



December 19, 2021 | Advent Week 4

At Home Bulletin

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.
O Lord shine your light upon us. We await the coming of Christ.*

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
**that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
**for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!

The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, shall bless us.
**God shall bless us;
let all the ends of the earth fear him!**

Psalm 67

INVOCATION*

SONGS OF PRAISE*

Here I Am to Worship

Light of the world You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see beauty that made this heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You (*chorus*)

Chorus

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came to the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor. (*chorus*)

Bridge

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross. 2Xs (*chorus twice*)
Here I am to worship

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Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
comfort those who sit in darkness,
mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

Yea, her sins our God will pardon, blotting out each dark misdeed;
all that well deserved his anger he no more will see or heed.
She hath suffered many a day now her griefs have passed away;
God will change her pining sadness into ever-springing gladness.

For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,
bidding all men to repentance, since the kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;
let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked,
make the rougher places plain;
let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;
and all flesh shall see the token, that his word is never broken.

Text: Johannes Oleanus, 1671, Tr. By Catherine Winkworth, 1863; Music: THIRSTING,
Louis Bourgeois, 1551, Arr. By Henry A. Bruinsma; alt. 1990.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Father, we come to confess our sins to you.
You have sent your Son to make us sons.
Yet we have been ungracious with the grace we have received.
We have kept at arm's length those that would be drawn near.

You have chosen to use the foolish things of the world
to shame the wise.
Forgive us Lord, for our worldly perspective.
Forgive us for thinking ourselves righteous and deserving.
Forgive us for forgetting that it is by grace we have been saved.

Restore us that we might have eyes to see the Lord as our savior.
Teach us to embrace the sojourner and the foreigner,
the widow and the orphan,
the young and the old, the weak and the broken.
Help us declare to all that would hear the good news of Christ.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Revelation 5:9-10
And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll
and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you
ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people
and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our
God, and they shall reign on the earth."

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Who is Jesus Christ?

**He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all
creation. By him all things were created, in heaven and on earth,
visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or
rulers or authorities.**

What has Christ done?

All things were created through him and for him.
He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
He is the head of the body, the Church.
He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,
that in everything he might be preeminent.
In him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through him to reconcile to himself all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
making peace by the blood of his cross.

Why should we follow Christ?

**He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his
nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.**
**After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand
of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels
as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.**

-Adapted from Colossians 1:15-20 & Hebrews 1:1-4

CHILDREN'S SERMON

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION *

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.

It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to men a Savior,
when half-spent was the night.

The shepherds heard the story, proclaimed by angels bright,
how Christ, the Lord of glory, was born on earth this night.
To Bethlehem they sped and in the manger found him,
as angel heralds said.

This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God; from sin and death he saves us
and lightens ev'ry load.

O Savior, child of Mary, who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of glory, who dost our weakness know,
bring us at length, we pray, to the bright courts of heaven
and to the endless day.

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SCRIPTURE READING

Pew Bible p.619

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Rise and Shine”

Isaiah 60:1-5

Pastor Ian Hard

A people of hope in:

1. Dignity

2. Destiny

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

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CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

*If you are following along at home, please refrain from taking
Communion as it is a form of worship meant to be celebrated in the
physical presence of the body of Christ*

HYMN OF SENDING

Arise, O God, and Shine

Arise, O God, and shine in all thy saving might,
And prosper each design to spread thy glorious light;
Let healing streams of mercy flow, that all the earth thy truth may know.

Bring distant nations near to sing thy glorious praise;
Let ev'ry people hear and learn thy holy ways.
Reign, mighty God, assert thy cause, and govern by thy righteous laws.

Put forth thy glorious pow'r, that Gentiles all may see,
And earth present her store in converts born to thee.
O Lord, our God, thy Church so bless,
And fill the world with righteousness.

To God, the only wise, the one immortal King,
Let hallelujahs rise from ev'ry living thing;
Let all that breathe, on ev'ry coast, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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BENEDICTION*