

Pre-service Music

stand if able

P Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus.

C Come quickly, Lord. Maranatha!

Greeting and Collect

Sit and turn to hymn #357 and the Great "O" Antiphons

O Sapientia, O Wisdom

Antiphon

Reading Proverbs 9, 1 Corinthians 1

stand if able

Collect

Hymn #357, stanza 2

sit

O Adonai, O Lord and Ruler

Antiphon

Reading Exodus 6, Micah 5

stand if able

Collect

Hymn #357, stanza 3

sit

O Radix Jesse, O Root of Jesse

Antiphon

Reading Isaiah 11, 52, 53

stand if able

Collect

Hymn #357, stanza 4

sit

O Clavis David, O Key of David

Antiphon

Reading Psalm 107, Isaiah 22, 42

stand if able

Collect

Hymn #357, stanza 5

sit

O Oriens, O Dayspring

Antiphon

Reading Isaiah 9, Malachi 4, 2 Peter 1

stand if able

Collect

Hymn #357, stanza 6

sit

O Rex Gentium, O King of the Nations

Antiphon

Reading Isaiah 28, Psalm 118, Ephesians 2

stand if able

Collect

Hymn #357, stanza 7

sit

O Emmanuel

Antiphon

Reading Isaiah 7, 33

stand if able

Collect

Hymn #357, stanza 1

Lord's Prayer

Blessing

Post-service Music

SERVANTS OF THE WORD

Professor Erik Herrmann
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The Great O Antiphons

The paraphrases of Holy Scripture known as the Great O Antiphons of Advent have been cherished for centuries by Christian worshipers as most expressive of the Church's desire for the Savior. They are the most sublime expression of that Advent spirit. Antiphons are short texts, drawn from Scripture, often the Psalms, which are sung before and after psalms and canticles in order to "frame" them. They indicate the chief seasonal emphasis of that day in the liturgical year. The name of these antiphons is derived from the initial "O" in each. Although their authorship is anonymous, they appear to have been in use perhaps as early as the seventh century. Past practice in the Church's liturgy was to chant one of the Great O Antiphons at Evening Prayer each day from December 17 to 23 inclusive, before and after the canticle Magnificat. Each antiphon consists of a title from the Old Testament associated with God and Christ, expanded upon with words of Scripture, and followed by a petition asking Him to come and fulfill a scriptural promise or prophecy. The petitions begin with the word "Come." In this service the antiphons are coupled with readings from the Old and New Testaments which may have been the sources of the antiphons and which thematically convey the title attributed to the Christ and the essential significance of the title. The Great O Antiphons form the basis of the Advent Hymn, "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel."

Acknowledgements

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The Great O Antiphons



⓪ Sapientia



⓪ Adonai



⓪ Radix Jesse



⓪ Clavis David



⓪ Oriens



⓪ Rex Gentium



⓪ Emmanuel