

**EVENING PRAYER in ADVENT
2014**

*Gather in curved facing rows of chairs in front of font doors
Candles lit, lights low; MFL books with psalm sheets; bell and handbells.
Recruit a reader.
Recruit someone to light Advent candles, someone for incense.*

Opening Prayer

Leader

Please stand.

Leader sings O Antiphon of week

Opening Song

Leader asks someone to add incense to thurible

We'll sing #30 O Radiant Light in your big MFL books, #30
All sing

Leader

Please take your seats.

All sit

Share a word or phrase you bring with you tonight.

All share a word or phrase.

[pause]

Now it is evening; the day is over. What is done is done. What is not done is not done. Let it be. *[pause]*

Psalm

Leader

We'll sing Psalm ____ on your sheet.

Leader gives tone

All sing

Reading

Leader

Hear a reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Reader stands in place and reads from script, then sits down.

Canticle

Leader

Let's sing_____.

Choose My Soul Proclaims, MFL #49 or #50

or In the Beginning MFL #53

or All of Creation Rejoices in You MFL #60

Leader

Share a word or phrase from the reading or songs that you hear now.

All share a word or phrase.

Silence

Leader rings pot bells, 2 minutes silence, handbells

Lord's Prayer

Leader

Let's stand and sing #115, Now It is Evening.

We'll pause after the third verse, and offer our own prayers aloud after the prayer for peace, then finish together. #115.

After verse 3, leader offers prayer for peace. After free prayers, leader offers prayer for the dead, then gives tone for all to finish with verse 4.

Closing Song

Leader

We'll walk together to the Advent candle/Advent wreath/icon [*pick a nearby icon, or site in the rotunda with an Advent object and a candle*]
and as we go we'll sing by ear, three times

♪ Now in peace O Lord, let your servant go, alleluia

For my eyes have seen your salvation, alleluia.

Closing Prayer

Leader

♪ Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your son came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again for the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen.

Dismissal

Leader

Let us bless the Lord!

People

Thanks be to God.

Peace *All exchange sign of peace, put out all candles*

ADVENT SCHEDULE

Antiphons

November 11 & 13: O Wisdom
November 18 & 20: O Adonai
November 25 (27 is Thanksgiving): O King of the Nations
December 2 & 4: O Emmanuel
December 9 & 11: O Root of Jesse
December 16 & 18 O Key of David
December 22 (24 is Christmas Eve): O Dayspring

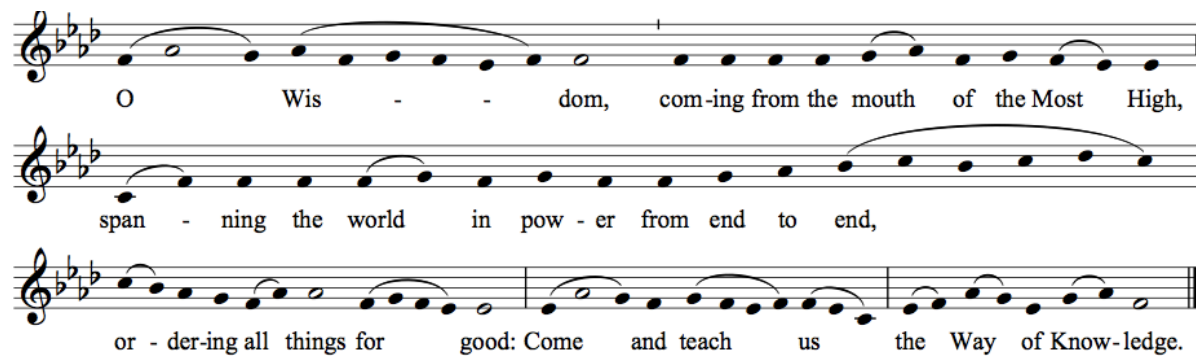
Psalms

November 11: Psalm 90
November 13: Psalm 103
November 18: Psalm 68: 1-7
November 20: Psalm 98
November 25: Psalm 33
December 2: Psalm 24
December 4: Psalm 139
December 9: Psalm 72
December 11: Psalm 121
December 16: Psalm 147
December 18: Psalm 144
December 22: Psalm 96

Readings

November 11: Isaiah 55: 8-11
November 13: Isaiah 40: 28-31
November 18: Isaiah 61: 10-11
November 20: Isaiah 40: 3-5
November 25: Isaiah 43: 10-12
December 2: Isaiah 9: 1-2; 5
December 4: Isaiah 43: 1-4
December 9: Isaiah 11: 1-5
December 11: Isaiah 11: 6-10
December 16: Isaiah 40: 1
December 18: Isaiah 25: 6-8
December 22: Isaiah 42: 6-9

November 11: O Wisdom



O Wis - - dom, com-ing from the mouth of the Most High,
span - ning the world in pow - er from end to end,
or - der-ing all things for good: Come and teach us the Way of Know-ledge.

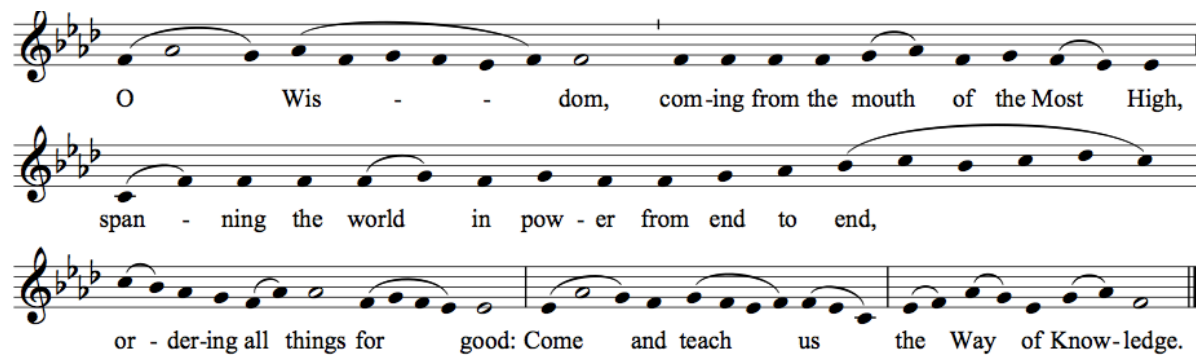
Psalm 90

You have been our haven, Lord, from generation to generation.*
Before the mountains existed, before the earth was born,
from age to age you are God.
You return us to dust, children of the earth back to earth.*
For in your eyes a thousand years are like a single day:
they pass with the swiftness of sleep.
You sweep away the years as sleep passes at dawn,*
like grass that springs up in the day, and is withered by evening.
For we perish at your wrath, your anger strikes terror.*
You lay bare our sins in the piercing light of your presence.
All our days wither beneath your glance,*
our lives vanish like breath.
Our lives are a mere seventy years, eighty with good health,*
and all it gives us is toil and distress; then the thread breaks and we are gone.
Who can know the force of your anger? Your fury matches our fear.*
Teach us to make use of our days and bring wisdom to our hearts.
How long O Lord, before you return?*Pity your servants, shine your love on us each dawn, and gladden all our days.
Balance our past sorrows and present joys*
and let your servants, young and old, see the splendor of your work.
Let your loveliness shine on us,*
and bless the work we do, bless the work of our hands.

Isaiah 55: 8-11

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, and your ways are not my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so are my ways higher above your ways, my thoughts higher than your thoughts. As the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so it is with the Word that goes forth from my mouth. It will not return to me unfulfilled, or without carrying out my desire, and accomplishing what it was sent to do.

November 13: O Wisdom



O Wis - - dom, com-ing from the mouth of the Most High,
span - ning the world in pow - er from end to end,
or - der-ing all things for good: Come and teach us the Way of Know-ledge.

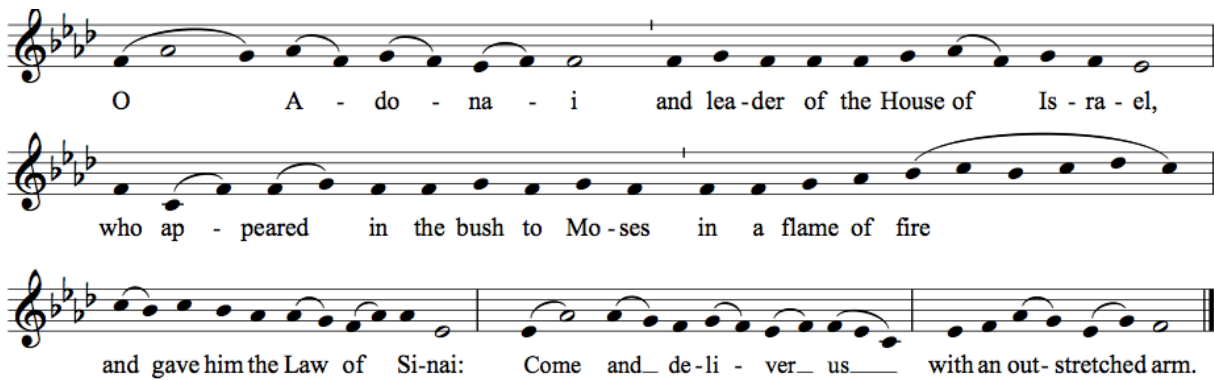
Psalm 103

My soul, bless the Lord, bless God's holy name *
My soul, bless the Lord, hold dear all God's gifts
Bless God, who forgives your sin and heals every illness,*
who snatches you from death and enfolds you with tender care,
Who fills your life with richness and gives you an eagle's strength.*
The Lord, who works justice and defends the oppressed,
teaches Moses and Israel divine ways and deeds.
The Lord is tender and caring slow to anger, rich in love.*
God will not accuse us long, nor bring our sins to trial,
nor exact from us in kind what our sins deserve.
As high as heaven above earth, so great is God's love for believers.*
As far as east from west, so God removes our sins.
As tender as father to child, so gentle is God to believers.*
The Lord knows how we are made, remembers we are dust.
Our days pass by like grass, our prime like a flower in bloom.*
A wind comes, the flower goes, empty now its place.
God's love is from all ages, God's justice beyond all time*
for believers of each generation: those who keep the covenant, who take care to live the law.
The Lord reigns from heaven, rules over all there is.*
Bless the Lord, you angels, strong and quick to obey, attending to God's word.
Bless the Lord, you powers, eager to serve God's will.*
Bless the Lord, you creatures, everywhere under God's rule. My soul, bless the Lord!

Isaiah 40:28-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is beyond fathoming. He gives strength to the weary, and power to the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and never faint.

November 18: O Adonai



O A - do - na - i and lea - der of the House of Is - ra - el,
who ap - peared in the bush to Mo - ses in a flame of fire
and gave him the Law of Si - nai: Come and de - li - ver us with an out - stretched arm.

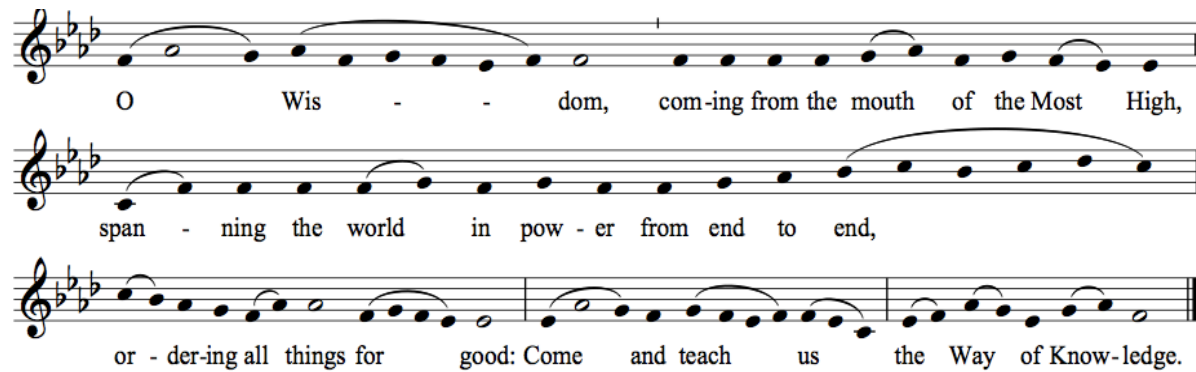
Psalm 68: 1-7

God rises up, enemies of heaven scatter:*
they disperse like smoke, they melt like wax, they perish before God.
But the just are glad,*
they rejoice before God and celebrate with song.
Sing to God's name, play hymns!*God rides the clouds. Send up a song!
"Adonai" is God's name. Rejoice!*Father to the fatherless, defender of widows: God in the temple.
God gives the homeless a home, sets prisoners free to prosper,*
but the rebellious are banished to the wild.
God, when you led your people, when you marched in the desert,*
earth shook, heaven rained before you, Israel's God, the Lord of Sinai.
You gave us downpours to refresh the promised land where you nourish your flock.*
Gracious God, you strengthen the weak.

Isaiah 61: 10-11

I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in a cloak of saving justice, like a bridegroom wearing his garland, a bride adorned in her jewels. For as the earth sends up its shoots and a garden makes seeds sprout, so the Lord God makes saving justice and praise spring up in the sight of all nations.

November 20: O Adonai



O Wis - - dom, com-ing from the mouth of the Most High,
span - ning the world in pow - er from end to end,
or - der-ing all things for good: Come and teach us the Way of Know-ledge.

Psalm 98

Sing to the Lord a new song, the Lord of wonderful deeds.*
Right hand and holy arm brought victory to God.
God made that victory known, revealed justice to nations,*
remembered a merciful love loyal to the house of Israel.
The ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.*
Shout to the Lord, you earth, break into song, into praise!
Sing praise to God with a harp, with a harp and sound of music.*
With sound of trumpet and horn, shout to the Lord, our king.
Let the sea roar with its creatures, the world and all that live there!*Let rivers clap their hands, the hills ring out their joy!
The Lord our God comes, comes to rule the earth,*
justly to rule the world, to govern the peoples aright.

Isaiah 40: 3-5

A voice cries out: "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. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

November 25: O King of the Nations

O King of the Na - tions, and their De - sire,
the cor - ner - stone who makes both walls one:
Come and save hu - man-kind, whom you formed of clay.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'O King of the Nations'. It consists of three staves of music in a treble clef, with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn, the second staff contains the second line, and the third staff contains the third line. The music is written in a simple, melodic style with many slurs and ties.

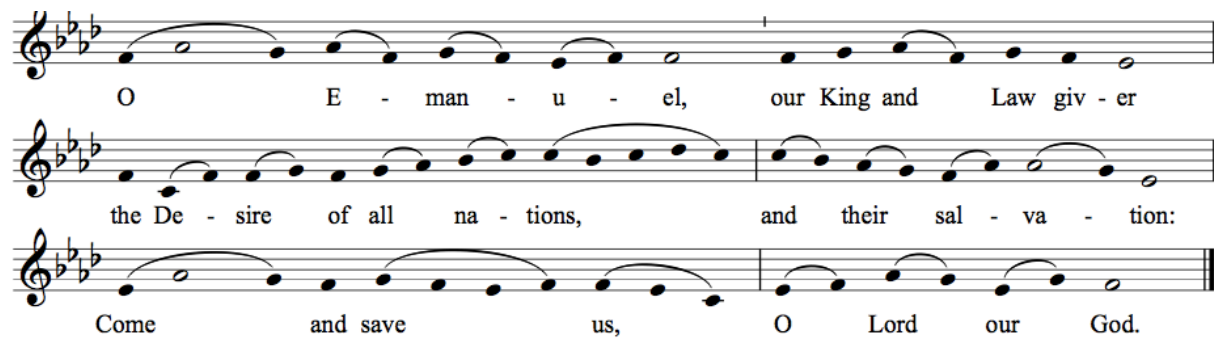
Psalm 33

Shout joy to the Lord, lovers of justice, how right to praise!*
Praise God on the harp, with ten-string lyre sing to the Lord.
Sing God a new song. Play music to match your shout of joy.*
For the word of the Lord is true: what God says, God does.
This lover of truth and justice fills the earth with love.*
God speaks: the heavens are made; God breathes: the stars shine.
God bottles the waters of the sea and stores them in the deep.*
All earth, be astounded, stand in awe of God.
God speaks: the world is; God commands: all things appear.*
God blocks the plans of nations, disrupts all they contrive.
But God's plan and designs last from age to age.*
Blest the land whose god is the Lord, the heirs whom God has chosen.
The Lord looks down and sees our human kind.*
From heaven God surveys all peoples on earth.
The maker of human hearts knows every human act.*
Armies do not save kings; brute force does not spare soldiers.
The warhorse is a sham,*
despite its power it will not save.
God keeps a loving eye on all who believe, on those who count on God*
to bring relief from famine, to rescue them from death.
With all we are, we wait for God,*
the Lord, our help, our shield.
Our hearts find joy in the Lord; we trust God's holy name.*
Love us, Lord! We wait for you.

Isaiah 43: 10:12

You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me, and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me. I, I am the Lord, and beside me there is no savior.

December 2: O Emmanuel



O E - man - u - el, our King and Law giv - er
the De - sire of all na - tions, and their sal - va - tion:
Come and save us, O Lord our God.

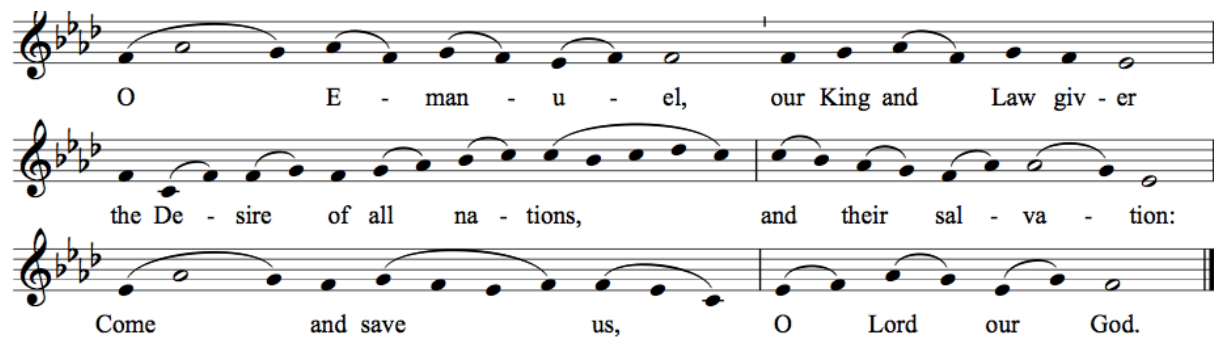
Psalm 24

God owns this planet and all its riches.*
The earth and every creature belong to God.
God set the land on top of the seas*
and anchored it in the deep.
Who is fit to climb God's mountain*
and stand in his holy place?
Whoever has integrity:*
not chasing shadows, not living lies.
God will bless them, their savior will bring justice.*
They long to see the Lord, they seek the face of Jacob's God.
Stretch toward heaven, you gates, open high and wide.*
Let the glorious sovereign enter.
Who is this splendid ruler?*The Lord of power and might, the conqueror of chaos.
Stretch toward heaven, you gates,*
open high and wide. Let the glorious sovereign enter.
Who is this splendid ruler? The Lord of heaven's might,*
this splendid ruler is the Lord our God.

Isaiah 9 1:2; 5

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; on those who dwell in a country of shadow dark as death, light has blazed forth. You have enlarged the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at harvest time.
For a son has been born for us, a son has been given to us, and dominion has been laid upon his shoulders. And his name shall be called “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.”

December 4: O Emmanuel



O Emmanuel, our King and Law giv - er
the De - sire of all na - tions, and their sal - va - tion:
Come and save us, O Lord our God.

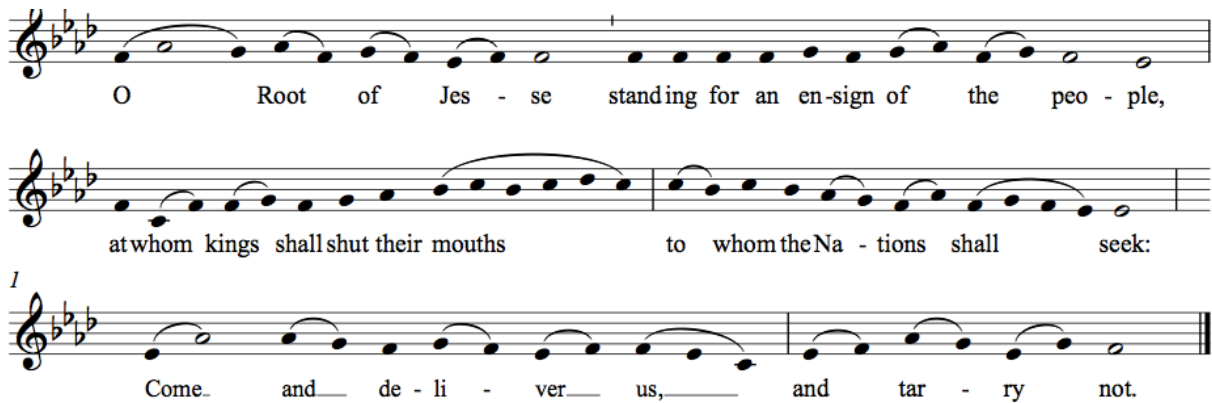
Psalm 139

You search me, Lord, and know me.*
Wherever I sit or stand, you read my inmost thoughts;
whenever I walk or rest, you know where I have been.*
Before a word slips from my tongue, Lord, you know what I will say.
You close in on me, pressing your hand upon me.*
All this overwhelms me too much to understand!
Where can I hide from you? How can I escape your presence?*I scale the heavens, you are there! I plunge to the depths, you are there!
If I fly toward the dawn, or settle across the sea,*
even there you take hold of me, your right hand directs me.
If I think night will hide me and darkness give me cover,*
I find darkness is not dark.
For your night shines like day,*
darkness and light are one.
You created every part of me, knitting me in my mother's womb.*
For such handiwork, I praise you.
Awesome this great wonder! I see it so clearly!*You watched every bone taking shape in secret, forming in the hidden depths.
You saw my body grow according to your design.*
You recorded all my days before they ever began.
How deep are your thoughts! How vast their sum!*Like countless grains of sand, well beyond my grasp.
Search my heart, probe me, God! Test and judge my thoughts*
Look! do I follow crooked paths? Lead me along your ancient way.

Isaiah 43 1:4

And now, says the Lord, who created you as Jacob and formed you as Israel: Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you, I have called you by name; you are mine. Should you pass through the waters, I shall be with you; or through rivers, they will not swallow you up. Should you walk through fire, you will not suffer, and the flame will not burn you. Do not be afraid, for I am with you.
I am the Lord your God, the holy one of Israel, your Savior.

December 9: O Root of Jesse



O Root of Jesse standing for an en-sign of the peo - ple,
at whom kings shall shut their mouths to whom the Na - tions shall seek:
1
Come. and de - li - ver us, and tar - ry not.

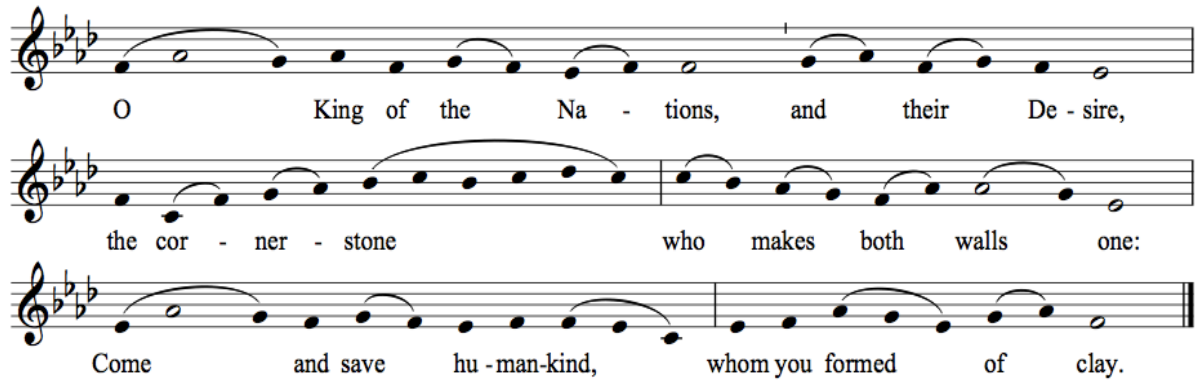
Psalm 72

God, give your king judgment, the son of the king*
your sense of what is right;
help him judge your people and do right for the powerless.*
May mountains bear peace, hills bring forth justice.
May the king defend the poor, set their children free,*
and kill their oppressors.
May he live as long as the sun, as long as the moon, for ever.*
May he be like rain on a field, like showers that soak the earth.
May justice sprout in his time, peace till the moon is no more.*
May he rule from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.
Enemies will cower before him, *
they will lick the dust.
Kings from Tarshish and the islands will bring their riches to him.*
Kings of Sheba, kings of Saba will carry gifts to him.
All kings will bow before him, all the nations serve him.*
He will rescue the poor at their call, those no one speaks for.
Those no one cares for he hears and will save,*
save their lives from violence, lives precious in his eyes.
Every day they pray for him and bless him all his life.*
Long life to him! Gold to him from Saba!
May wheat be thick in the fields, fruit trees sway on the slope.*
May cities teem with people, thick as the forests of Lebanon.
May his name live on for ever, live as long as the sun.*
May all find blessing in him, and he be blest by all.
Blessed be Israel's God, Lord of wonderful deeds! *
Bless God's name for ever! Let God's glory fill the world!

Isaiah 11: 1-5

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

December 11: O Root of Jesse



O King of the Na - tions, and their De - sire,
the cor - ner - stone who makes both walls one:
Come and save hu - man-kind, whom you formed of clay.

Psalm 121

If I look to the mountains, will they come to my aid?*

My help is the Lord, who made earth and the heavens.

May God, ever wakeful, keep you from stumbling;*

the guardian of Israel neither rests nor sleeps.

God shields you, a protector by your side.*

The sun shall not harm you by day nor the moon at night.

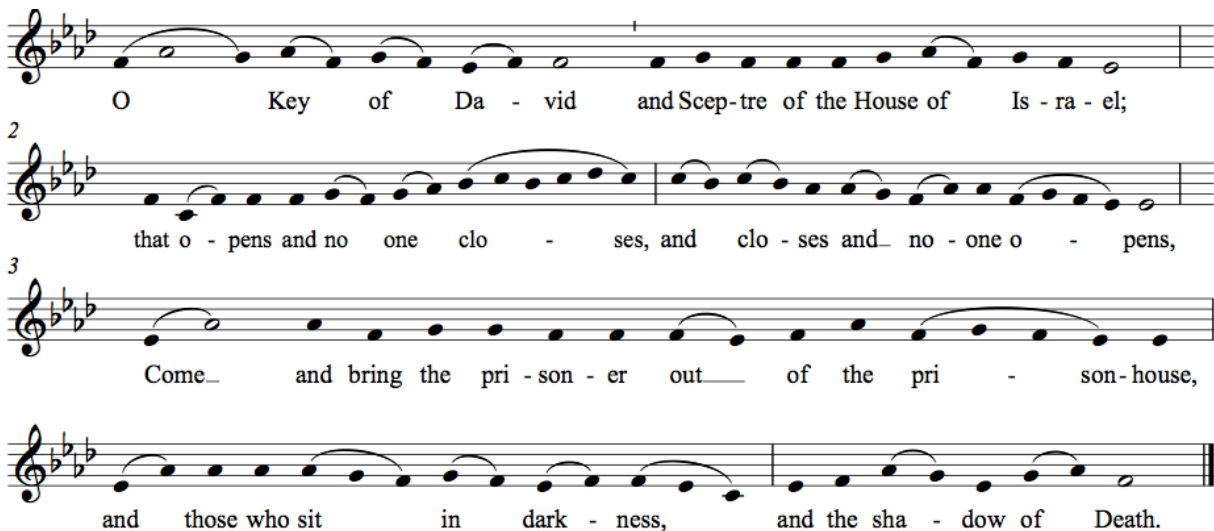
God shelters you from evil, securing your life.*

God watches over you near and far, now and always.

Isaiah 11: 6-10

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

December 16: O Key of David



O Key of Da - vid and Scep-tre of the House of Is - ra - el;
that o - pens and no one clo - ses, and clo - ses and no - one o - pens,
Come_ and bring the pri - son - er out_ of the pri - son - house,
and those who sit in dark - ness, and the sha - dow of Death.

Psalm 144

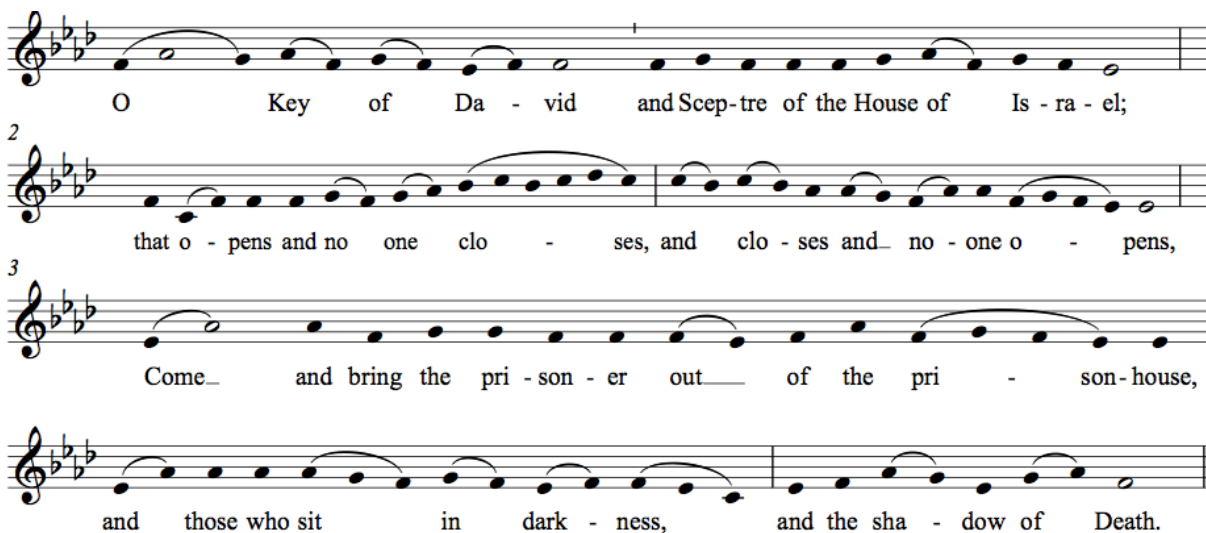
Praise God, God my rock*
who trains my hands for battle, my arms for war.
God, my love, my safety, my stronghold and defender*
God my shield, my refuge, you give me victory.
Who are we that you care for us? Why give a thought to mortals?*

We are little more than breath, our days, fleeting shadows.
Come, Lord, lower the heavens, touch the mountains, let them spew out smoke.*
Strike lightning, let your arrows fly, scatter my enemies in terror.
Reach down from the heavens, snatch me from crashing waves;*
rescue me from strangers who speak lies and then swear to them.
I sing you a new song, Lord, I play my ten-stringed harp,*
for you give victory to kings, you rescue your servant, David.
Save me from the bitter sword, deliver me from strangers,*
who speak lies and then swear to them.
God, you shape our sons like tall, sturdy plants;*
you sculpt our daughters like pillars for a palace.
You fill our barns with all kinds of food,*
you bless our fields with sheep by the thousands and fatten all our cattle.
There is no breach in the walls, no outcry in the streets, no exile.*
We are a people blest with these gifts, blest with the Lord as our God!

Isaiah 40:1

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. A voice cries out: "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. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

December 18: O Key of David



O Key of Da - vid and Scep-tre of the House of Is - ra - el;
2 that o - pens and no one clo - ses, and clo - ses and no - one o - pens,
3 Come... and bring the pri - son - er out of the pri - son - house,
and those who sit in dark - ness, and the sha - dow of Death.

Psalm 19

The sky tells the glory of God, tells the genius of God's work.*
Day carries the news to day, night brings the message to night,
without a word, without a sound, without a voice being heard,*
yet their message fills the world, their news reaches its rim.
There God has pitched a tent for the sun to rest and rise renewed*
like a bridegroom rising from bed, an athlete eager to run the race.
It springs from the edge of the earth, runs a course across the sky*
to win the race at heaven's end. Nothing on earth escapes its heat.
God's perfect law revives the soul.*
God's stable rule guides the simple.
God's just demands delight the heart.*
God's clear commands sharpen vision.
God's faultless decrees stand for ever.*
God's right judgments keep their truth.
Their worth is more than gold, the purest gold;*
their taste richer than honey, sweet from the comb.
Keeping them makes me rich, they bring me light;*
yet faults hide within us, forgive me mine.
Keep my pride in check, break its grip;*
I shall be free of blame for deadly sin.
Keep me, thought and word, in your good grace.*
Lord, you are my savior, you are my rock.

Isaiah 25: 6-8

On this mountain, for all peoples, the Lord God is preparing a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines. On this mountain, he has destroyed the veil which used to veil all peoples, the pall enveloping all nations; he has destroyed death for ever. He has wiped away the tears from every cheek; he has taken his people's shame away everywhere on earth.

December 22: O Dayspring

O Day - - spring, Bright-ness of Light ev - er - last - ing,
and Sun of Right-eous-ness: Come and en - light - en
those who sit in dark - ness, and the sha - dow of Death

Psalm 96

A new song for the Lord!*

Sing it and bless God's name, everyone, everywhere!

Tell the whole world God's triumph day to day,*

God's glory, God's wonder.

A noble God deserving of praise,*

the dread of other gods, the puny gods of pagans;

for our God made the heavens—*

the Lord of majestic light who fills the temple with beauty.

Proclaim the Lord, you nations,*

praise the glory of God's power, praise the glory of God's name!

Bring gifts to the temple, bow down, all the earth,*

tremble in God's holy presence.

Tell the nations, "The Lord rules!"*

As the firm earth is not swayed, nothing can sway God's judgment.

Let heaven and earth be glad,*

the sea and sea creatures roar, the field and its beasts exult.

Then let the trees of the forest sing before the coming of the Lord,*

who comes to judge the nations, to set the earth aright, restoring the world to order.

Isaiah 42: 6-9

I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.