

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 3, 2023

PRELUDE

Prelude and Fugue in b minor, BWV 544

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

Pastor Penny

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

LSB 357 (vv. 1, 4, 6-7)

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

4 O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree, Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save, And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace. *Refrain*

Text and music: Public domain

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Sing to the Lord, all the world!

People: Worship the Lord with Joy: come before Him with songs of praise.

Pastor: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;

People: His greatness no one can fathom.

Pastor: Let us meditate on His wonderful works,

People: and proclaim His great deeds.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Pastor: As we come to the beginning of another advent season, we prepare with expectant hearts for God's arrival. We ponder again the mystery of the Incarnation, God dwelling with man in human flesh. We light this first candle, recognizing that on Christmas the true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. *(John 1:9)*

Pastor: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

People: those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

Pastor: For to us a son is given;

People: and the government will be upon his shoulder,

Pastor: and his name will be called

People: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:2,6)

ADVENT HOMILY

Pastor Penny

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST!

The Wexford Carol (arr. H. Helvey)
Sanctuary Choir

[Reading]

Glory (M. Weaver)

Promise

THE OFFERING OF GIFTS AND SIGNING OF FRIENDSHIP PADS

Everyone, please sign the friendship pad, then pass the pad from the outside aisle to the inside aisle.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Hark, the Glad Sound (arr. R. Mallory)

Handbell Choir

PRAISES AND PRAYERS

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.

[Reading]

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (LSB 380)
Congregation

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
 Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
 Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
 With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
- 2 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 the incarnate Deity!
 Pleas'd as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel! *Refrain*
- 3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.
 Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth. *Refrain*

Text and music: Public domain

[Reading]

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks (arr. H. Jungst)

Sanctuary Choir

*[Reading]**Go, Tell It on the Mountain (arr. ?)**Messiah Children's Choir**[Reading]**The Yearning (C. Courtney)**Sanctuary Choir**[Reading]**Hope Was Born this Night (B. McDonald, D.Frey)**Promise***BENEDICTION****CLOSING HYMN***Angels We Have Heard on High (arr. C. Tomlin)**Congregation with Promise*

- 1 Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

- 2 Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

- 3 Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain*

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CLOSING EXHORTATION**POSTLUDE***Joy to the World**arr. B. Bumgarner*