

Gilead Presbyterian Church  
December 4, 2022, 10:00 a.m.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent, Year A



*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 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" trad. French carol  
Gilead Bell Chimes arr. by Martha Lynn Thompson

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Benjamin Warren

Leader: A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

**People: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.**

Leader: Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

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

*(The people sing:)*

*(Purple Hymnal #92)*

**With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come.**

**Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.**



**\*PURPLE HYMNAL #88**

**"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"**

**1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**6. O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**7. O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER, UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule.**

**We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We seek our own comfort above all; we ignore**

**our neighbors in need; we embrace the lies of culture and earthly powers; and we refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.** SILENT PRAYER  
ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**\*THE GLORIA, from “Angels We Have Heard on High”  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: Peace be with you. **People: And also with you.**

ANTHEM

“Canticle of the Turning”  
Gilead Singers; John Vangor, guitar

Irish Melody

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

**Light two candles, Christ is coming—Christ, the Light of the world!  
Light two candles, Christ is coming! Christ is coming soon!**

*The children are dismissed to Sunday School.*

SCRIPTURE

<sup>4</sup> Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup> May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> so that together you may with one voice glorify the God of our Savior Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup> For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the chosen people on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to them, <sup>9</sup> and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for showing Divine mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; <sup>10</sup> and again it says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with God's people"; <sup>11</sup> and again, "Praise God, all you Gentiles; let all the peoples praise God"; <sup>12</sup> and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in Chosen One the Gentiles shall hope." <sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.  
*Romans 15:3-13*

<sup>13</sup> Now after the wise men had left Bethlehem, an angel of the Almighty appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." <sup>14</sup> Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, <sup>15</sup> and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." <sup>16</sup> When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. <sup>17</sup> Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: <sup>18</sup> "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." <sup>19</sup> When Herod died, an angel of the Lord

suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, <sup>20</sup> "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." <sup>21</sup> Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup> But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup> There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."  
*Matthew 2:13-23*

SERMON

"Y'all Come"

Rev. Martin McGeachy

**\*PURPLE HYMNAL #105**

**"People, Look East"**

**1. People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.**

**2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.**

**5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

THE OFFERING  
OFFERTORY

"The Wexford Carol"  
Renaë Lent and Mariah Warren, recorders

English & Irish

**\*SONG OF PRAISE**

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*All who wish may receive Communion. The congregation will be invited to come forward to receive the elements, but for those who wish, elements will be brought to them. For those joining virtually, all are invited to partake of bread and wine, or any substance that feels appropriate; or prayerfully take in the sacrifice of the Lord symbolically.*

INVITATION, PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

John Vangor, guitar

**PASTORAL PRAYER, 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 debts, as we forgive  
our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is  
the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**\*PURPLE HYMNAL #133**

**"O Come, All Ye Faithful"**

**1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!**



# 92 While We Are Waiting, Come

1 While we are wait - ing, come;  
 2 With power and glo - ry, come;  
 3 Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come;

while we are wait - ing, come.  
 with power and glo - ry, come.  
 come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come.

Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el,

while we are wait - ing, come.

This simple and meditative Advent hymn is so uncomplicated in both text and tune that it can be learned quickly and sung without reference to a book, which might make it effective as a prayer response. It would also lend itself to improvised stanzas on appropriate occasions.

# 88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
 4 O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
 all things might - i - ly: to us the path of knowl - edge  
 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple



here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
 law in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
 save and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>5 O come, thou Key of David, come,<br/>             and open wide our heavenly home;<br/>             make safe the way that leads on high,<br/>             and close the path to misery.<br/>             Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel<br/>             shall come to thee, O Israel.</p> | <p>6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer<br/>             our spirits by thine advent here;<br/>             disperse the gloomy clouds of night,<br/>             and death's dark shadows put to flight.<br/>             Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel<br/>             shall come to thee, O Israel.</p> |
|--|--|

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
 all peoples in one heart and mind;  
 bid envy, strife, and discord cease;  
 fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

*One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:*

*Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)*

*Dec. 20: O Key of David (5)*

*Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1)*

*Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3)*

*Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)*

*Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4)*

*Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7)*

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

# 105 People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the  
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more  
 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the  
 4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more  
 5 An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who


crow - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are  
 seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to  
 nest that must be filled. E - ven the hour when wings are  
 light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y  
 brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley

Peo - ple, look

a - ble; trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.  
 nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish.  
 fro - zen God for fledg - ing time has cho - sen.  
 weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.  
 hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing.


This text was written to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated. The author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation.

east and sing to - day:



Peo-ple, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
Love, the Bird, is on the way.  
Love, the Star, is on the way.  
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Peo-ple, look east: (Love is on the way.)





# O Come, All Ye Faithful 133

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come  
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,  
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -  
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all  
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

*Refrain*

born the King of an - gels!  
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed!  
 glo - ry in the high - est! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let  
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.