

Choral Speaking: Advent, 2007

Performances on Advent Sundays: December 2, December 9, December 16, December 23

Rehearsals after worship one week before performances: November 25, December 2, 9, and 16.

Advent is the liturgical season before Christmas (it does not include Christmas). It is traditionally a period of inner reflection and fervent longing for God's presence among us ("Immanuel"). That longing refers most specifically to God's incarnation in Jesus Christ, first revealed in his birth, but more generally it refers to a longing for God's presence in our own personal and corporate life in all times and places.

The script for the text is below. Readers are designated by capital letters. The places from which they will speak are shown at the top of the script. Some lines are spoken solo, some by two or more voices. There are brief indications for focus (where you look when you say the line) and emotion (what the speaker might be feeling.)

Become familiar with the whole text by reading it aloud at least 5-6 times. Learn your cues—the lines that immediately precede your lines. Become very familiar with your lines, memorizing them if possible. The goal is for the speakers to have as much eye contact with the worshipers as possible.

Two rehearsals will be scheduled before the actual reading of each text:

- the Sunday before the text is scheduled, immediately after worship at the front of the Sanctuary for about 15 minutes;
- and the Sunday of the reading in the Sanctuary at 10:25 (sharp!) for about 10 minutes.

1st Sunday Isaiah: high pulpit; A & B: behind communion table: C & D: in front of the communion table, left and right

Voice	Text	Focus	Emotion
C	God's dream for a world made new,	People	Lilting
D	As seen by a prophet . . . Isaiah	People, Isaiah	Lilting
A, B	God's dream for a world made new,	People	Lilting
A, B, C, D	As seen by a prophet . . . Isaiah	Isaiah	Lilting
Isaiah	2 In days to come the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established as the highest of the mountains,	People, A-D Isaiah	Serious, dignified, yet hopeful
C	and shall be raised above the hills;	People	Lilting
D	all the nations to it shall stream.	People	Lilting
Isaiah	3 Many peoples shall come and say,	People; A-D Isaiah	Serious, dignified, yet hopeful
A	"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,		
C	to the house of the God of Jacob;		
B	that he may teach us his ways		
D	and that we may walk in his paths."		
Isaiah	For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,	People; A-D Isaiah	Serious, dignified, yet hopeful
A, B	and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.		
Isaiah	4 He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples;	People; A-D Isaiah	Serious, dignified, yet hopeful
C	they shall beat their swords into plowshares,		
D	and their spears into pruning hooks;		
A	nation shall not lift up sword against nation,		
B	neither shall they learn war any more.		
Isaiah	5 O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!	People; A-D Isaiah	Joyful
Isaiah, A, B	5 O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!	People	Joyful
All	5 O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!	People	Joyful
Isaiah	This is the dream; this is the Word of the LORD.	People	Joyful
All	Thanks be to God.	People	Joyful