



Gilead Presbyterian Church  
December 12, 2021  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent, Year C

Convinced of God's Grace, we affirm that there can be no exclusiveness in the body of Christ. We welcome all regardless of race, ethnic heritage, national origin, age, ability, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic standing; and we encourage the full participation of all in the life of our congregation.

WELCOME

OPENING MUSIC "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" traditional  
Zoe Temple, piano arr. by Faber & Faber

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Isaiah 35:1-2  
Janet Bracero and Luis Nazario

Leader: We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

**People: We are preparing ourselves for the days when the wilderness and the dry land shall be glad.**

Leader: The desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly.

**People: The land will rejoice with joy and singing.**

**ALL: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

The people sing: **Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel. (repeat)**  
**(Purple Hymnal #91)**

Come, Come Emmanuel 91

Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel. (repeat)  
man - u - el. man - u - el.

This Advent refrain centers on the name of Jesus meaning "God with us" (Matthew 1:23, quoting Isaiah 7:14). Intended for repeated congregational singing, it can be expanded by the addition of stanzas sung by a soloist or choir, or it can serve effectively as a prayer response.

TEXT and MUSIC: James J. Chepponis, 1995  
Text and Music © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc.

COME, COME EMMANUEL  
6.5

## **BLUE HYMNAL #28**

## **“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”**

- 1. Good Christian friends, rejoice With heart, and soul, and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;  
Ox and ass before Him bow, And He is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**
- 2. Good Christian friends, rejoice With heart, and soul, and voice;  
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He hath opened heaven’s door, And we are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **OPENING PRAYER**

### **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Loving God, we come to worship with deep need, and a joy so deep it is sometimes hard to feel. Sing to us a song of redemption, a song of hope and renewal. We pray for joy in our hearts, hope in our God, love to forgive, and peace upon the earth. We ask for your light of salvation for all our family members and friends, and we pray your blessings on all people. May there be bread for the hungry, love for the unlovable, healing for the sick, protection for our children, and wisdom for our youth. We pray for the forgiveness of our sins and abundant life in Christ. Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with your love and power. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.** (adapted from Rev. Lia Icaza Willetts)

## **SILENT PRAYER**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

### **THE GLORIA, from “Angels We Have Heard on High”**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

## **TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART**

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*Zephaniah 3:14-20* <sup>14</sup> Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup> The Almighty has taken away the judgments against you, and has turned away your enemies. The Ruler of Israel, God Almighty, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. <sup>16</sup> On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. <sup>17</sup> Your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; God will rejoice over you with gladness, will renew you in Divine love, and will exult over you with loud singing <sup>18</sup> as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. <sup>19</sup> I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. <sup>20</sup> At that



# 26. While Shepherds Watched

JUNGST-TKACH

★ INTRO.



(1) *f*

1. While shep-herds watch'd their flocks by night,  
 2. "Fear not," they heard the an-gels sing,  
 3. "There ye shall find in Beth-lem's stall,  
 4. "All glo-ry be to God on high,

(5) *f* (9) *p*

From heav'n they heard glad ti-dings bright.  
 "To you this day is born a King.  
 Christ, the Re-deem-er of us all.  
 And on earth peace, good will to men.

Al-le-lu-ia, Al-

(13) *f* *p* (17) *f*

le-luh-ia, Joy, great joy, Joy, great joy, Glo-ry to

(21) *p* *rall.*

God in heav'n a-bove, Glo-ry to God in heav'n a-bove.

Neil A. Kjos Music Co., Publisher  
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“I Saw Three Ships”  
Zoe Temple, trumpet; Della Temple, flute

traditional

*The flowers this morning are donated by Katherine Foote to the glory of God in memory of her father, Emerson Foote on his birthday.*

*Thank you to our videographer, Stephanie Gould.*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- ▶ The Food Pantry can use monetary donations, as well as all non-perishable foods and toiletries. Leave in the outside bin or call Martin for appointment.
- ▶ Prayer Zoom each Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. The link is in the weekly bulletin email.
- ▶ Thursday Bible Study is on holiday until January 6.
- ▶ Christmas Caroling Sunday Dec. 19 at 3 p.m., followed by pizza party at Mary's!
- ▶ Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7:30 p.m.
- ▶ Gilead Bell Chimes rehearse after worship today to play next Sunday.
- ▶ Gilead Singers rehearse at 9:15 today to sing in worship.
- ▶ Bake Sale right after worship next Sunday. Please pre-wrap items in containers, \$5 per plate or container.

† We accept offerings through the “Online Giving” link on our website, [www.gileadchurch.org](http://www.gileadchurch.org), or mail checks made out to Gilead Presbyterian Church, 9 Church Street, Carmel, NY 10512. Or give elsewhere if you see a need. In doing so, we brighten the world, and brighten our hearts.

#### **GILEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Rev. Martin McGeachy, Pastor  
Mary Temple, Music Director  
Diana Drake Behan, Church School Superintendent

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[www.gileadchurch.org](http://www.gileadchurch.org)

