to God's power; Prophet to His might
Go before Him; Yes, prepare His ways; Tell all; They are made new
For tender is the mercy Of our God; His day does dawn upon us
In our darkness There is light; In death's shadow There is life
Our feet Are on the way of peace*

Reading: Luke 1:39–55

3. Magnificat

*Now came a time When Mary made her way; Woman's kindness in her purpose
A visit of three months To her aged kin By God's will With child
Elizabeth received her at her door A hand pressed to her waist
A smile upon her face God's Spirit in her speech*

*How is it you come to me, Mother of my Lord, Of all women blest;
Whose womb bears much fruit; The sweet reward of faith According to God's word*

And Mary sang this Advent Song:

*My soul An Advent Song aburst; My spirit soaring in praise of Him, My Savior-God
Though I serve Him with humility, There is no voice But names me blest; His deeds my favor
Adonai; Holy is His Name; Steadfast love; Mercy without measure
Time and time again; Towards those who are His own; He is Shaddai
Strong of arm; The mighty Vain and proud Blown 'way like chaff
Empty are the bellies of the rich; The poor and hungry feast
Israel was ne'er forgot; Abraham remembered; His word; Forever true*

Reading: Luke 2:22–39

4. *Nunc Dimittis*

*There came a time, A Now To bring the child; Present him to the Lord;
Enter precincts of the Temple; Travel to Jerusalem
A Man named Simeon was There Among the Poor of Adonai
He kept a promise in his heart; God's Spirit spoke to him;
His eyes though dim, He had been told Would see the Light That is the Christ
The Child He gathered in his arms; What was, what was to be; Promise thus fulfilled*

And from his heart, He sang this Advent Song:

*Lord, My days complete, my hours done, My service rendered You
At end, in peace, For You and You alone; Faithful to Your word, Have shown me my redemption
The Word You spoke to Israel; A Light to all Peoples Of the Earth.*

*And then did Anna come, Old and bent and sere
She gave her thanks and of the child; She spoke to all Jerusalem
Glory, Glory, Glory Lord; All Glory be to God*

Reading: John 1:1–5, 9–14

5. *Pæan (Reprise)*

Reading from *Of the Nativity*

St. John of the Cross (1542–1591)

Advent Carol: “The Blessed Son of God”

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

*The blessed son of God only; In a crib full poor did lie;
With our poor flesh and our poor blood; Was clothed that everlasting good.
Kyrie eleison. [Lord have mercy]*

*The Lord Christ Jesu, God's son dear, Was a guest and a stranger here;
Us for to bring from misery, That we might live eternally.
Kyrie eleison.*

*All this did he for us freely, For to declare his great mercy;
All Christendom be merry therefore, And give him thanks for evermore.
Kyrie eleison.*

Closing Prayer

Fr. Edward Deimeke

Hymn: *Veni, veni Emanuel*, verses 5–7

15th Century French Plain Song

–Thomas F. Savoy, organ

(printed on pg. 7 of this program)

Toccatto in F major, BWV 540

Bach

–Dan Foster, organ

Notes

The task at hand was to prepare a piece for a talented choral group to be performed at their annual celebration of Advent Lessons and Carols. December's days are those of Advent, a season of a double preparation, for the liturgical celebration of the First Coming of The Christ at Bethlehem, and for the Final Coming known as the Parousia, the great redemptive manifestation on the Last Day. The Advent season is a time of tenderness and human warmth captured in the anticipated Birth Story occupying the Gospel readings of the liturgical season of The Nativity. Advent is also redolent with a spirit of awe, a determination about readiness, captured in the Advent Gospel readings about the apocalyptic ending of the world and the manifestation of God's Kingdom.

Thinking about the choral group for which I was working, I wanted to do some thing traditional in terms of choral literature. I decided on the three canticles of the Lucan Infancy Narrative, two of which, the Magnificat and the Nunc Dimittis, set by Bach, are frequently performed. As is my choice with biblical material, I re-worked the three texts attempting to freshen their language and thus renew them in the listening ear and so attract it. I decided to present each canticle with an introduction derived from the Lucan settings. The warmth and the humanity of the season I tried to catch in the brief scenes for Zechariah, Elizabeth and Mary, Simeon and Anna. Accommodating the passages to the talents of the choral group I presented them as opportunities for solo work.

That the canticles are Advent pieces needs little comment. Each character embraces an Advent moment, a Coming, a Manifestation of the Power of God, each pointing to the Consummation of God's Kingdom. What does require some attention here is the "nowness" of the Advent Season, the concept repeated throughout the written piece.

Advent is that season of the Church's Year of Grace, a sacred time, *chairoi*, which corresponds to secular time, *chronos*, in that the world moves ever towards its historical finality. The great Acts of God, done in history, are acts of the past, their graces and power made present to us by the dynamic of liturgical *anamnesis*—sacramental remembrance. God's final act is not absent to us in the Advent liturgy; it is made present, anticipated, in the rites of the season. Thus as past sacred history is ours, so too liturgically, ours is now what is yet to come. *Chairoi* and *chronos* meet. We are in God's Eternal Present; that is to say, The Now.

What is original in Canticles is in the text of the opening Pæan based on passages from Revelation. The voice speaking in the lines of the Pæan is the voice of The Assembly of the Just, the gathered, *kahal*—synagoge, *ekklesia*—the saved, imaged in the Orans figure. The Pæan establishes the orientation of Canticles. It is entirely eschatological, "He comes;" but the eschatology is a realized one, "This is the time," sings the Orans, "This is The Now."

—Bertrand Fay

Veni, veni Emanuel

9th Century Latin, The O Antiphons

15th Century French Plainsong

Verses 1-4



1. O come, O come, Em - ma - nu - el, And ran-som cap-tive Is - ra - el,
2. O come, Thou Wis - dom from _____ on high, Who ord-'rest all things migh - ti - ly;
3. O come, O come, Thou Lord _____ of Might, Who to Thy tribes on Si - nai's height
4. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se's stem From ev -'ry foe de - li - ver them

2



That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God _____ ap - pear.
To us the path of know - ledge show, And teach us in her ways _____ to go.
In an - cient times didst give _____ the law, In cloud, and ma - je - sty, _____ and awe.
That trust thy migh - ty pow - er to save, And give them vict -'ry o'er _____ the grave.

4



Re-joice! Re-joice! Em - ma - nu - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Verses 5-7

8



5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our heav - 'nly home;
6. O come, thou Day-spring from _____ on high, And cheer us by thy dra - wing nigh;
7. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the hearts of all _____ man-kind;

10



Make safe the way that leads _____ on high, And close the path to mi - se - ry.
Dis - perse the gloo - my clouds of night, And death's dark sha - dow put _____ to flight.
Bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, And be thy - self our King _____ of Peace.

12



Re-joice! Re-joice! Em - ma - nu - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

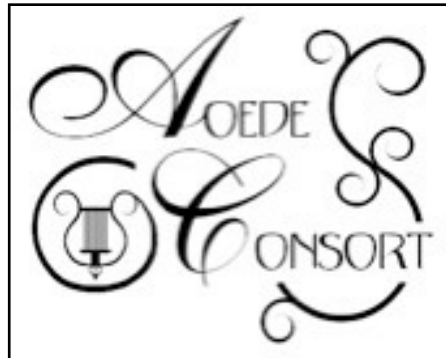
Aoede Consort

Sopranos

Deborah Savoy
Sabrina Manna

Tenors

Dan Foster
John Schreiner



Altos

Mary Abba-Gleason
Ann Marie Grathwol

Basses

Jim Crum
David Loy
Steven Marking
Stephen Piwowski

Special Guests

Thomas F. Savoy, composer and organist
Bertrand Fay, text

Dan Foster, director

Named after the Greek muse of song, Aoede Consort [ay-uh-dee] is dedicated to the preservation and furtherance of the choral arts. Through the performance of masterpieces from antiquity to the present day, community outreach and education, Aoede Consort seeks to present the highest standards of vocal performance and aims to bring a deeper understanding and appreciation for choral music to the community. Be sure to check our website or email us for information on future performances.

Your tax deductible contribution can be made to:
Aoede Inc., 112 Maple Avenue, Troy, NY 12180.