



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 18, 2022

Livestream & In-Person

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING MUSIC

9:45 a.m.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Keith L. DeVries

Click [HERE](#) to register your attendance

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Terry Sakuda

Leader: Look, here is the sign

People: A young woman shall give birth.

All: Emmanuel!

Leader: Do not be afraid,

People: For the child is conceived of the Holy Spirit.

All: Emmanuel!

Leader: He is to be called Jesus,

People: For he will save us from our sins.

All: Emmanuel!

Leader: All this took place to fulfill what was spoken,

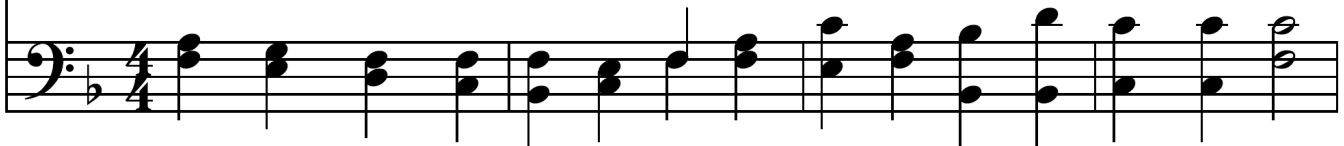
People: And God is still speaking.

All: Emmanuel! God With Us!

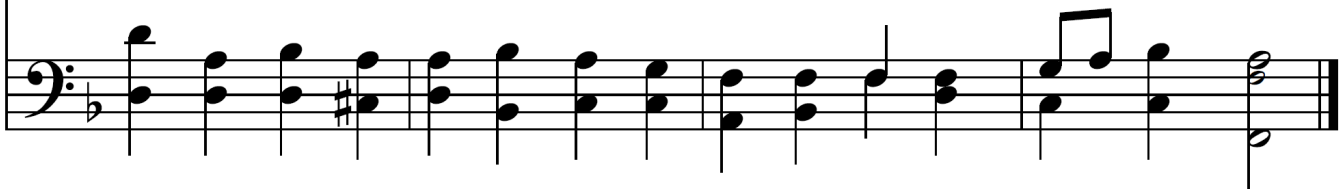
83 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.



CONFESSION AND PARDON

Terry Sakuda

Leader: Our God is full of grace and truth, shining a light into our shadows. Confident of God's loving embrace, let us pray our confession together.

All: **God With Us, we confess that at times we feel very far away from you. War, poverty, racism, climate change—with all the struggles of the world, sometimes we wonder where you are, instead of asking the question of who we are in this world. We forget we are all your children. We forget that you are with us, always, to the end of time. In the times of deepest struggle, may we remember that you promised us a sign of your presence: Emmanuel, God With Us. Your covenant with us, to be our God forever, endures even when we forget. May we know you are with us, now and always. Amen.**

Silence

Leader: Take a deep breath. With every breath, breathe in God's love, breathe out your fear. With every breath, know that you come from God and return to God. With every breath, know that you are loved and love one another. Breathe in hope, breathe out peace. Breathe in joy, breathe out love. God is with us always. Amen.

* RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

"Glory to God"

No. 583
Glory to God

Dm Gm C F (*chords continue*)

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Keaney Family

ADVENT PRAYER

All: **God of Peace, you send us the Prince of Peace. We long for his peace to rule in our lives and relationships. We yearn for every corner of your world to be subject to your peace. We eagerly await the days when your whole flock will live in the security of your peace. May we, through the power of your Spirit, shine the peace of Christ in the darkness. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Sing with the Angels"

Ruth Morris Gray

"Follow That Star"

Charlton Bozard

Waterfall Singers

Nancy Studer, Director; Kathy Phillips, Accompanist

TIME FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

(Following the Time for Young People, children age 4-5th grade are invited to Sunday School in Room 206)

* SONG

"Joseph Was Troubled"

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Joseph Was Troubled

ADELAIDE (“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”)

1. Jo - seph was trou - bled by what he knew!
 2. Jo - seph was sleep - ing; that night he dreamed.
 3. Hear - ing that mes - sage, Jo - seph o - beyed,
 4. God, when our trou - bles seem far too great,

Mar - y was preg - nant; what should he do?
 Noth - ing was real - ly as it had seemed.
 see - ing a new path God's love had made.
 help us to lis - ten, won - der and wait;

He wan - ted jus - tice— not to cause shame.
 “Don't be a - fraid— make Mar - y your wife.
 He stood by Mar - y, wait - ing that birth,
 some - times the world is not as it seems.

He would dis - miss her, plac - ing no blame.
 God has a plan for your ba - by's life.”
 see - ing God's Son there— Sav - ior of earth!
 Give us your vis - ion; give us your dreams.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' ²² All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

SERMON

A Traditional Family. Really.

Pastor Ivan N. Herman

OFFERING

ANTHEM

"A Baby in the Cradle"

Barbara Kinyon

Sanctuary Choir

Trina Spivack, Piano; Rick Schlosser, Organ

By us He is adored, Oh Jesus Christ our Lord.

Oh Jesus dearest babe of all, and dearest babe of mine.

Your love is great, though you are so small; Oh flood this heart of mine with Your true love divine.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Come, Lord Jesus. Bring your presence; bring your peace; bring your light. Comfort the sick. Soothe the sorrowful. Bind up the wounded. Calm our spirits. Ease our burdens. Mend our hearts. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus. Bring your justice; bring your righteousness; bring your goodness. Reorder our priorities. Direct our efforts. Strengthen our resolve. Break down walls. Dismantle oppression. Overthrow tyrants. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus. Bring your love; bring your compassion; bring your mercy. Heal our divisions. Seek out the lost. Restore the guilt-ridden. Widen our embrace. Teach us generosity. Show us how to forgive. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus. Bring your passions; bring your fire; bring your steadfastness. Inspire our witness. Motivate our mission. Energize your church. Open our minds. Extend our hands. Overcome our lethargy. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus. Bring your hope; your tenderness; your promise. Build up our common life. Hold us in our frustrations. Brighten our darkness. Release us. Renew us. Redeem us. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus, hear our cries, hear our whispers, hear our prayers. Now, with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray as Jesus taught, saying,

All: 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.



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



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.

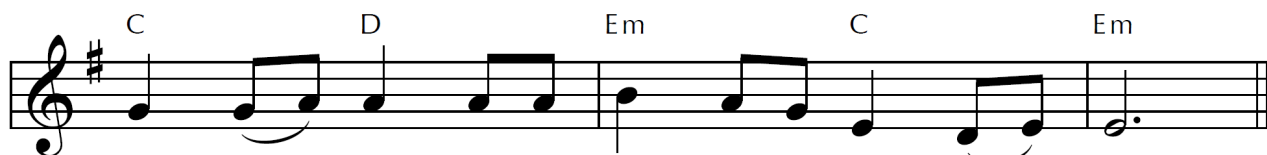
Refrain



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.

* THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

Toccata on "Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella"

Hudson
French Carol

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

Call to Worship, Confession, and Assurance of Pardon by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, <http://rev-o-lution.org>, © 2022. Used by permission. Adapted.

Prayers of the People by John Wurster © *Presbyterian Outlook* 2022

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Audio/Video: Michael Gray and Noor Bitar

Music Director: Keith Atwater

Organ: Rick Schlosser

Piano: Gabe Bisho

Drums: Will Condrey

Guitar: Michael Schwab

Bass: Matthew Major

Vocal: Claire Aretsky, Karen Gray, and Beth Lindley

