

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Waiting for the consolation of Israel. Luke 2:25

1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, ap - pear;
3. Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, he whose glo - ries knew no end;
4. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
come, thou prom - ised Rod of Jes - se, of thy birth we long to hear!
by his life he brings us glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend,
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
O'er the hills the an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings of a birth:
Leav - ing rich - es with - out num - ber, born with - in a cat - tle stall;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
"Go to him, your prais - es bring - ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."
this the ev - er - last - ing won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

St. 1, 4, Charles Wesley, 1744
St. 2-3, Mark E. Hunt, 1978
Text of stanzas 2 & 3 © 1978, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. Used by permission.

HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7.D.
Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855



TRADITIONAL SERVICE December 1, 2024 - 9:00am

Advent is a paradoxical season: a season of waiting and anticipation in which the waiting itself is strangely rich and fulfilling, a season that looks back at the people who waited in darkness for the coming light of Christ and yet forward to a fuller light still to come and illuminate our darkness. Advent falls in winter, at the end of the year, in the dark and cold, but its focus is on the coming of light and life, when the Ancient of Days becomes a young child and says, 'Behold, I make all things new.' The Latin root of the familiar word 'Advent' is *veni*. It speaks of 'coming', the coming of Christ in every way.

—Malcolm Guite

That the Great Angel-blinding light should shrink
His blaze, to shine in a poor Shepherd's eye;
That the unmeasur'd God so low should sinke,
As Pris'ner in a few poor rags to lye,
That from His Mother's Breast He milke should drinke,
Who feeds with Nectar heaven's faire family,
That a vile Manger His low Bed should prove,
Who in a Throne of stars Thunders above;

That He whom the Sun serves, should faintly peepe
Through clouds of Infant Flesh! That He the old
Eternall Word should be a Child, and weepe;
That He who made the fire, should feare the cold,
That Heaven's high Majesty His Court should keepe
In a clay cottage, by each blast control'd;
That Glories self should serve our Griefs and feares,
And free Eternity submit to years,

Let our overwhelming wonder be.

Richard Crashaw
c. 1613–1649

Prelude – Hana Do, piano

Call to Worship – Isaiah 40.1-4

Leader: Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

People: A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

Leader: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;

People: The uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain."

Carol of Anticipation and Preparation – "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"
(please see back) HYFRYDOL

Lighting of Advent Candle - Jeremiah 33.14-16, Luke 21.25-36
- David and Shirley Quine

"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called:
'The LORD is our righteousness.'

And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

And he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Profession of Faith - Haggai 2.6-7, Malachi 3.1

All: For thus says the LORD of hosts: Yet once more, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land. And I will shake all nations, so that the treasures of all nations shall come in, and I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD of hosts.

Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, He is coming, says the LORD of hosts.

Hymn - "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" (please see insert)
PICARDY

Special Music (offertory) – Grace Chancel Choir will sing **"Murmurs In a Stable,"** words by Susan Bentall Boersma, music by Craig Courtney.

An Advent Doxology - **"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!"**
(please see insert) TRURO

Greeting of Peace - Isaiah 40.5

Leader: Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all flesh will see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

Welcome/Announcements/Giving – Video

Pastoral Prayer - Dr. Jace Cloud

Sermon – "Sardis: The Church of the Living Dead" - Revelation 3:1-6 - Dr. Cloud

Pastoral/Communion Prayer - Dr. Cloud

Communion - Dr. Cloud

Closing Hymn – "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (please see insert)
VENI EMMANUEL

Benediction - Isaiah 60.1

Leader: "Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you."

People (with a loud voice!): Thanks be to God! Amen!

Postlude – Hana Do, piano

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

17th Cent. French melody adapted by Gerard Moultrie 1864
Adapted by Brian Piper

Unison

Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on
Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van - guard
At His feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim, with

5

trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
earth He stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man - ves - ture,
on the way, as the Light of light de - scend - eth
sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the pres - ence,

10

for with bless - ing in His hand, Christ our God to
in the bod - y and the blood, He will give to
from the realms of end - less day, that the pow'rs of
as with cease - less voice they cry, "Al - le - lu - ia,

14

earth de - scend - eth, our full hom - age to de - mand.
all the faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.
hell may van - ish as the dark - ness clears a - way,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!

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*An Advent Doxology

TRURO

1. Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the
2. So, come, my Sov' - reign, en - ter in! Let new and

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
no - bler life be - gin! Thy Ho - ly Spi - rit,

draw - ing - near, the Sav - ior of the world is here.
guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

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O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

"The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins."
declares the LORD. Is. 59:20

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on
3. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's
4. O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us by thy
5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come and o - pen wide our

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here,
Si - nai's height, in an - cient times didst give the law
• tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple save,
draw - ing night; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
• and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
and close the path to mis - er - y.

man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Latin antiphons, 12th cent.
Latin hymn, 1710
Tr. by John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1961

VENI EMMANUEL L.M.ref.
Plainsong, 13th cent.
Arr. by Thomas Helmore, 1856

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