

Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>

## **Prelude**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **Call to Worship**

Leader: From places deeply rooted,

**People: we gather to light our Advent candles.**

Leader: From places yet undiscovered,

**People: we gather to sing our Advent songs.**

Leader: From places still hidden in plain sight,

**People: we gather to read our Advent texts.**

Leader: From places tangled with disappointment,

**People: we gather to share our Advent prayers.**

#### **Hymn # 88 – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verses 1, 2, 6, 7)**

*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 Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily: to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go. 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 shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

#### **Lighting the Advent Wreath**

#### **Response Hymn #90 – Wait for the Lord (x2)**

*Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.  
Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!*

#### **Call to Confession**

##### **Prayer of Confession**

**God-with-us, even in Advent, we confess that you can seem far away. You are hidden when we need you near. In our hurt, doubt, and fear, we do not try to draw closer to you; instead, we lash out – against you, our neighbor, even those we love. Forgive us, we pray, and come to save us! Let your face shine until our tears are dried, our sins are faded, and our hope is restored. After all, we belong to you, and in your hands, we can be made new. Amen.**

##### **Assurance of Pardon**

##### **Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

##### **Special Music**

Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>  
**Prayer of Illumination**

**Scripture:** Luke 1:5-25

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon:** “Unexpected News”

**Affirmation of Faith:** The Apostles’ Creed

**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 Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Hymn # 105 – People, Look East**

*People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.*

*Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.*

*Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Bird, is on the way.*

*Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.*

*Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.*

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy 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 thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**Charge and Benediction**

**Congregational Response: Hymn #90 – Wait for the Lord (x2)**

*Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.  
Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!*

**Postlude**

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

# 88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
4 O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
all things might - i - ly: to us the path of knowl - edge  
tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple



here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
law in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
save and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 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.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
our spirits by thine advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;  
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

*One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:*

*Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)*

*Dec. 20: O Key of David (5)*

*Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1)*

*Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3)*

*Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)*

*Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4)*

*Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7)*

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

# 105 People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the  
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more  
3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the  
4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more  
5 An - gels, an-nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who

crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are  
seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to  
nest that must be filled. E - ven the hour when wings are  
light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y  
brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley

Peo - ple, look  
a - ble; trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.  
nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish.  
fro - zen God for fledg - ing time has cho - sen.  
weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.  
hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

This text was written to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated. The author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation.

east and sing to - day:

Peo-ple, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
Love, the Bird, is on the way.  
Love, the Star, is on the way.  
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Peo-ple, look east: (Love is on the way.)

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for a vocal piece in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The vocal line (treble clef) starts with the lyrics 'east and sing to - day:'. The melody consists of a sequence of notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), followed by a slur over B4, A4, G4, and F#4 (each quarter), then E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), and B3 (quarter). The bass line (bass clef) provides accompaniment with notes: G3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), B3 (quarter), C4 (quarter), followed by a slur over B3, A3, G3, and F#3 (each quarter), then E3 (quarter), D3 (quarter), C3 (quarter), and B2 (quarter). The lyrics 'Peo-ple, look east:' are placed below the vocal line, and a list of five 'Love' verses is placed to the right. A final line of lyrics 'Peo-ple, look east: (Love is on the way.)' is placed below the bass line.