



The 3rd Sunday of Advent
December 13, 2020
9:00am

Welcome

Candle Lighting

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Hymn 56
(vs. 2)

O come, thou wisdom from on high
Who orderest all things mightily
To us the path of knowledge show
And teach us in her way to go.

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to the thee, O Israel!

Opening Acclamation

Priest Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Opening Songs

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come Thou fount of ev'ry blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
Mount of Thy redeeming love

Here I raise mine Ebenezer
I am, by Your hand alone
And I hope, by Your good pleasure
Safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wand'ring from the Father's plan
He, to rescue me from danger
Came to Earth and was made man

Come Thou long-awaited Savior
Come O lord, Messiah, he

Who born to Mary in a manger
Will soon set His people free

He shall be called Wonderful Counselor
Prince of Peace, our newborn King
Come Thou long-awaited Savior
Hark, the herald angels sing!

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Come, thou long expected Jesus
Born to set thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in thee

Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart
Joy of every heart

Born thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now thy gracious kingdom bring
By thine own eternal spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne

You draw the hearts of shepherds
You draw the hearts of kings
Even as a baby, You were changing everything
You called me to Your Kingdom
Before Your lips could speak
And even as a baby,
You were reaching out for me

And now we are awaiting
The day of Your return
When every eye will see You
As heaven comes to earth
Until the sky is opened
Until the trumpet sounds
The bride is getting ready
The church is singing out

Come, thou long expected Jesus
Born to set thy people free

From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in thee
Come, thou long expected King!

Collect of the Day

Clergy The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Clergy Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;

to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations,
“The Lord has done great things for them.”

The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses of the Negev.

Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Gospel Song

From the breaking of the dawn
To the setting of the sun
I will stand on every promise of Your word
Through this dark and troubled land
You will guide me with Your hand
As I stand on every promise of Your word
Grace sufficient grace for me
Grace for all who will believe
We will stand on every promise of Your word

Holy Gospel

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Becky Coerper

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayers of the People

In our Parishes, we pray for the people of Gethsemane Episcopal Church, Sherrill and their priest, the Rev. Beverly Messenger-Harris, and the people of St. James' Episcopal Church, Skaneateles and their clergy, the Rev. Becky Coerper, the Rev. Toppie Bates, and the Rev. Deacon Chuck Stewart. In our Companion Diocese, we pray for the people of Misión Virgen de Guadalupe and their priest, The Rev. Mario Benítez. In the Episcopal Church, we pray for the Diocese of Dallas, The Rt. Rev. George Sumner. And in the Anglican Communion, we pray for the people of the Falkland Islands and their bishop, the Rt. Rev. Timothy Thornton. May the church's life be marked by prayer and service to those in need.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.

We pray for your creation, especially where it is wounded. Renew the whole earth with your love.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.

We pray for countries recovering from famine or storms, and for those where human rights have been violated. Give wisdom to presidents, prime ministers, legislatures, and judges in all nations, especially nations at war.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.

We pray for women preparing to give birth, for adoptive and foster families, for children with special needs, and for children who are orphaned and waiting for families.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.

We pray for those without homes or jobs, those in treatment for cancer or other illness, those who long for forgiveness, those who find the holidays difficult, and for the sick and the suffering, especially those we name silently or aloud _____.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.

We pray for those have died and for the friends and family who grieve their loss, especially those we name silently or aloud _____. Be their comfort and guide through these days of grief and healing.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.

You come to your people and set us free. As we are strengthened and sent out from this assembly, help us prepare your way in our daily lives.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come among us.

Confession and Absolution

Now in humility and trust, we pray for the forgiveness of our sins:

God of grace, for our failure to listen to others, forgive us.

For our blindness to the hurt and suffering of others, forgive us.

For offering judgment rather than compassion, to those in need, forgive us.

For our fear of those who are different from ourselves, forgive us.

For the harm we have done, forgive us.

For the good we have failed to do, forgive us.

Guide us in your truth, and teach us the way to go, that we may love and serve you well, in the Name of the One who saves us, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Priest

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins, through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Music for Reflection

People Get Ready

People get ready
There's a train a coming
You don't need no baggage
You just get on board
All you need is faith
To hear the diesels humming
Don't need no ticket you just thank the Lord

People get ready
For the train to Jordan
Picking up passengers
From coast to coast

Faith is the key
Open the doors and board them
There's hope for all
Among those loved the most

People get ready
There's a train a coming
You don't need no baggage
You just get on board
All you need is faith
To hear the diesels humming
Don't need no ticket
You just thank the Lord!

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Announcements

Anniversary & Birthday Blessings

May the strength of God pilot you, May the power of God preserve you, May the wisdom of God instruct you, May the hand of God protect you, May the way of God direct you, May the shield of God guard you against the snares of evil and the temptations of the world. May the Spirit of God bless you in the coming year.

Adapted from Patrick, c.389 - c.46

Blessing

Life is short and we have too little time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind. And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and always.

Closing Song

Alleluia, He Is Coming

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-coming
I looked up and I saw my Lord a-coming
down the road
I looked up and I saw my Lord a-weeping
I looked up and I saw my Lord a-weeping
for my sins

Alleluia, He is coming
Alleluia, He is here
Alleluia, He is coming
Alleluia, He is here

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-dying

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-dying
on the cross

I looked up and I saw my Lord a-rising
I looked up and I saw my Lord a-rising
from the grave
Alleluia, He is coming
Alleluia, He is here
Alleluia, He is coming
Alleluia, He is here!

Dismissal

Clergy Go in the peace of Christ. Serve those living in poverty.
Proclaim the Good News Alleluia! Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia**

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