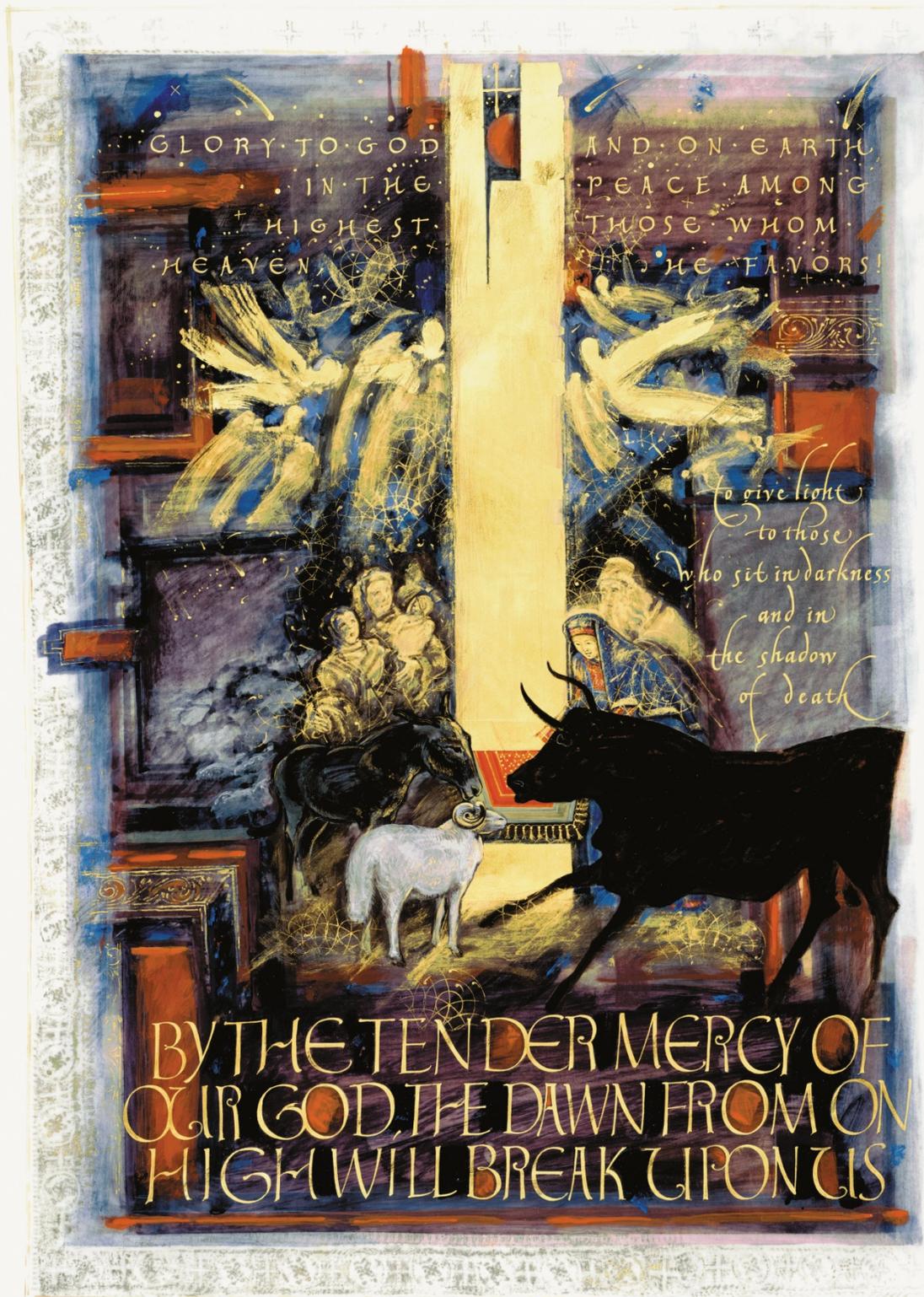


GLORY TO GOD  
IN THE  
HIGHEST  
HEAVEN

AND ON EARTH  
PEACE AMONG  
THOSE WHOM  
HE FAVORS!

*To give light  
to those  
who sit in darkness  
and in  
the shadow  
of death*

BY THE TENDER MERCY OF  
OUR GOD THE DAWN FROM ON  
HIGH WILL BREAK UPON US



## Vespers for the Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome: Sister Michele Bisbey, CDP Provincial

Call to Prayer:

O God who dwells in us and bestows upon us beauty, grant us the grace to welcome your gift, and generously offer you the gift of ourselves this Advent.  
(Caryll Houselander)

**Evening Hymn: (please stand)**

### O COME, DIVINE MESSIAH

VENEZ, DIVIN MESSIE

Verses



1. O come, di - vine Mes - si - ah; The world in  
2. O Christ, whom na - tions sigh for, Whom priest and  
3. You come in peace and meek - ness And low - ly

1. si - lence waits the day When hope shall sing its  
2. proph - et long fore - told, Come, break the cap - tive's  
3. will your cra - dle be; All clothed in hu - man

1. tri - umph And sad - ness flee a - way.  
2. fet - ters, Re - deem the long - lost fold.  
3. weak - ness Shall we your God - head see.

Refrain



Dear Sav - ior, haste! Come, come to earth. Dis - pel the  
night and show your face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O  
come, di - vine Mes - si - ah; the world in si - lence waits the day when  
hope shall sing its tri - umph and sad - ness flee a - way.

Text: 78 76 with refrain; Abbé Simon-Joseph Pellegrin, 1663–1745; tr. by S. Mary of St. Philip, 1877.  
Music: Trad. French Carol, 16th cent.

Prayer of Blessing Over the People (*please be seated*)

*Please repeat the refrain after the Cantor and then sing after each verse.*

Psalm 141 David Haas

My prayers rise be - fore you, like in - cense, O  
Lord. My hands like the eve - ning of - f'ring.

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Prayer As Candles Are Lighted:

As we light three candles on our Advent wreath, let us rejoice in the Lord always for indeed, the Lord is near. **All: Amen.**

Psalm One (Psalm 29: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13)

**Antiphon: Sing to the Lord a new song.**

1. Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all you lands. Sing to the Lord; bless God's name.
2. Announce God's salvation, day after day. Tell God's glory among the nations; among all peoples, God's wondrous deeds.

1. Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice; let the sea and what fills it resound; let the plains be joyful and all that is in them! Then shall all the trees of the forest exult.
2. They shall exult before the Lord, for God comes; for God comes to rule the earth. The Lord shall rule the world with justice and the peoples with constancy.

**Antiphon: Sing to the Lord a new song.**

Psalm Prayer:

God of our journeys, yours is the morning, and yours is the evening. All the windings of our lives are held in your hands. Darkness now stretches before us and we lift our hearts to you in prayer. Let our songs and our silence, our dreams and our devotions, be the evening sacrifice acceptable to you, through Jesus, our Emmanuel.

**All: Amen.**

Psalm Two (Psalm 24: 7, 8, 9, 10)

**Antiphon:**

Christ, cir - cle round us. Christ, may your light sur -

round us. Shine in our liv - ing. Fill our hearts

with great thanks giv - ing.

The musical notation consists of three staves. The first staff is in 3/4 time and contains the melody for the first line of text. The second staff is in 3/4 time and contains the melody for the second line of text. The third staff is in 3/4 time and contains the melody for the third line of text. The melody is simple and uses a mix of quarter and eighth notes.

1. Lift up, O gates, your lintels; reach up, you ancient portals, that the king of glory may come in!
2. Who is this king of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.
1. Lift up, O gate, your lintels; reach up, you ancient portals, that the king of glory may come in!
2. Who is this king of glory? The Lord of hosts; he is the king of glory.

**Antiphon (sung): Christ, circle round us, Christ, may your light surround us,  
Shine in our living, Fill our hearts with great thanksgiving.**

Psalm Prayer:

God, we name you: Beacon shining in the darkness, safe harbor from the storm. Calm our restless heart in your limitless peace; reward our faithful searching with the vision of your face. Over and over again, bring us home to you.

**All: Amen.**

Gospel: *Luke 2:1-7 (please stand)*

Reader One:

*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 cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.*

The Gospel of our Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Reader Two:

This illumination is the front piece of the Gospel of Luke in The St. John's Bible. In the illumination, we see light breaking through the darkness. The Divine is imaged in the shaft of gold coming from the feeding trough. The horizontal line of light makes the figure a cross. Angels seem to dart back and forth.

Notice the expressions on the faces of those who gaze into the manger (which looks like a book cover). Mary and Joseph, standing on the right, are somewhat diminished in their presentation. Rather than focusing on a baby in a manger, this illumination features the manger as an altar table. It allows for our participation in the scene.

Time of Reflection: ***(please be seated)***

How do you respond to the explicit connection between the manger and cross?

What figure would you put in the manger, to signify your experience of the Incarnation in your own life?

Collection:

*While some quiet music plays, we will take up a collection for the homeless.*

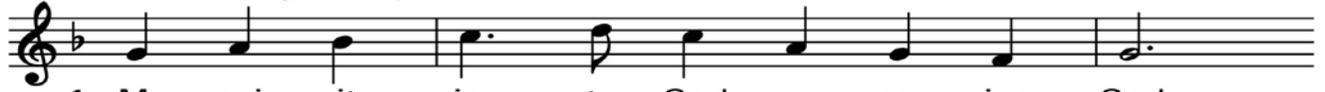
Magnificat: *(please stand)*

## GOSPEL CANTICLE (MAGNIFICAT)

Bernadette Farrell



1. My soul pro - claims the great-ness of the Lord.
2. Through me great deeds will God make man - i - fest,
3. God's might - y arm, pro - tec - tor of the just,
4. Soon will the poor and hun - gry of the earth
5. All glo - ry be to God, Cre - a - tor blest,



1. My spir - it sings to God, my sav - ing God,
2. And all the earth will come to call me blest.
3. Will guard the weak and raise them from the dust.
4. Be rich - ly blest, be giv - en great - er worth.
5. To Je - sus Christ, God's love made man - i - fest,



1. Who on this day a - bove all oth - ers fa - vored me
2. Un - bound - ed love and mer - cy sure will I pro - claim
3. But might - y kings will swift - ly fall from thrones cor - rupt.
4. And Is - ra - el, as once fore - told to A - bra - ham,
5. And to the Ho - ly Spir - it, gen - tle Com - fort - er,



1. And raised me up, a light for all to see.
2. For all who know and praise God's ho - ly name.
3. The strong brought low, the low - ly lift - ed up.
4. Will live in peace through - out the prom - ised land.
5. All glo - ry be, both now and ev - er - more.

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Prayers of Intercession: Our response will be, “Provident God, hear our prayer.”

Jesus, you came into this world as a baby and became part of the human family. We ask for blessings upon all families, especially those who may be separated for any reason, we pray:

Jesus, you came into this world to be the light breaking through all the darkness. We ask for that light to shine on those in today’s world who still dwell in any overwhelming darkness, we pray:

Jesus, you came into this world to fulfill your destiny as the One who was the ultimate sacrifice that brought us salvation. We ask for that same mercy in our world today as so many seek to be granted justice, freedom and dignity, we pray:

Jesus, you came into this world to bring the peace that surpasses all understanding. We ask for your grace to always guide our feet in the way of peace, we pray:

Jesus, you came into this world to invite us to become the very life of God, to enter into your Incarnation. We ask for the vision to be your hands, your feet, and your voice in our world today, we pray:

The Lord’s Prayer: Let us sing the words of Jesus who is our Emmanuel.

Sign of Peace: Let us extend to one another the peace of Christ.

Closing Prayer (pray together)

God of daily life, You are the light for our eyes, music for our ears, health for our bodies. We rely on your power to sustain us in sleep this night; we rely on your grace to lead us closer to your Son, Jesus, who is our Emmanuel. Amen.

Closing Song: We will sing verses 5 & 6.

## O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL

Verses



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And  
 2. O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who  
 3. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who  
 4. O come, Thou Rod of Jes - se's stem, From  
 5. O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And  
 6. O come, Thou Day-spring from on high And  
 7. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In

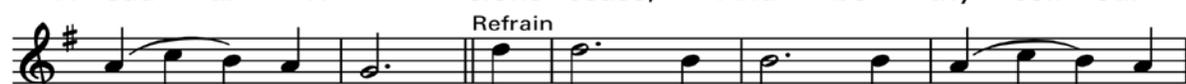


1. ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in  
 2. or - d'rest all things might - i - ly; To us the  
 3. to thy tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient  
 4. ev - 'ry foe de - liv - er them That trust thy  
 5. o - pen wide our heav - 'nly home; Make safe the  
 6. cheer us by thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the  
 7. one the hearts of all hu - man - kind; Bid thou our



1. lone - ly ex - ile here Un - til the Son of  
 2. path of knowl - edge show, And teach us in her  
 3. times didst give the law, In cloud and maj - es -  
 4. might - y pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry  
 5. way that leads on high, And close the path to  
 6. gloom - y clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ow  
 7. sad di - vi - sions cease, And be thy - self our

Refrain



1. God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u -  
 2. ways to go.  
 3. ty and awe.  
 4. o'er the grave.  
 5. mis - er - y.  
 6. put to flight.  
 7. Prince of Peace.



el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text: LM with refrain; Latin, 9th cent.; verses 1, 3-6, para. in *Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum*, Cologne, 1710; tr. by John Mason Neale, 1818-1866; verses 2, 7 tr. fr. *The Hymnal 1940*, alt.  
 Music: *Processionale*, 15th cent. French; adapt. by Thomas Helmore, 1811-1890; Chant, Mode I.

Please join us for a dessert reception in the Community Room.