



St Matthew's Church  
Carver Street

LIVE-STREAMED

# *Longing for Light*

An Advent Meditation

A service of seasonal readings and organ  
music by  
Bach, Dupré and Brahms amongst others

Sunday 29 November, 5pm

[www.facebook.com/carverstreet1855](http://www.facebook.com/carverstreet1855)

Comfort  
and Joy 

## **Introit: Ad te levavi**

---

Ad te levavi animam meam, Deus  
meus, in te confido:  
non erubescam neque irrideant me  
inimici mei.  
Etenim universi qui te expectant non  
confudentur.

*Versus:*

Vias tuas, Domine, demonstra mihi:  
et semitas tuas edoce me.

*Unto thee, O Lord, will I lift up my soul;  
my God, I have put my trust in thee:  
O let me not be confounded, neither let  
mine enemies triumph over me.  
For all they that hope in thee shall not be  
ashamed.*

*Introit verse:*

*Shew me thy ways, O Lord : and teach  
me thy paths.*

## **BIDDING PRAYER followed by The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, which 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 them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
But deliver us from evil:  
For thine is the Kingdom,  
the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

**First Lesson**     *Isaiah 40:1-8*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah: *The Prophet proclaims good news to a people in exile*

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,  
and all flesh shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Here ends the first lesson.

**ORGAN**             *Creator alme siderum*

Marcel Dupré

**Second Lesson**     *Jeremiah 23:5-6*

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah: *The Lord promises to send his people a righteous King*

“Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and

Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called:  
'The Lord is our righteousness.'

Here ends the second lesson.

**ORGAN** *Chorale Prelude on Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottes-Sohn* (BWV 601)

**Third Lesson** *Zechariah 9:9-10*

A reading from the prophet Zechariah: *The Lord promises that the King will come to Israel in peace*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on an ass,

on a colt the foal of an ass.

I will cut off the chariot from E'phraim

and the war horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Here ends the third lesson.

**ORGAN** *Fantasia on Veni Emmanuel*

Alec Rowley

**Fourth Lesson** *Haggai 2:6-9*

A reading from the prophet Haggai: *The prophet foretells the advent of the desire of all nations*

For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all

nations, so that the treasures of all nations shall come in, and I will fill this house with splendour, says the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. The latter splendour of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.'"

Here ends the fourth lesson.

**ORGAN** *Chorale Prelude on Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* (BWV 659)

**Fifth Lesson:** *Isaiah 35: 1-6*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah: *The Prophet foretells the glory of the kingdom of God*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

"Be strong, fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

Here ends the fifth lesson.

**ORGAN** *Chorale Improvisation on Mit Ernst, o Menschenkinder* Karg-Elert

**Sixth Lesson:**            *St Luke 1: 26-35, 38*

A reading from the Gospel of Luke: *The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name 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 father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no husband?" And 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 called holy, the Son of God.

And Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Here ends the sixth lesson.

**ORGAN**    *Es ist ein Ros entsprungen*

Johannes Brahms

**Seventh Lesson:**        *St Mark 1: 1-15*

A reading from the Gospel of St Mark: *Jesus proclaims the coming of the kingdom of God*

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

"Behold, I send my messenger before thy face,

who shall prepare thy way;  
the voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight—”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased.” The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel.”

Here ends the seventh lesson.

**Recessional: Advent Sequence**