

Worship in Song

November 26, 2023

First Sunday of Advent

Call to Worship

We gather in preparation
for good news is about to be
proclaimed.

We gather in expectation
for joy is about to explode in our midst.

We gather in celebration
for we are those who have said
yes to the manger,
yes to Love enfleshed,
yes to the One incarnate for others,
yes to the wholeness of God.
With preparation and in expectation, let
us celebrate!

Hosanna

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You
We turn to You
Hope is stirring,
hearts are yearning for you
We long for you

'Cause when we see You,
we find strength to face the day
In your presence all our fears are
washed away, washed away

*Hosanna, hosanna
You are God Who saves us
Worthy of all our praises;
Hosanna, hosanna
come have Your way among us
We welcome You here, Lord Jesus*

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You
We turn to You
In Your kingdom broken lives
are made new
You make us new

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come Thou Fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise His name I'm fixed upon it
Name of God's redeeming love.

Hitherto Thy love has blest me
Thou hast brought me to this place
And I know Thy hand will lead me
Safely home by Thy good grace

Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wandering from the fold of God
He, to rescue me from danger
Bought me with His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness like a fetter
Bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, O take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Advent Reading #1

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
ever faithful to Your promises
and ever close to Your church:
The earth rejoices in hope of the
Savior's coming and looks forward with
longing to His return at the end of time.
Prepare our hearts and remove the
sadness that hinders us from feeling the
joy and hope that His presence will
bestow, for He is Lord for ever and
ever, Amen.

Advent candle-lighting #1

We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

In the wilderness prepare the way of our Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

O Come O Come Emmanuel

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 Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadow put to flight.

O come, desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind.
Bid envy, strife and sorrow cease,
Fill all the world with heaven's peace.

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 are;
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.

Jesus, I do now receive Him
More than all in Him I find
He hath granted me forgiveness
I am His and He is mine.
Hallelujah what a savior
Hallelujah what a friend
Saving, helping keeping, loving
He is with me to the end

Blessing

In gratitude to God,
empowered by the Spirit,
let us strive to serve Christ in our daily
tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven
and new earth, praying: Come, Lord
Jesus!