

The Second Sunday of Advent ~ Communion

December 6, 2020

Welcome and Announcements ~ Ric Barsy

Prelude ~ Leigh Emmett

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle ~ *responsive*

Leader: O God, we light the second candle of Advent.

People: We seek your comfort. Both mighty and tender, you come.

Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you.

Leader: Isaiah announced God's coming to a people exiled in a broken and parched wilderness. He declared that God's redemption would make a highway in the desert and change the rough places into a plain.

People: God would come as a shepherd-feeding, leading, and cradling the weary flock. This Advent, we seek such a God.

Unison: Saving God, look upon your world and heal your land and your people.

Prepare us to be changed. This Advent, teach us to be tender and just, as you are.

Amen.

At this time you are invited to light your second Advent candle and sing...

Lighting of the second candle of Advent ~ Jan Lapenta

Choral Response ~ "*Light One Candle*"

Light one candle for peace, one bright candle for peace,

He brings peace to ev'ry heart, He comes! He comes! (repeat)

Call to Worship ~ (Psalm 85:8-11) ~ *responsive*

Leader: Let us hear what the Lord God will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

People: Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

Leader: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

People: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

Advent Prayer ~ *in unison*

Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**you are invited to stand in body or in spirit*

**Hymn #100 ~ "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout"*

Time with children

Prayer for Illumination

Responsive Chorus #104 ~ *"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"* (v. 1)

O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright? Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight! O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast, to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.

Hebrew Scripture ~ Isaiah 40:1-11

Special Music ~ *"Prepare The Way, O Zion"* (C. McClure)

Christian Scripture ~ Mark 1:1-8

Message ~ "Prepare the Way"

**Hymn #347 ~ "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"*

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Community at Prayer

*Invitation to Prayer #360 ~ “*Christ Is Coming!*” (v. 1)

*Christ is coming! Let creation from its groans and labor cease,
let the glorious proclamation hope restore and faith increase:
Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Come, O blessed Prince of peace.*

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer ~ *in unison*

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.

*Hymn #93 ~ “*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*”

*Passing the Peace

*Benediction

* Choral Response #601 ~ “*Amen*”
Amen, Amen, Amen

Postlude

CCLI#2342595 CVLI#504305417

A Congregational Meeting is called for Sunday, December 13, 2020, immediately following the service, for the purpose of electing officers and other business as necessary.

REMINDERS!!!

If you have not yet returned your Stewardship Commitment for 2021, PLEASE do so as soon as possible so a working budget can be prepared, particularly in anticipation of calling a pastor.

Commitments received as of December 3, 2020

General Fund ~ 35 pledging units: \$90,898.00

Building Improvement Fund ~ 19 pledging units: \$16,220.00

Recent repairs to the boiler: \$3,729.59

PLEASE use their designated envelopes and write your checks for their Thanksgiving, Advent Pantry, and Christmas Eve donations payable to THE BOARD OF DEACONS. The Board has a bank account completely separate from St. Paul's! Thank you!!

2020 Giving Tree donations are being accepted to support Penrickton Center for Blind Children. Checks may be made payable to St. Paul's with "Giving Tree 2020" in the memo line and the collective donation will be sent at the end of December.

Donations are also being accepted to cover the costs of the supplies for the Cookies for Crossroads project.



Janet Frank, Karen Bright, Sheldon Davis, Doris Knecht, Joyce Barton, Gail Artinian
Pam Phillips, Suzanne Tabaka, Jim & Joanna Roye, Nola Bonandrini, Tamar Duthie, Frank & Nancy Saunders
Jerry Stone, Beverly Dearth, Anita Falk, Kathleen Warren, Bob Liebertz, Grace Campbell, Susan Grant
Bruce Phillips, Patricia Hutchison, Linda Thompson & her sister, Shirley Kircoff
Eric Tulley ~ son of Don & Meta; Brendan Morris ~ fiance of Kyrie Bowman; Don Potter ~ father of Don
Erin Lewis ~ daughter of Pattie Benoit; Thomas Peeples ~ friend of Jeff Graham
Phyllis Badman ~ niece of Georgia Hunt; Christie Piastowski ~ daughter of Karen Bright
Janet Kusuhara ~ cousin of Meta Tulley; Joe Ducsay ~ friend of Mike & Carol Graham; Mark Osborne ~ son of Janet
Hannah Elton ~ great niece of Judy McGregor; Sarah & Mason Young ~ cousins of Judy McGregor
Bob Kortenhoeven ~ brother of a friend of Judy McGregor
Diane Calloway & Tony S. ~ cousins of Gail Artinian; MaryAnn Tabaka ~ mother of Suzanne
Eric Tabaka ~ nephew of Suzanne; Cyndi Knecht ~ daughter of Doris; Joe Perko ~ friend of Wanda & Bob Seymour
David Bonandrini ~ son of Nola & Ben; Zoe Marcus ~ friend of Karen Erwin
Gideon Janku ~ great nephew of Bob Westbrook; Judy Siegfried ~ sister-in-law of Pam Phillips
Randy Tillman ~ son of Gloria Rubbo; Leslie Benoit ~ daughter of Tamar Duthie
Mary Rayes ~ friend of Pat Hutchison; Adam Schilling & Eric Shilling ~ grandsons of Ron & Janet Frank
Donald Keller III ~ son of Jan Lapenta; Scott Davis ~ son of Sheldon & Marion Davis

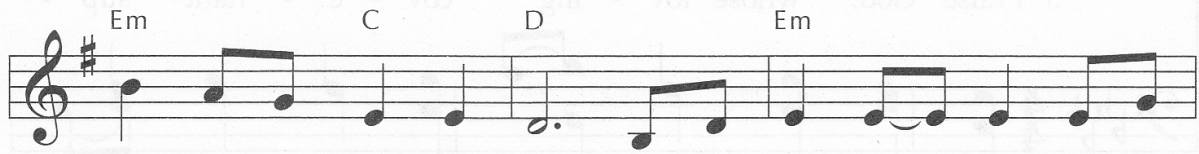
Please review the prayer list and report any changes to the office as soon as possible.

100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Canticle of the Turning



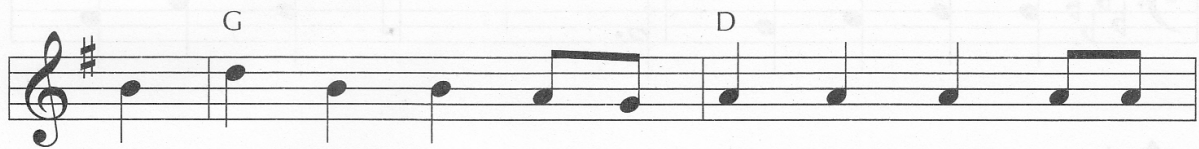
1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



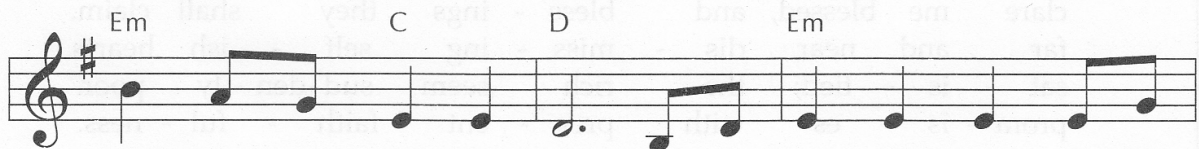
God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.

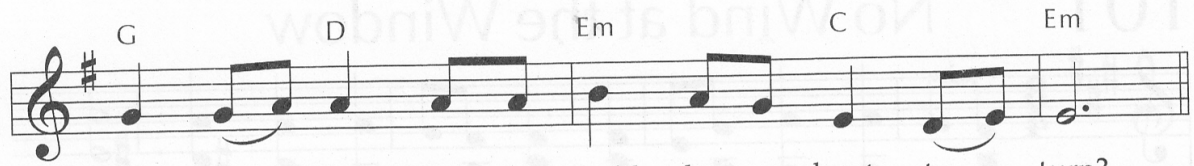


You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



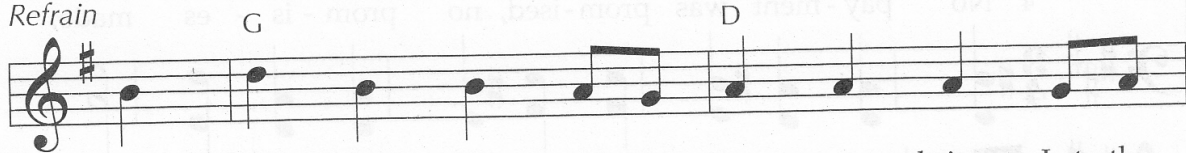
weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

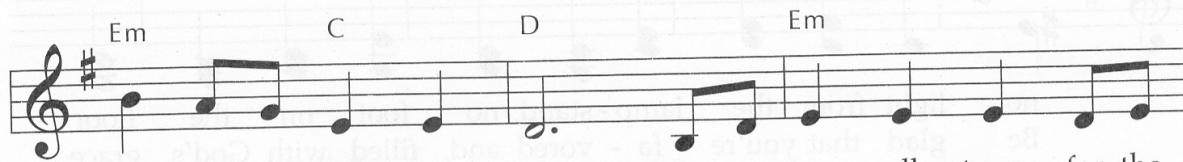


name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

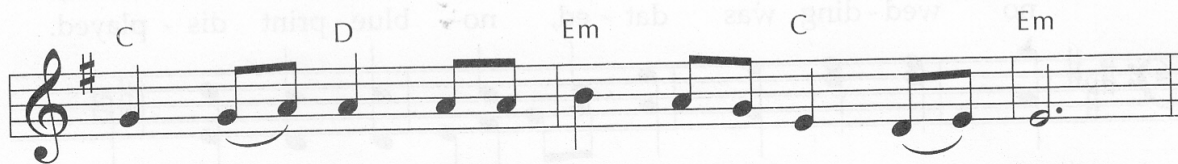
Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You 104

1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you a - right?
 2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me;
 3 You come, O Lord, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good-will,

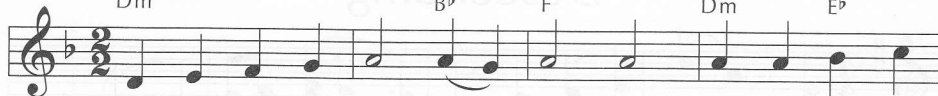
Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!
 your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro - cured my lib - er - ty.
 to bring an end to sad - ness and bid our fears be still.

O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, a lamp with - in my breast,
 O love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
 In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we live for that great day

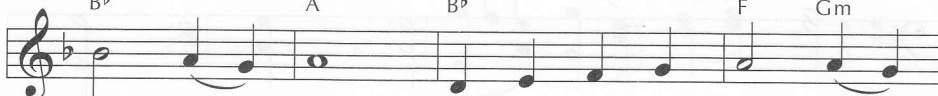
to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.
 in love, all loves ex - cel - ling, our lost and fal - len race.
 when your re - newed cre - a - tion your glo - ry shall dis - play.

Though many Advent hymns address Christ with entreaty and invitation, this more contemplative text considers how an individual prepares for and responds to Christ's coming. It also brings together a recollection of the First Coming with an anticipation of the Second Coming.

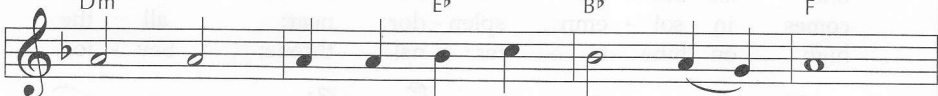
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence 347

Capo 3: (Bm)
Dm(G)
B \flat (D)
F(Bm)
Dm(C)
E \flat 

1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim, with

(G)
B \flat (F \sharp)
A(G)
B \flat (D)
F(Em)
Gm

trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly
 earth he stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man
 on the way, as the Light of light de -
 sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the

(Bm)
Dm(C)
E \flat (G)
B \flat (D)
F

mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
 ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
 scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,
 pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,

(B)
D(Em)
Gm(Bm)
Dm(A)
C

Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,
 he will give to all the faith - ful
 that the powers of hell may van - ish
 "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

(Bm)
Dm(Em)
Gm(F \sharp m)
Am(Bm)
Dm

our full hom - age to de - mand.
 his own self for heaven - ly food.
 as the shad - ows clear a - way.
 al - le - lu - ia, Lord most high!"

The flowering of English hymnody in the 19th century included the rediscovery, translation, and versification of ancient Christian hymns, such as this text from one of the earliest existing Christian liturgies. It is set here to an adaptation of a 17th-century French melody.

360

Christ Is Coming!

1 Christ is com - ing! Let cre - a - tion from its groans and
 2 Earth can now but tell the sto - ry of your bit - ter
 3 With that bless - ed hope be - fore us, flutes are tuned and
 4 Long your ex - iles have been pin - ing for your prom - ised

la - bor cease; let the glo - rious proc - la - ma - tion
 cross and pain; we shall yet be - hold your glo - ry,
 harps are strung; let the might - y ad - vent cho - rus
 rest and home, but in heav - en - ly glo - ry shin - ing,

hope re - store and faith in - crease: Christ is com - ing!
 Lord, when you re - turn to reign: Christ is com - ing!
 on - ward roll from tongue to tongue: Christ is com - ing!
 soon the ris - en Christ shall come. Christ is com - ing!

Christ is com - ing! Come, O bless - ed Prince of peace.
 Christ is com - ing! Let each heart re - peat the strain.
 Christ is com - ing! Let each heart re - peat the song.
 Christ is com - ing! Joy - ful, shout the vic - tory psalm.

This hymn by a 19th-century Scottish pastor is specifically based on Revelation 1:7 and 22:20, with allusions to several other New Testament passages. Unlike medieval hymns that focused on judgment, this text understands the Second Coming as an occasion of triumph and joy.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 thee; here, Lord, a - bide. Let me thy in - ner

draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

Beginning as a paraphrase of Psalm 24:7–10, this text then applies the door imagery to the singer's heart, and concludes with the individual's welcome of the approaching Savior. It is set to a very effective anonymous 18th-century English tune that has served many texts.

601

Amen

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The vocal line (treble clef) consists of four measures: the first two measures are chords, the third measure contains the notes A, B, and C with a slur over them, and the fourth measure is a chord. The piano accompaniment (bass clef) follows a similar pattern: the first two measures are chords, the third measure contains the notes A, B, and C with a slur over them, and the fourth measure is a chord. The lyrics 'A - men. A - men. A - men.' are placed below the vocal line.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: Anon. Danish

DANISH AMEN