

December 25, 2024

Welcome

379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

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| 1 O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him
Born the king of angels: Refrain | 3 Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest: Refrain |
| 2 Highest, most holy,
Light of Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! Refrain | 4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! Refrain |
- ref O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

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In the name of the Father,

The Creator of all things seen and unseen.

In the name of the Son,

The Redeemer of the world, Emmanuel, God with us.

In the name of the Holy Spirit,

The One who calls us to faith and helps us live as God's children.

When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us,

Not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy.

He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace,

We might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Hymn of Confession.....sung to: *On Jordan's Bank*

- 2 Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare For Christ to come and enter there.

- 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
And make us rise to fall no more;
Oh, let your face upon us shine And fill the world with love divine.

Our God saves us not because of things we have done, but because of what Jesus has done for us. Through His incarnation, holy life, sacrificial death and glorious resurrection God draws us to Himself. It is my joyful duty to announce the forgiveness of all our sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Hymn of Praise.....sung to: *On Jordan's Bank*

5 All praise to you, eternal Son, Whose advent has our freedom won,
Whom with the Father we adore, And holy Spirit, evermore.

Prayer

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament

1 Samuel 22:1-2 (excerpts)

David...escaped to the cave of Adullam. All those who were in distress or in debt or discontented gathered around him, and he became their leader.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle

2 Corinthians 5:16-21 (excerpts)

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Verse.....sung to: *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

The Gospel

Matthew 1:1-16

The genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ.

386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

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| 1 Now sing we, now rejoice,
Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy streameth
Poor in a manger lies;
Not so brightly beameth
The sun in yonder skies.
Thou my Savior art!
Thou my Savior art! | 3 Now through His Son doth shine
The Father's grace divine.
Death was reigning o'er us
Through sin and vanity
Till He opened for us
A bright eternity.
May we praise Him there!
May we praise Him there! |
| 2 Come from on high to me;
I cannot rise to Thee.
Cheer my wearied spirit,
O pure and holy Child;
Through Thy grace and merit,
Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
Draw me unto Thee!
Draw me unto Thee! | 4 Oh, where shall joy be found?
Where but on heav'nly ground?
Where the angels singing
With all His saints unite,
Sweetest praises bringing
In heav'nly joy and light.
Oh, that we were there!
Oh, that we were there! |

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Sermon

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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers *[If you need information to send a card or call to someone for whom we prayed, please contact Pastor John.]*

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus
And for all people according to their needs.

After each portion of the prayer:

Lord in Your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Offertory.....sung to: *What Child is This* vs 3

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary!

Preface.....sung to: *O Come, All You Faithful*

The Lord be with you.

And with you, His servant.

Oh, come, let us lift our hearts unto the Lord.

With hearts uplifted

Thanks to Him we render:

With joy we come before Him,

In gratefulness implore Him,

With thankful hearts adore Him evermore!

Thanks and praise be to You, our Father, almighty Creator, merciful Lord, God of promise and fulfillment. Of old Your faithful people waited for the day of Your appearing, manifest when the time had fully come and You sent Jesus, Your Son. Having seen His glory, we now wait for the day of consummation when He will come again as King. And so, with the church on earth and all the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus.....sung to: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Holy, holy, holy Lord! God of hosts, by all adored!
Heaven and earth cannot contain All the glory of Your name!
Hail, hosanna, God most high! Blest is He who now draws nigh
In the name of God the King! Hallelujahs glad we sing:
Hail, hosanna! Praises due Be forever, Lord, to You!

Jesus' Directions for Communion

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Agnus Dei.....sung to: *From Heaven Above*

O Lamb of God, You take away The sin of all; now hear us pray.
And grant us from our sins release: Have mercy on us.
Grant us peace!

Distribution of Communion

[If your body does not tolerate alcohol, the back row of the individual cups are grape juice.]

361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

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|--|---|
| 1 O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy 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. | 3 How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still
The dear Christ enters in. |
| 2 For Christ is born of Mary,
And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king
And peace to all the earth! | 4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel! |

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The body and blood of our Lord strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the faith to life everlasting. Go in peace.

Amen.

Thanksgiving & Nunc Dimitis.....sung to: *From Heaven Above*

**Oh, thank the Lord, whose goodness sure
And steadfast love fore'er endure!
Our eyes have seen, our ears have heard,
And we have tasted of His word.
As His own servants we depart
With His salvation in our heart.
His saving power He has made known;
His love through all the earth is shown.**

Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this good gift and we ask that, by your mercy, you would strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and in a fervent love for one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benediction.....sung to: *O Come, All You Faithful*

The Lord bless and keep you,
Look with love upon you,
Be gracious, and cause His face to shine with peace!

**Glory to Father, Son and Holy Spirit!
The Savior close beside us,
God's love from harm to hide us,
The Spirit's power to guide us evermore!**

387 Joy to the World

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|---|--|
| 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing. | 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy. |
|---|--|

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

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