Collect

Officiant: We wait for thy loving kindness, O Lord.
People: **In the midst of thy temple.**
Officiant: The Lord be with you:
People: **And with thy spirit.**
Let us pray.

O LORD Jesus Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee: grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight; who livest and reignest with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all men; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional

O Come, O Come Emmanuel #2 v. 1-3

Voluntary

Lob sei dem allmächtigen Gott BWV 602 - J.S. Bach

Advent Lessons and Carols

Saint Aelred Catholic Church

Advent III, December 18th, 2026



Voluntary

Chorale Prelude on "Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen," J. Brahms

Processional

Once in Royal David's City #236

The first verse is a solo. All may join in at the second verse.

Bidding Prayer

Beloved in Christ, as we await the great festival of Christmas, let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning.

Let us hear, in Lessons from Holy Scripture, how the prophets of Israel foretold that God would visit and redeem his waiting people.

Let us rejoice, in our carols and hymns, that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled.

Let us celebrate the promise that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, will bring us into the glory of God's eternal kingdom. The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.

But first, let us pray for the world that God so loves, for those who have not heard the good news of God, or who do not believe it; for those who walk in darkness and the shadow of death; and for the Church in this place and everywhere, that it may be freed from all evil and fear, and may in pure joy radiate the light of the love of God.

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer unto God, in the words that Christ himself taught us: Our Father...

May the Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life, and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen**

Invitatory Carol

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding #9

First Lesson

Genesis, chapter 3 verses 8-20, *The Fall of Man*

First Carol

Adam Lay Ybounden, Ord (choir)

Second Lesson

Genesis, chapter 22, *The LORD's Covenant with Abraham*

Second Carol

Creator of the Stars of Night #6a

Third Lesson:

The Second Book of Samuel, chapter 7, *The LORD's Covenant with King David*

Third Carol

Lift Up Your Heads #484

Fourth Lesson

The Book of the Prophet Micah, chapter 5 verses 2-4, *But you, O Bethlehem...*

Fourth Carol

Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People (choir)

Fifth Lesson

The Book of the Prophet Jeremiah 31:31-34, *The Prophecy of a New Covenant to be written on our hearts*

Fifth Carol

Maria Walks Amid the Thorns (*choir*)

Sixth Lesson

The Book of the Prophet Isaiah 11:1-10*A Shoot from the Stump of Jesse*

Sixth Carol

I Know a Rose-Tree Springing #17 (v. 2 choir only)

Seventh Lesson

Luke 1:26-35, 38, *The Archangel Gabriel salutes Our Lady*

Seventh Carol

Basque Carol (choir)