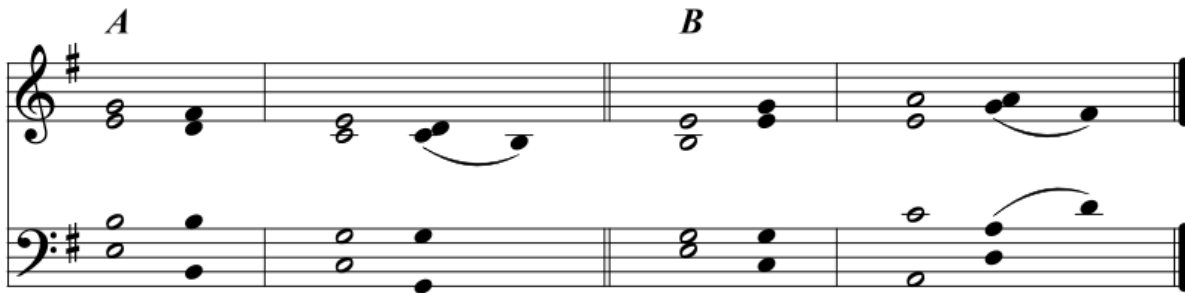


Music Notes for December 24, 2023

Today is the seventh and final Sunday of St. A's extended Advent Season in Year B of the Revised Common Lectionary. Listen to the Advent service music: [Presentation Hymn](#), [Sanctus](#), and [Fraction Anthem](#).

The Simplified Anglican Chant psalm tone is below, to which the words of Canticle 15, the Song of Mary or *Magnificat*, will be sung:



Listen to the chant for Canticle 15 [here](#).

The prelude today is chorale prelude on "Savior of the nations, come.," by J. S. Bach. of 1524. The hymn text was written by Martin Luther, based on "*Veni redemptor gentium*" by Ambrose, and the melody, Zahn 1174, based on its plainchant. It was printed in the Erfurt Enchiridion of 1524. Bach wrote several compositions based on this hymn, and the one today is BWV 659, an organ piece featuring the accompaniment in the left hand and pedals and a floridly embellished version of the melody in the right hand. The stops used for the tune are known as the "Cornet," which is a combination of organ ranks at 8', 4', 2 2/3', 2', and 1 3/5', resulting in a very distinct sound.

The anthem today is a setting of the Basque carol, "The angel Gabriel." The version today features Barb Holland on flute and Laura Kehe as the soprano soloist.

The service concludes today with the traditional Advent hymn, "O come, O come, Emmanuel." The postlude is an improvisation that I will play on that tune as we end the Advent season and move into the Christmas season later this afternoon.