



Emmanuel: God With Us
A Hymn Festival for Advent
December 10, 2023

About Today's Liturgy

Today's service is based on the Great O Antiphons of Advent. Dating back to the 8th century or earlier, the O Antiphons preceded the Magnificat during each of the seven days leading up to Christmas Eve. The O Antiphons were later translated and paraphrased to become the beloved Advent hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel."

You will hear each O antiphon sung in the original Latin followed by the corresponding verse of "O Come, O Come Emmanuel." Next, the scriptural reference for each antiphon will be read, followed by a Christmas carol representing the fulfillment of the prophecies expressed in the reading. The first letters of the antiphon titles (**E**mmanuel, **R**ex, **O**riens, **C**lavis, **R**adix, **A**donai, **S**apientia) create the Latin acrostic *Ero Cras*, meaning "tomorrow I shall be (there)."

Thank you for joining us as we eagerly await the coming of Emmanuel, God with us.



Prelude: *Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen* arr. Johannes Brahms

*All congregational carols and responses are printed in **bold**. Please stand to sing the processional hymn, joining in from the second verse.*

Opening Hymn: *Once in Royal David's City* Hymn 102, vs. 1-2

Cantor:

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

Choir and Congregation:

He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all, And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall: With the poor, the scorned, the lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Officiant: You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

-Isaiah 55:12-13

People: Gracious God, you came to us in human flesh, and you abide with us in the Holy Spirit. Fill us with your joy, and help us shine as a light to the world. Through Jesus Christ, who makes our joy complete. Amen.

The Bidding Prayer (*Please remain standing*)

Officiant: Beloved in Christ, as we await the great festival of Christmas, let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning. Let us hear, in lessons from Holy Scripture, how the prophets of Israel foretold that God would visit and redeem the waiting people. Let us rejoice, in our carols and hymns, that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled.

Let us celebrate the promise that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, will bring all people and all things into the glory of God's eternal kingdom. The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor hear and see the Gospel. First, let us pray for the world God so loves, for those who have not heard the good news of God, or who do not believe it; for those who walk in darkness and in the shadow of death; and for the Church in this and every place, that it may be freed from all evil and fear, and may in pure joy lift up the light of the love of God. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer to God, in the words that Christ himself taught us:

**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.**

Officiant: May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting, now and at all times. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the first lesson.

O Sapientia ~ O Wisdom

Antiphon 1

O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High,
Reaching from one end to the other,
Mightily and sweetly ordering all things:
Come and teach us the way of prudence.

**O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who orderest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Lesson: *Ecclesiasticus 24:3, Wisdom 8:1,
and Isaiah 11:2-3, and 28-29*

Victoria Cross

“Wisdom came forth from the mouth of the Most High, and covered the earth like a mist. She reaches mightily from one end of the earth to the other, and she orders all things well.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. This also comes from the Lord of hosts; he is wonderful in counsel, and excellent in wisdom.

Carol: *What Child is This?*

Hymn 115, vs 1-2

**What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch
are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds
guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring him laud, the
babe, the son of Mary.**

**Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is
pleading. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard
and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the
son of Mary.**

O Adonai ~ O Lord of Might

Antiphon 2

O Adonai, and Leader of the House of Israel,
Who appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush
And gave him the law on Sinai:
Come and redeem us with an outstretched arm.

**O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the law,
In cloud, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Lesson: *Isaiah 11:4-5, 33:32*

Rick Peuser

But with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our ruler, the Lord is our king; he will save us.

Carol: *Angels from the Realms of Glory* **Hymn 93, vs 1 & 4**
**Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye, who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In his temple shall appear:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

O Radix Jesse ~ O Root of Jesse

Antiphon 3

O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign among the peoples;
Before you kings will shut their mouths,
To you the nations will make their prayer,
Come and deliver us, and delay no longer,

**O Come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny;
That trust thy mighty power to save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Lesson: *Isaiah 11:1, 11:10; 52:15*

Lois Leigh

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

So he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate.

Carol: *Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming* Hymn 81, vs 1-2

**Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung.
It came, a blossom bright,
Amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.**

**Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to us a Savior when half spent was the night.**

O Clavis David ~ O Key of David

Antiphon 4

O Key of David and Scepter of the House of Israel;
You open and no one can shut;
You shut and no one can open:
Come and lead the prisoners from the prison-house,
Those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

**O Come, thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Lesson: *Isaiah 22:22; 9:7; 42:6-7*

Janie Heppel

I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David; he shall open, and no one shall shut; he shall shut, and no one shall open.

His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace, for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

Carol: *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night*

Hymn 94, vs 1 - 4

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground, the angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around.

“Fear not,” said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind; “Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind.

“To you, in David’s town, this day is born of David’s line The Savior, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:

“The Heavenly Babe you there shall find to human view displayed, all meanly wrapped in swathing bands, and in a manger laid.”

O Oriens ~ O Morning Star

Antiphon 5

O Morning Star [Rising Sun, Dayspring],
Splendor of light eternal and sun of righteousness:
Come and enlighten those who dwell in darkness
And the shadow of death.

**O Come, thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Lesson: *Isaiah 9:2; 60:1-2; Malachi 4:2* **Nancy Osgood**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

Offertory Carol

An offertory collection will be taken during the following carol.

Carol: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* **Hymn 87, vs 1 & 3**

**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.
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King.**

**Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth,
Born to give us second birth.
Risen with healing in his wings,
Light and life to all he brings,
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hark! The herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King!**

O Rex Gentium ~ O King of the Nations

Antiphon 6

O King of the Nations, and their Desire, the Cornerstone
Making both [Jew and Gentile] one:
Come and save the human race
Which you fashioned from clay.

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

Lesson: *Isaiah 9:6; 2:4*

Deborah Howard

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

Carol: *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* Hymn 89, vs 1 & 4

**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven’s all gracious
King.”**

The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

**For lo! The days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.**

O Emmanuel ~ O God With Us

Antiphon 7

O Emmanuel, our King and our Lawgiver,
The Hope of the nations and their Savior:
Come and save us, O Lord our God.

**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.**

Lesson: *Isaiah 7:14; 33:32*

Kim Bamburak

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our ruler, the Lord is our king; he will save us.

Carol: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Hymn 79, vs 1 & 5

**O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.**

Ero Cras ~ Tomorrow I Shall Be

Lesson: *John 1:1-5, 10-14*

Rev. Vikki Clayton

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God, He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Choral Anthem: "Carol of the Bells"

Mykola Leontovich and Peter Wilhousky,
arr. Steve Kupferschmid

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

The Collect: Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Blessing: May Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace to trust his promises; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Please stand for the closing carol.

Closing Carol: *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

Hymn 107

**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!**

**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 for evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you
all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia.
Alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude: *Tell Out My Soul*

arr. J. Wayne Kerr

*You are warmly invited to the undercroft after the service
for refreshments.*

Serving Today

**Choir Director, Music Director,
and Organist:** Lauren Fisher

Usher: Rob Palmer

Broadcast Technicians: Randy and Evan Beans

Altar Guild: Ann and Bill Fitts

Flower Guild: Judy O'Neil

Officiant: The Rev. Vikki Clayton

Singers from St. Bartholomew's and St. Luke's Choirs

Announcements

Upcoming Services:

Annual Christmas Pageant followed by Santa visit on Sunday, Dec. 17, at 11 AM. Our Christmas Pageant this year reenacts the Christmas Nativity with children and adults participating. Christmas Carols are sung, and joy abounds.

The service is followed at noon by a visit from Santa for each child to enjoy. Delicious refreshments will be served.

Christmas Eve Service - Sunday, December 24 at 7:30 p.m.
There will not be an 11 a.m. service this day.

Lions Club Coat Drive: The Lions Club Coat Drive is underway and will continue through December 15th. Please bring used coats (adults and children) and place them (always open) in the bin on the front porch of the Town Hall. Warm children's clothing will also be accepted. Please help provide warmth for families during this winter season.

Online Giving: There is now the option to contribute to the ministries of St. Bartholomew's by using this QR code:



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