

Be Born In Us Today -- Bringing Guidance

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
the light no darkness can overcome.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
and the day is almost over.

Be our light and scatter the darkness,
and hear our evening prayer and praise.

Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes

CW 313



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held; the gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Reading

Isaiah 35:5–10

⁵Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

⁶Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.

Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

⁷The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs.

In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

⁸And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness;

it will be for those who walk on that Way.

The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it.

⁹No lion will be there, nor any ravenous beast;

they will not be found there.

But only the redeemed will walk there, ¹⁰and those the LORD has rescued will return.

They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads.

Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Song

Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel

St. Lucas Lutheran Elementary School Kindergarten through Third Grade

Reading

2 Corinthians 2:14–17

¹⁴But thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of him everywhere. ¹⁵For we are to God the pleasing aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. ¹⁶To the one we are an aroma that brings death; to the other, an aroma that brings life. And who is equal to such a task? ¹⁷Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, as those sent from God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

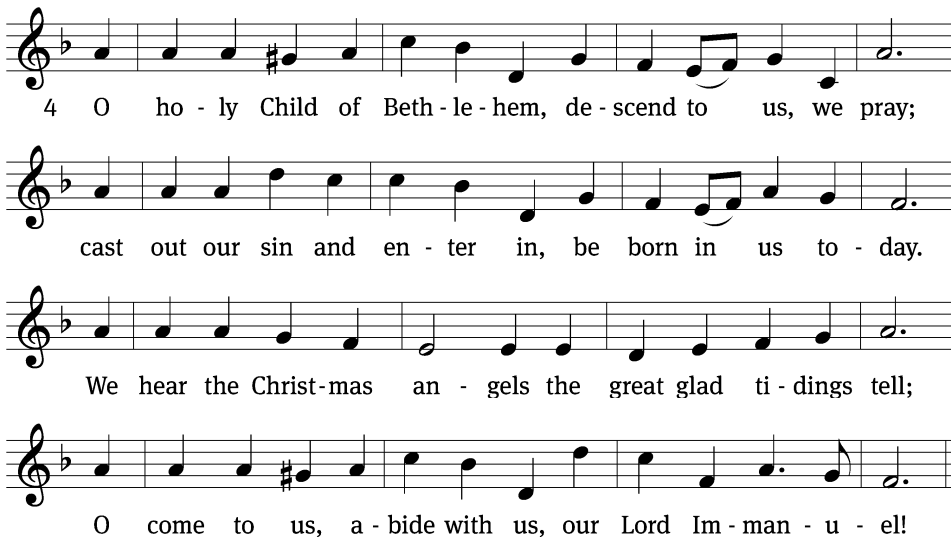
Lighting of the Advent Candles

We light the second candle on the Advent wreath as a bright light that reminds us of the guidance we have in God's Word and in our Savior Jesus, the Word made flesh. The prophet Isaiah spoke of a highway prepared by God, the Way of holiness: "The redeemed shall walk there" (Isaiah 35:8-9).

Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. You were born to redeem us. Through faith in your name we walk the Way of holiness.

Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6).

Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. You alone are the way of salvation. In the power of the Spirit, guide us according to the truth of your Word.



4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;
O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893, abr., alt.
Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Gospel

Luke 1:67–79

⁶⁷His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:

⁶⁸“Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,
because he has come to his people and redeemed them.

⁶⁹He has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of his servant David

⁷⁰(as he said through his holy prophets of long ago),

⁷¹salvation from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us—

⁷²to show mercy to our ancestors
and to remember his holy covenant,
⁷³the oath he swore to our father Abraham:

⁷⁴to rescue us from the hand of our enemies,
and to enable us to serve him without fear
⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

⁷⁶And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High;
for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him,

⁷⁷to give his people the knowledge of salvation
through the forgiveness of their sins,

⁷⁸because of the tender mercy of our God,
by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven

⁷⁹to shine on those living in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be Seated

Meditation

Psalm 31:1–5

¹In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. ²Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me. ³Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me. ⁴Keep me free from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge. ⁵Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, LORD, my faithful God.

Stand

Arise, O Christian People

CW 310



1 A - rise, O Chris - tian peo - ple! Pre - pare your - selves to -
2 Pre - pare the way be - fore him, pre - pare for him the
3 The hum - ble heart and low - ly God rais - es up on
4 Pre - pare my heart, Lord Je - sus; turn not from me a -



day; pre - pare to greet the Sav - ior, who
best; cast out what would of - fend him, this
high; be - neath his feet in ter - ror the
side, and help me to re - ceive you this



takes your sins a - way. To us by grace a -
great, this heav'n - ly guest. Make straight, make plain the
haugh - ty soul shall lie. The heart sin - cere and
bless - ed Ad - vent - tide. From stall and man - ger



lone the truth and light were giv - en; the prom - ised
way: the low - ly val - leys rais - ing, the heights of
right, that heeds God's in - vi - ta - tion and makes true
low come now to dwell with - in me; I'll sing your



Lord from heav - en to all the world is shown.
pride a - bas - ing, his path all e - ven lay.
prep - a - ra - tion— it is the Lord's de - light.
prais - es glad - ly and forth your glo - ry show.

Text: Valentin Thilo, 1607–1662; (sts. 1–3): tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–1874, alt.; (st. 4): tr. unknown, alt.

Tune: New Catechismus Gesangbüchlein, Hamburg, 1598, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Lord, Have Mercy

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Prayer

Almighty God, you have given us the gift of your holy Word. In its sacred pages we learn of your mighty acts of power and your promise of the Messiah as proclaimed through the prophets. In the written Word we see that promise fulfilled in the birth, life, death and resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. As we follow our Lord in faith, we find comfort, hope and guidance through the Holy Scriptures. Help us by your Spirit to grow stronger in faith as we read and study the Scriptures to learn all that you have done for us. Guide us according to your will. Hear our prayer and accept our praise in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Prayer for Peace

Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies, that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Let us praise the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Blessing

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.
Amen.

Be seated

Comfort, Comfort All My People

CW 312



1 “Com - fort, com - fort all my peo - ple; speak of peace,” so
2 All their sins our God will par - don, blot - ting out each
3 John the Bap - tist’s voice is cry - ing in the des - ert
4 Then make straight the crook - ed high - way; make the rough - er



says our God. “Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, groan - ing
dark mis - deed; all that well de - served his an - ger he no
far and near, call - ing peo - ple to re - pent - ance for the
plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, read - y



from their sor - rows’ load. Speak to all Je - ru - sa - lem
more will see or heed. They have suf - fered man - y a day;
king - dom now is here. O that warn - ing cry o - bey!
for his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry of the Lord



of the peace that waits for them; tell them that their
now their griefs have passed a - way. God will change their
Now pre - pare for God a way; let the val - leys
now o’er earth is spread a - broad, and all flesh shall



sins I cov - er, that their war - fare now is o - ver.”
ach - ing sad - ness in - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
rise to meet him and the hills bow down to greet him.
see the to - ken that his word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Johann G. Olearius, 1611–1684
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain

Evening (Vespers) from Christian Worship

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