

# Worship in Song

December 3, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent

## Call to Worship

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep.

For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near.

Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

Come, let us worship God.

*Romans 13:11-12*

## Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Good Christian men rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice  
Give ye heed to what we say  
Jesus Christ is born today  
Ox and lamb before Him bow  
And He is in the manger now  
Christ is born today  
Christ is born today

Good Christian men rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice  
Now ye hear of endless bliss  
Jesus Christ was born for this  
He has opened heaven's door  
And man is blessed **forevermore**  
Christ was born for this  
Christ was born for this

Good Christian men rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice  
Now ye need not fear the grave  
Jesus Christ was born to save  
Calls you one and calls you all  
To gain His everlasting hall  
Christ was born to save  
Christ was born to save

## As with Gladness Men of Old

As with gladness men of old  
Did the guiding star behold,  
As with joy they hailed its light,  
Leading onward, beaming bright;  
So, most gracious Lord, may we  
Evermore be led to Thee

As with joyful steps they sped,  
To that lowly manger bed,  
There to bend the knee before  
Him whom heav'n and earth adore,  
So may we with willing feet  
Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

As their precious gifts they laid,  
At Thy manger roughly made,  
So may we with holy joy,  
Pure, and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to Thee our heav'nly King.

Holy Jesus, ev'ry day  
Keep us in the narrow way;  
And, when earthly things are past,  
Bring our ransomed souls at last  
Where they need no star to guide,  
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

There forever may we sing  
Alleluias to our King!

## The First Noel

The first Noel, the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds  
In fields as they lay  
In fields where they  
Lay keeping their sheep  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far,  
And to the earth it gave great light  
And so it continued both day and night

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel*  
*Born is the King of Israel*

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,  
That hath made heaven and earth of naught  
And with His blood mankind hath bought

### **Advent Reading**

Above the clamor of our violence your  
Word of truth resounds, O God of majesty  
and power.

Over nations enshrouded in despair your  
justice dawns.

Grant your household a discerning spirit  
and a watchful eye to perceive the hour in  
which we live.

Hasten the advent of that day when the  
weapons of war shall be banished, our  
deeds of darkness cast off, and all your  
scattered children gathered into one.

We ask this through him whose coming is  
certain, whose day draws near: your Son,  
our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
forever and ever. Amen.

### **Advent candle-lighting**

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.

The Lord will give you a sign.

A young woman is with child and shall bear  
a son.

And they shall name him Immanuel, which  
means "God is with us."

### **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee to night.

For Christ is born of Mary  
And gathered all above  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love,  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth  
And praises sing to God the King  
And peace to men on earth

How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is giv'n  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heav'n  
No ear may hear His coming,  
But in this world of sin  
Where meek souls will receive Him still  
The dear Christ enters in

O holy Child of Bethlehem  
Descend to us, we pray  
Cast out our sin and enter in  
Be born in us today  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell  
O come to us abide with us  
Our Lord Emmanuel

### **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father  
Mighty and eternal Lord  
He alone is the Creator  
Forming all things by His word  
I believe in our Lord Jesus  
God's own Son who came to earth  
Born a man by the Spirit  
By a virgin given birth

*Sing praise to the Father  
To the Spirit and the Son  
Sing praise to our holy God  
Forever three in one*

I believe that Jesus suffered  
On the cross He bore my shame  
I believe that He was buried  
Then triumphant rose again  
Glorified He has ascended  
Seated at the Father's side  
He will come again in judgement  
Justice will be satisfied

I believe the Holy Spirit  
Comes to us from Christ above  
I believe the church is holy  
One communion in God's love  
I believe I am forgiven  
Through the sacrifice of Christ  
I believe in resurrection  
And in everlasting life

**From the Squalor of a Borrowed Stable  
(Immanuel)**

From the squalor of a borrowed stable,  
By the spirit and a virgin's faith;  
To the anguish and the shame of scandal  
Came the Saviour of the human race!  
But the skies were filled, with the praise of  
heav'n,  
Shepherds listen as the angels tell  
Of the Gift of God, come down to man  
At the dawning of Immanuel

King of heaven now the Friend of sinners,  
Humble servant in the Father's hands,  
Filled with power and the Holy Spirit,  
Filled with mercy for the broken man  
Yes he walked my road, and He felt my pain,  
Joys and sorrows that I know so well;  
Yet His righteous steps, give me hope again -  
I will follow my Immanuel!

Through the kisses of a friend's betrayal,  
He was lifted on a cruel cross;  
He was punished for a world's transgressions,  
He was suffering to save the lost  
He fights for breath, He fights for me  
Loosing sinners from the claims of hell;  
And with a shout, our souls are free -  
Death defeated by Immanuel!

Now He's standing in the place of honour,  
Crowned with glory on the highest throne,  
Interceding for His own beloved  
Till His Father calls us to bring them home!  
Then the skies will part, as the trumpet sounds  
Hope of heaven or the fear of hell;  
But the Bride will run, to her Lover's arms,  
Giving glory to Immanuel!

**Blessing**

May the God of peace himself sanctify you  
entirely;  
And may your spirit and soul and body be  
kept sound and blameless at the coming of  
our Lord Jesus Christ.

The one who calls you is faithful, and he  
will do this.

*1 Thessalonians 5:23-24*