

Order for the Public Worship of God
November 29, 2020
1st Sunday of Advent
11:00 AM Worship Service

WE COME TO WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsive*)

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I put my hope.

People: My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.

Leader: O Israel, put your hope in the Lord.

People: For with the Lord there is unfailing love, with Him there is plenteous redemption.

OPENING VOLUNTARY “Festive Improvisation on VENI EMMANUEL”

Aaron David Miller

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN #88

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

(*stanzas 1,2,3*)

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily:
To us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai’s height
in ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE

Lighting the Candle

Nancy Stevens & Ellen Stoup

The reader offers words about the candle of hope.

RESPONSE

Reader:and so we offer this mysterious prayer:

All: **Lord Jesus, into our darkness, quickly come.**

All singing: **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Together*)

Holy God, we confess that far too often we do not walk in the light of your love. We use, manipulate and hurt others to get what we want, and all the while not taking seriously the poor and hungry. Forgive us, God of grace. Awaken us to your transforming Word, so that we may be ready to live a life of faith and welcome you with joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

CAROL

**Come home with shouts of joyous praise; let now your weeping cease.
Good news will come to broken hearts, good news love and peace.
Proclaim God's favor every day, and comfort those who mourn.
Oppressed will hear of liberty, and hope will be reborn.**

ANTHEM

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”
(Westminster Youth Choir, recorded on December 10, 2017)

Joseph M. Martin

*Watchman tell us of the night. Tell us of the coming Light.
Comfort, comfort ye my people. Sing of peace, thus saith our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their heavy load.*

*Comfort, comfort ye my people. Speak unto Jerusalem.
Comfort, comfort ye my people. Sing them a song of peace.
Tell them their warfare is over.*

Veni, veni, veni Emmanuel! Behold the coming of the Lord!

*Watchman tell us of the night,
tell us of the coming dawn,
Fill our hearts with hope and light.
Fill our lives with joyful song.*

*Hark, the voice of one who crieth.
In the desert far and near.
Calling to a world in darkness.
See the kingdom now is here.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

HYMN #82

“Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

**Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our dears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.**

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 64:1-12 NRSV
1 Corinthians 1:3-9 NRSV

SERMON

Advent Series: The World Is Not Yet Finished
#1 “Turning Towards Hope”
Chris Curvin, Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

HYMN #93

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

TRURO

**Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits;
The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.**

**Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven’s employ, adorned with prayer and love
and joy.**

**Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.**

BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Lift Up Your Heads”
from Advent Suite

David Cherwien

Stephanie Carson, Music Director
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director

88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 4 O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 all things might - i - ly: to us the path of knowl - edge
 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple



here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 law in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 save and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



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

- 5 O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high,
 and close the path to misery.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
 our spirits by thine advent here;
 disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadows put to flight.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
 all peoples in one heart and mind;
 bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
 fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2) | Dec. 20: O Key of David (5) | Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1) |
| Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3) | Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6) | |
| Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4) | Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7) | |

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82

1 Come, thou long - ex - spect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 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.
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;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 thee; here, Lord, a - bide. Let me thy in - ner

draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

Beginning as a paraphrase of Psalm 24:7-10, this text then applies the door imagery to the singer's heart, and concludes with the individual's welcome of the approaching Savior. It is set to a very effective anonymous 18th-century English tune that has served many texts.