



ASCENSION

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PUBLIC WORSHIP
DECEMBER 16, 2018
THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT



CALL TO WORSHIP • Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

12th Century Latin Hymn • Public Domain

Alto

O come, O come, Em - man - - u - el, and
ran - som cap - tive Is - - - ra - el, that
mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, un - til the Son of
God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
man - - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - - - ra -
el.

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line on the sixth staff.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them vict'ry over the grave.

(Chorus)

O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

(Chorus)

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.

(Chorus)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

He is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Let us pray...

CALL TO CONFESSION OF SIN • 2 Corinthians 6:1-2

Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I helped you." Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Fountain of Living Waters, you give to all mankind life and breath and everything. But we have refused to honor you or give you thanks. We stubbornly pretend that we don't need you, that we can help ourselves. We actively resist your presence and will in our lives. We thoughtlessly ignore you, which may be the worst slight of all. Yet you remain a God of light and life and love, and, in your grace, you have invaded this world to save us from ourselves. Your presence and will, as seen in Jesus, is better than our autonomy. We are sorry for our foolish rebellion. Please forgive us, and fix our eyes on Christ, who came to seek and save the lost, in whose name we pray. Amen.

(Silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS • 2 Corinthians 5:17-18

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

OFFERING • Hebrews 13:16

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

Praise him, all creatures here below!

Praise him above, ye heavenly host!

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING • Isaiah 60:4-7

- 4 Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.
- 5 Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
- 6 A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.
- 7 All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you;
the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you;
they shall come up with acceptance on my altar,
and I will beautify my beautiful house.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

("Collect for the Third Sunday in Advent," Book of Common Prayer, 1928)

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee; grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. Amen.

Within A Crib My Savior Lay

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, Matthew H. Curl • Music: Matthew H. Curl • Used by Permission

Tenor

8 With-in a crib my Sav-ior lay, a woo-ten man-ger
4 filled with hay, come down for love on Christ-mas day:
7 All glo - ry be to Je - sus! Up-on a cross my
11 Sav-ior died, to ran-som sin-ners, cru-ci-fied, His lov-ing arms still
15 o-pen wide: All glo - ry be to Je - sus! And this is
20 love! And this is grace! He came to earth our souls to
26 save! All glo - ry be to Je - sus!

A victor's crown my Savior won,
his work of love and mercy done,
the Father's high ascended Son:
all glory be to Jesus!

And soon to glory we will rise,
because of our Lord's sacrifice,
new life through him, the crucified:
All glory be to Jesus!

And this is love! And this is grace!
He came to earth our souls to save!
And this is love! And this is grace!
That Christ, our God, did come to save!
All glory be to Jesus.
All glory be to Jesus.

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

18th Century English Carol • Public Domain

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of nine staves of music. The lyrics are: "God rest you mer - ry gen - tle - men let no - thing you dis - may, re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas day, to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray; O tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy, O tid - ings of com - fort and joy." The score includes bar numbers 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, and 18.

God rest you mer - ry gen - tle - men let
no - thing you dis - may, re - mem - ber Christ our
Sav - ior was born on Christ - mas day, to
save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a -
stray; O tid - ings of com - fort and
joy, com - fort and joy, O tid - ings of
com - fort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father a blessed angel came;
and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same;
how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name;
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!
O tidings of comfort and joy!

"Fear not, then," said the angel, "Let nothing you affright.
This day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
to free all those who trust in him from Satan's power and might."
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!
O tidings of comfort and joy!

The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,
and left their flocks a-feeding in tempest, storm and wind,
and went to Bethlehem straightway the Son of God to find;
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!
O tidings of comfort and joy!

GOSPEL READING • Matthew 2:1–12

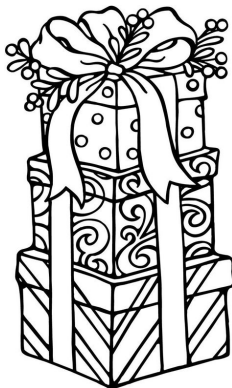
Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶ “And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

SERMON • “Christmas Gifts” (Rev. Eric Costa)





THE UPPER ROOM



CONFESSION OF FAITH • The Apostles' Creed

What do you believe?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he shall 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.

PASSING OF THE PEACE • Colossians 3:15

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

(Greet one another with the words, “*The peace of Christ be with you.*”)

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE AND PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION • 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

THE MYSTERIUM FIDEI • 1 Corinthians 11:26; 5:7-8

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(All who confess faith in Jesus Christ may partake of this Sacrament: baptized members of a congregation that proclaims the Gospel, who are at peace with God and with their brothers and sisters in Christ, and who seek God’s grace to live more faithfully for him in this world. Please come forward after the musicians. The glasses on your right contain grape juice for those who do not want wine. There are gluten-free crackers on the table. An Elder is available for prayer upon request [James 5:13-16].)

* When the Creed states that Jesus “descended into hell,” we understand it to mean that he suffered the holy wrath of God for the sins of his people.

† Or, “universal.”

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross

Text: Isaac Watts • Music: Michael James • ©1986 Word Music, LLC



When I sur - vey _____ the won - drous
For - bid it Lord, _____ that I should
See, from His head, _____ His hands, His
Were the whole realm _____ of na - ture



cross _____ on which the Prince _____
boast, _____ save in the death _____
feet, _____ sor - row and love _____
mine, _____ that were a pre -



— of glo - ry _____ died, _____ my rich - est
— of Christ my God; _____ All the vain
— flow ming - led down. _____ Did e'er such
- sent far too small; _____ Love so a -



gain _____ I count but _____ loss, _____
things _____ that charm me _____ most, _____
love _____ and sor - row _____ meet, _____
maz - - - ing, so di - vine, _____



— and pour con - tempt _____ on all my _____ pride.
— I sac - ri - rice _____ them to His _____ blood.
— or thorns com - pose _____ so rich a _____ crown?
— de - mands my soul, _____ my life, my _____ all.

O Come All Ye Faithful

Latin Hymn: *Adeste Fideles* • Public Domain

Alto

The musical score is written for an Alto voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of ten staves of music. The lyrics are: "O come all ye faith - ful joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O come ye to Beth - - le - hem. Come and be - hold him born the King of an - gels; O come let us a - dore him, O come let us a - dore him, O come let us a - dore him Christ the Lord." The score includes measure numbers 4, 7, 11, 14, 17, and 20. The final measure ends with a double bar line.

O come all ye faith - ful joy - ful and tri -
um - phant, O come ye, O come ye to
Beth - - le - hem. Come and be - hold him
born the King of an - gels; O
come let us a - dore him, O come let us a -
dore him, O come let us a - dore him
Christ the Lord.

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,
lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not created;
(Chorus)

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
(Chorus)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.
(Chorus)

Hosanna In The Highest

Text: The Book of Common Prayer • Music: Benjamin Wilkinson • Public Domain

Tenor



8 Ho - san - na to the liv - ing Lord! Ho - san - na to the
O Sav - ior with pro - tect - ing care, a - bide in this thy
4 Be ho - nor, praise, and glo - ry giv'n, by all on earth and
liv - ing word! Where we thy par - ting prom - ise claim, as -
house of prayer; and make our se - cret soul to be, a
7 all in heav'n, to God the Fa - ther and the Son, and
semb - led in thy sa - cred name; to Christ, cre - a - tor
tem - ple pure and ho - ly; be hon - or praise and
10 God the Spi - rit three in one, be hon - or praise and
Sa - vior, King, let earth, let heav'n, Ho - san - nas sing! Ho - san - na!
glo - ry giv'n, by all on earth and all in heav'n.
14 glo - ry giv'n, by all on earth and all in heav'n! —
8 — Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! in the high - est! —

To earth you came a tiny babe, to earth you came our souls to save;
a child born meek and lowly, the infant King of Glory!
To earth you came a tiny babe, to earth you came our souls to save;
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna! in the highest!
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna! in the highest!

BENEDICTION • 1 Thessalonians 3:12

May the Lord make you increase and abound
in love for one another and for all.

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Remember: every gathering is an opportunity to invite friends, to introduce others to the Christ-centered community and life of the church! For information about our regular meetings like home groups, bible studies for men and women, and more, please visit ascensionpc.org/calendar.

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After Worship • Please stay a while for coffee and conversation! Around 11:45am we will begin Sunday School classes for the children in the sanctuary, and Sermon Discussion for the adults in the Fellowship Hall. (Infants and toddlers are welcome to join the adults in Sermon Discussion.)

ICS Christmas Gifts • Immigration Counseling Service (ics-law.org) is a non-profit law firm that provides high quality low-cost immigration legal services, outreach, and education to foreign-born residents of Oregon and Southwest Washington, many of whom have become victims of human trafficking. They have greatly appreciated the Christmas gifts we have provided the families of their clients in the past and the need this year is again very great. If you would like to help, contact Sara Sery (the.serys@gmail.com).

Christmas Eve Service • 7pm Mon., Dec. 24 at Tualatin Valley Community Church (511 SW 211th Ave., Beaverton, 97006 - near the intersection of Baseline and Cornelius Pass Road). This will be a joint celebration with TVCC.

Refreshments Volunteers • Bringing refreshments to share at church is a great way to practice hospitality. Contact: Nicole Hamilton (neh.hamilton@gmail.com)

Today: Hamilton

Next week: Aznoe

Nursery Volunteers • Can you play with young children and help their parents once every 6-8 weeks? Join the nursery rotation! Contact: Rainyrr (rainyrr@aol.com).

Today: Rickis

Next week: Elliott



Worship at 10am Sundays • SE 12th & Walnut, Hillsboro
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(Please fill out this contact card, tear it off, and drop it in the offering.)

Name(s)

Email / Phone

I am a visitor.

I want to know more about being a Christian.

I would like to get coffee with the Pastor.

Please send me the email newsletter.

Please use this info for the photo directory.