



December 20, 2020

Advent Week 4 | At Home Bulletin

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

And he who was seated on the throne said,
"Behold, I am making all things new."

Come, King Jesus, come!

CALL TO WORSHIP*

O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.

**O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

Adapted from Psalm 8

INVOCATION*

SONGS OF PRAISE*

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears 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 ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Dayspring from on high, appear;
come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth:
"Go to him, your praises bringin; Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories knew no end;
by his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
this the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

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.

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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.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Jesus is the Light of the World.

**O, Father, we have not worshipped Christ as we ought.
We have treated the gospel as merely a good idea,
instead of the good news of Christ's light
breaking into a world trapped in darkness.
Forgive us, O Lord.**

Christ commands us to make disciples of all nations.

**Yet, we have subsumed the mission of Christ
under our own priorities and desires.
We have lifted ourselves up instead of Christ.**

Gracious Lord, hear our prayer.

**Forgive us for the way we have hidden the light
of the gospel with our impure motives, our foolish actions,
and our hurtful words.
Purify us and make us vehicles of blessing as we proclaim Christ.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 5:1-2

PROFESSION OF FAITH *

Christians, what do you believe?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son,
our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried; he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty.
From there 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.**

~ *Apostle's Creed*

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 *

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

O sing a song of Bethlehem, of shepherds watching there,
And of the news that came to them from angels in the air;
The light that shone on Bethlehem fills all the world today;
Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth the angels sing away.

O sing of song of Nazareth, of sunny days of joy.
O sing of fragrant flowers' breath and of the sinless Boy,
For now the flowers on Nazareth in every heart may grow:
Now spreads the fame of His dear name On all the winds that blow.

O sing a song of Galilee, of lake and woods and hill,
Of Him who walked upon the sea and bade the waves be still:
For tho' like waves on Galilee, dark seas of trouble roll,
When faith has heard the Master's word, Falls peace upon the soul.

O sing a song of Calvary, its glory and dismay,
Of Him who hung upon the tree, and took our sins away;
For He who died on Calvary is risen from the grave,
And Christ, our Lord, by heav'n adored, is mighty now to save.

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SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:1-18

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

SERMON

“A Restored Presence”

~ Pastor Ian Hard

Notes:

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, And to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, Is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. 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.

MERCY OFFERING

HYMN OF SENDING

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega, he the Source, the Ending he,
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessed, when the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race;
and the babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!

This is he whom heav'n-taught singers sang of old with one accord,
whom the Scriptures of the prophets promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long-expected; Let creation praise its Lord,
evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heav'n, adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing;
all dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent, ev'ry voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore!

Christ, to thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn, and chant, and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be,
honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore!

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BENEDICTION*