St. Paul's Lutheran Church Worship Sunday, November 29, 2020 – First Sunday in Advent

Prelude - Savior of the Nations, Come

setting by Michael Burkhardt

GATHERING

Gathering Hymn - The King Shall Come

260

We gather in the name of the Father ₱ and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us confess our sin.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the $\mbox{\ensuremath{\P}}$ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

THIS IS THE FEAST

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Lord be with you **And also with you** Let us pray

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading – Isaiah 64:1-9

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—

²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.

⁵You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

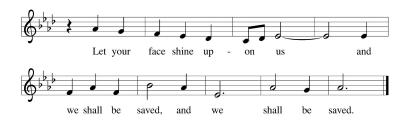
We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

⁷There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 *Refrain*



Refrain

- Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
- shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.
- ²In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,
- stir up your strength and | come to help us.
- ³Restore | us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
- ⁴O LORD| God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your | people pray? Refrain
- ⁵You have fed them with the | bread of tears; you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.
- ⁶You have made us the derision | of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.
- Restore us, O | God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.
- ¹⁷Let your hand be upon the one at | your right hand,
- the one you have made so strong | for yourself. Refrain
- ¹⁸And so will we never turn a- | way from you; give us life, that we may call up- | on your name.
- ¹⁹Restore us, O LORD| God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved. Refrain

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

[Jesus said:] ²⁴"In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the

house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶ or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Sermon

Hymn of the Day - Creator of the Stars of Night

245

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the ministry we share in Christ's name. Open our hearts to your call for justice, peace, and healing. Attune us to the needs of the world as you draw near. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for this planet in need of restoration: for devastated habitats, polluted waters, thawing ice, blazing fires, swelling floods, and long-lasting droughts. Renew the face of the earth and our relationship to it. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all people who care for others in our community and around the world. Fill them with compassion and the power to respond with justice for those who are oppressed, with welcome for those who are excluded, and with relief for those who suffer. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for people who are in crisis as the seasons change: for those without homes facing severe weather, for those who are unemployed or underemployed, and for those in poverty or facing food insecurity. Relieve their burdens, sustain their bodies, and ease their minds. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the people in our families and congregation who live with depression, anxiety, chronic pain, addiction, and other invisible illnesses, especially Audrey, Barbara, Jan, Johanna, Tony, JoAnn, Leon, Janet, Joyce, Ida, Debbie, Phyllis, Blanche, Leslie, Bob, Ellie, Janet, and those we name before you now, silently or vocally. Ease their suffering and support them when they struggle. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the lives and witness of those who died while waiting for justice, peace, or healing, those whose names we know and those whose names are known only to you. Sustain all who still yearn for the completion of your redeeming work. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy Holy Holy

Holy, holy Lord, Lord God of powe'r and might; Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Come to the banquet for all is ready.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Holy Communion will be available in the church parking lot on Sundays, from 11:15 am - 12:00 pm

Please do not leave your car. We will come to you and deliver a wafer and wine or grape juice. It will be served to you in a foam bowl. Please take the elements and distribute among those in your vehicle and then dispose of the cups and bowl when you get home.

Prayer after Communion

God of the welcome table,

in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Hymn - Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!

246

Postlude - Toccata on 'O Come, O Come Emmanuel'

adpt. Jacqueline Nappi

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The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Sally's birthday by Mike Mauriello.

Prayer of the Church (Members): Audrey Pearson, Barbara Hadden, Jan Franzen, Johanna Nikitscher, Tony Perrotte, JoAnn and Leon Bowman, Janet Ravert, Joyce Veazey, Ida Elliott, Debbie Fullbright, Phyllis Jenkins, Blanche Bragg, Leslie Johnson, Bob and Ellie DeVries, Janet Seiz

Prayer List Changes – If you have names to **add, or delete at any time** - email staff, or call the office.

Prayer of the Church (Friends): Kay Matthews [Tony's mother], Robert Meissner [Tony's uncle], and Dian and Gina Piazza [friends] (by Tony and Penni Perrotte); Laura Williams (friend of Amanda Anderson), Bill Lopatta (uncle of Amanda Anderson), Jane L (friend of Robin Winfree), Tim and Sue Williams (friends of the Foremans), Phillip Idom & Warner Ettinger (friends of the Perrotte's), Pamela Kildahl (sister of Wendy Waugh), Sara Russell (sister of Anna Snyder), Susan Freeman, her husband Don and daughter Emma (by Joan Pepper), Sayge Lindsay (grandson of Alta Lindsay), Cary Grant (friend of Greg and Jeanna Hudgins), Lydia Taylor (cousin of Bee Ellertson), Susan Roberts (friend of Kathy Anderson), Donore Lantz (friend of Judy Schlegel), MJ Chevalier (sister of Marcy Brown), Roketta Hudgins (mother of Greg Hudgins), Gay Reed (friend of Robin Winfree), Sally Midvette (mother of Kathy Anderson), Jacki and Steven and daughters (friends of Joan Pepper), Zach Maier (cousin of Kathy Anderson), Lois Horn (friend of Penni Perrotte), Brady Laubert (grandson of Pam and Steve Taylor), Staci Dominick (daughter-inlaw of Ted and Diana Dominick), Leonard Anderson, (family friend of Ted and Diana Dominick), Marti Casalino (friend of Marcia Redman), David Deardorff (cousin of Marlene Coulter), Virginia Hinshaw (great-grandmother of Kayden and Hunter Hinshaw), Michelle Meadors, Tony Blackwell (cousin of Pat Casper), Gad Kainer, Peggy Stevens (by John and Linda Foreman), Nancy Randle (niece of Ann and Larry Grovenstein), Eric Tabert (nephew of Deb Tabert), Dean Greg Jones of Duke Divinity, Chuck Noll (friend of the Waugh's), Kenneth and Shirley Craig (by Pat Casper), Blackwell and Miller families (by Pat Casper), the Jolly Family (by Marlene Coulter), Armenia and Artsakh (friends of Judy Schlegel), William and Barbara Wilson (parents of Bill Wilson), Mark Ahrendsen (friend of Marcia and Bill Wilson)

"Light a Candle" -- Candles are lit for prayer intentions. To "light a candle for someone" indicates one's intention to say a prayer for another person, and the candle symbolizes that prayer. The candle screen and votive candles are in the Narthex of the church, along with wood tapers to light them with. You are welcome to come, light a candle, and pray. If you come after hours or when no staff is in the building, please put out the candle before you leave. Staff will check during the daytimes when they are there to make sure all are put out.

Opportunities to Worship

We will continue outdoor worship for the first 50 people who come on Sunday mornings at 10 am. We are also broadcasting these services over fm radio channel 87.9 fm with a local transmission station if you wish to stay in your vehicle. We are using **Now the Feast and Celebration** for the outside worship. You will be required to **bring your own chair** and we will guide you to distance the placement of the chairs in the back parking lot near the Memorial Garden and the mobile classroom. **MASKS ARE REQUIRED**. Hand sanitizing dispensers will be available at the entrance to the worship space.

Holy communion is being served during this service and available as drive through from approximately 11:15 am until 12:00 noon, weekly, as well.

We continue to record Setting One weekly. So those who have enjoyed receiving weekly worship on our Vimeo channel can continue to do so.

We are not able to continue the inside worship with the state's regulation of 10 people max inside. So, if there is rain, we will not meet for outside worship. Please continue to watch the vimeo service online.

Pour a cup of tea or coffee and join the Pastor and Vicar for Coffee Hour on Mondays on Zoom from 10-11. We are looking forward to seeing you, chatting, and catching up. Here is the info:

Topic: Coffee Hour with the Pastor and Vicar, Time: 10:00-11:00 am on Mondays

Join Zoom Meeting: https://zoom.us/j/91351103753?pwd=WVVCRlgrSUhhLzJWN3pPYnlyL25LZz09

Meeting ID: 913 5110 3753 - Password: 292680

Scott Anderson is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom Bible Study on Thursday mornings.

Topic: **Bible Study - Daniel** – You may download the lessons ahead of time by going to the home page of our website (stpaulsdurham.org). Also, the lesson for that Thursday, is usually sent out by E-Parish Notes by Wednesday or Thursday. **Time: 10:30 am on Thursdays**

Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/946532621?pwd=UTJqYjV0V3laMmpROStMdGRvTGFhUT09

Meeting ID: 946 532 621 - Password: 402561

St. Paul's Preschool & PMO: It's that time of year to re-link your VIC Card. Please consider linking your VIC Card to the preschool so that we may receive a percentage of your sales from Harris Teeter. Our number is **3049** and can be linked at any Harris Teeter or online. Friends and family may link too to support the preschool! We have also created an Amazon Wish List, if you would like to support our outdoor spaces: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1BATIT5HO2RX1/ref-=cm_co_nav_hz

"Holy Folders" CHANGE! We will meet on Friday, December 4 at 11:00 am to prepare the issue for the post office.

A Multitude of Heavenly Hosts

The angels and creches are set up in displays as a gift for the congregation from the Continuing Conversation Group, Tina Bessias, Morris Casper, Pastor Scott and Vicar Judy. They are from personal, as well as church collections. Curtis Chi has added his talent by taking photos of the display to present online. However, if you can find a way and time please stop in for a moment to do a personal acceptance of this gift.

Here is a listing of the Sign-Up Genius links we are presently using to accomplish our many needed tasks. Please fill in as you are able. You can bookmark these sites to make it easier to return to them.

- ♦ Sunday 10 am In Person Worship Assistance https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-sunday1
- ◆ Tasks which can be signed up for include: Assisting Minister, Parking Lot Guides (2), Lector, Set up Help (3), Sound, Ushers (2), and Clean Up Help (3)
- Wednesday Recording Worship
 https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-assisting
 Tasks include Assisting Minister, Communion on Sunday, and Lector The recording takes place on Wednesday at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary
- ◆ Drive Through Communion on Sundays https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044eabad28a3fd0-drive
 Tasks include helping with communion (2 persons) on Sundays between 11:15 and noon.

Story Circles at Parktown Food Hub

You are invited! You - the person reading this, whomever you are! Please consider joining us for a story circle. In a story circle a small group of 4-6 people talk about their lives in a structured way so everybody gets heard and everybody gets to share. People who have participated so far are uniformly positive about the process - it's great for introverts and extroverts - and the format nudges everything away from politics and toward relationship.

STORY CIRCLES ARE MOVING TO ZOOM! In light of the recent increase in COVID cases and our wish to be responsible citizens and do our best to care for our neighbors, we are moving all remaining Story Circles to Zoom.

Here are the main things: Days and times are the same; you will receive a link when you sign up on the SignUpGenius (link below). Others who are leading Story Circles online tell us that the circles translate to Zoom remarkably well. If you have been wanting to check us out, this may be your chance! Story Circles from the comfort of your own home!

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A4DA5AB2CA4F85-come

In peace, joy, and excitement, Pastor Sharon

Dates for upcoming circles are:

SUNDAYS (1 pm) - November 29; December 6, 13, 20; and January 3, 10

WEDNESDAYS (6:30 pm) - December 9; January 13

THURSDAYS (10 am) - December 3, 17; January 7

Gathering Hymn - The King Shall Come

260



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit tle child, to bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright er than the ris ing morn when Christ, vic to rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright er than that glo rious morn shall dawn up on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau ty brings.



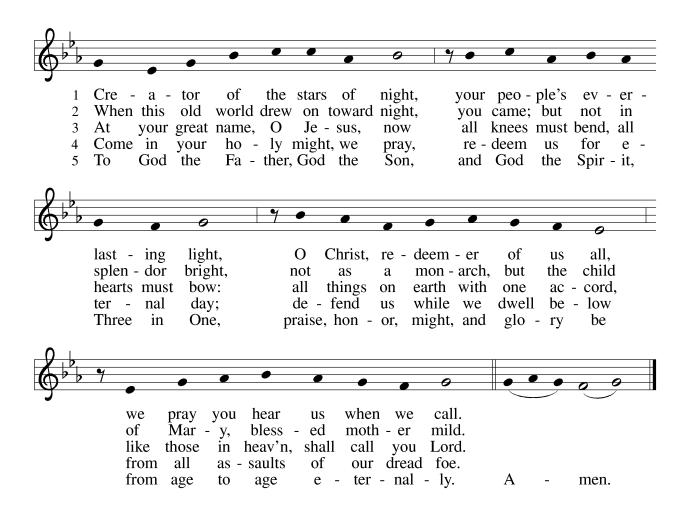
gilds the hills and life when beau - ty east - ern joy a - wakes. sun that lights the morn-ing sky. but crowned with glo - ry like the lone-some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes. and left when Christ in splen-dor comes, and we shall see his face. the day Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick-ly, King of kings. Hail. Christ the

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, Kentucky Harmony, 1816

Hymn of the Day - Creator of the Stars of Night

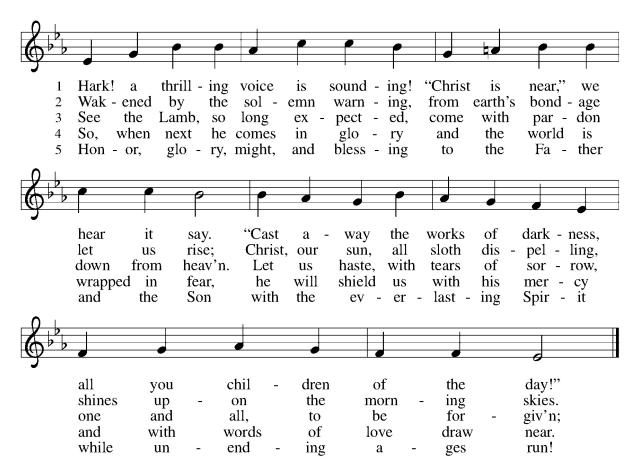
245



Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. *Hymnal* 1940, alt. Music: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM, plainsong mode IV Text © 1940 Church Pension Fund, admin. Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

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Sending Hymn - Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!

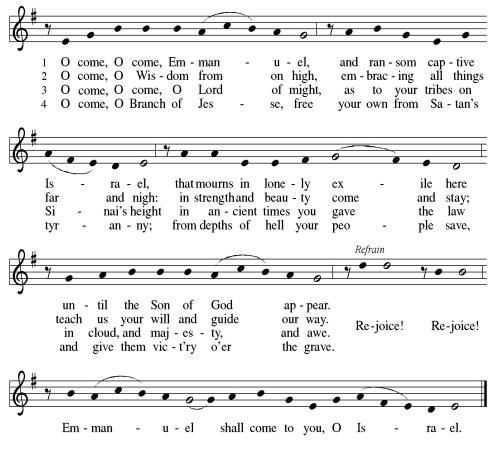


Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878 Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

Advent Wreath Lighting Hymn (in place of psalm)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Advent 1: verse 1 and 2 Advent 2: verse 1 and 4 Advent 3: verse 1 and 6 Advent 3: verse 1 and 8 **Hymn 257**



- 5 O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. *Refrain*
- 6 O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer; O Sun of justice, now draw near. Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, O King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that binds in one: refresh the hearts that long for you; restore the broken, make us new. Refrain
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*

Text: Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. composite Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent. Text sts. 2, 6, 7 \otimes 1997 Augsburg Fortress.