

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2020

CALL TO WORSHIP & ADVENT READING

The Benedictus - Luke 1:67-79

READER Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has visited and redeemed his people
and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of his servant David,
as he spoke by the mouth
of his holy prophets from of old,
that we should be saved from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us;
to show the mercy promised to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant,
the oath that he swore to our father Abraham,
to grant us that we,
being delivered from the hand of our enemies,
might serve him without fear,
in holiness and righteousness
before him all our days.

ALL **And you, child,
will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord
to prepare his ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to his people
in the forgiveness of their sins,
because of the tender mercy of our God,
whereby the sunrise
shall visit us from on high
to give light to those who sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

CREATOR OF THE STARS OF NIGHT

Creator of the stars of night
Thy people's everlasting light
O Christ, Redeemer of us all
We pray you hear us when we call

*Come, oh come
Come, oh come
Come, oh come
To us*

When this old world drew on toward night
You came, but not in splendor bright
Not as a monarch, but the child
Of Mary blameless mother mild

CONFESSION OF SIN *Isaiah and John 1*

LEADER To us a child was born,
to us a son was given.
The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord was on him,
to preach good news to the poor.
But who has believed his message?

ALL **The light shines in the darkness,
but the darkness has not understood it.
We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way.**

SILENT CONFESSION

WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, While
shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here The
silent word is pleading.

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.

GRACE ASSURANCE *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

LEADER Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and proclaim to her
that her hard service has been completed,
that her sin has been paid for.

ALL **Jesus Christ, our Lord,
whose coming we announce in this season,
is our righteousness.
In Christ, we are made right with God;
all creation is renewed and sings for joy.
Thanks be to God!**

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above your 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 tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary,
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering 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 heaven.
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 sins and enter in,
Be born to us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell:
Oh, come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

PASSING THE PEACE & WELCOME TABLE

MESSAGE - 2 Corinthians 5:17 | Behold

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Jesus, you are my greatest desire. You alone satisfy my longings. Today I cannot come to the Lord's Supper with my church family, where you promise to be in a special way. I long to return to your table. I still come to you in faith, along with all your people across the world who are facing the same longing. I turn from all false loves and false trusts, and commune with you spiritually. Lord, thank you for your promise that nothing can separate us from your love: neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature. Amen. partaking of your sacrament.

ALL THINGS NEW

Come Lord, and tarry not;
Bring the long-looked-for day;
O why these years of waiting here,
These ages of delay?

Come, for thy saints still wait;
Daily ascends their sigh.
The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come."
Dost thou not hear the cry?

*O come, and make all things new;
Come, and make all things new.
O come, and make all things new.
Build up this ruined earth;
Come, and make all things new.*

Come, for creation groans,
Impatient of thy stay,
Worn out with these long years of woe,
These ages of delay.

Come, for love waxes cold,
Its steps are faint and slow;
Faith now is lost in unbelief,
Hope's lamp burns dim and low.

*O come, and make all things new;
Come, and make all things new.
O come, and make all things new.
Build up this ruined earth;
Come, and make all things new.*

Come and make all things new;
Build up this ruined earth;
Restore our faded Paradise,
Creation's second birth.

Come, and begin Thy reign
Of everlasting peace;
Come, take the kingdom to Thyself,
Great King of Righteousness.

BENEDICTION 2 Peter 3:13-15

In accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.