

2025-12-05 Meditation for Friday in the First Week of Advent is now available at: <https://pgimf.org/meditations/>

Theme song (7<sup>th</sup>-century hymn):

Creator of the stars of night  
Your people's everlasting light,  
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,  
We pray you hear us when we call

In sorrow that the ancient curse  
Should doom to death a universe . . . .

### ***O Thou the Central Orb*** (1914/1915)

Lyrics: Henry Ramsden Bramley (1833-1917; 1873)

Music: Charles Wood (1866-1926)

Artists: The choir of New College, Oxford, Edward Higginbottom (dir.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RFzdYe1z-Ws>

[Choir]

O thou, the central orb of righteous love,  
Pure beam of the Most High, eternal light  
Of this our wintry world; thy radiance bright  
Awakes new joy in faith: hope soars above.

[Men in unison]

Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine;  
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays divine.

[Choir]

Thy saints with holy lustre round thee move,  
As stars about thy throne, set in the height  
Of God's ordaining counsel, as thy sight  
Gives measured grace to each, thy power to prove.

[Returns to opening theme]

Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin:  
Our nature all shall feel eternal day  
In fellowship with thee, transforming ray

To souls, erewhile unclean, now pure within.  
Amen.

Evan  
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