

Order for the Public Worship of God
December 6, 2020
2nd Sunday of Advent
11:00 AM Worship Service

WE COME TO WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” arr. Mark Hayes
Piano and Organ Duet

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Chris Curvin, Pastor

CALL TO WORSHIP “The People Who Walked in Darkness” Sally Ann Morris
Stephanie Carson, Solo

*The people who walked in darkness awaken to see a great light.
The people who dwelt in the land of the shadow rise to a star shining bright.*

His name is Wonderful, Counselor, Almighty God, Father forever, Prince of Peace.

*For God has enlarged the nation, and prospered the fruit of its land.
God’s people are blest with the harvest of victory, gift from a bountiful hand.*

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

HYMN #88 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” VENI EMMANUEL
(stanzas 1,6,7)

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

Lighting the Candle, Steve & Debbie Lang
The reader offers words about the candle of peace.

RESPONSE

Reader: and so we offer this mysterious prayer:
All: **Lord Jesus, into our darkness, quickly come.**
All singing: **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

CALL TO CONFESSION Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Together*)

O God, you search us and know us, and all that we are is open to you. We confess that we have sinned. We long for your coming to change the world, and yet are unwilling to change even our own hearts; when we do not listen to the prophets and angels; when we reduce our preparation of your coming to reckless spending and trivialities. For- give us for all of our failings, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

PICARDY

**King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful, his own self for heavenly food.**

APOSTLES' CREED *(Together)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

ANTHEM

"Every Valley"
(Chancel Choir, recorded on November 25, 2018)

John Ness Beck

CALL TO OFFERING

HYMN #96

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings!**

**Then cleansed be every life from sin; make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.**

**We hail you as our Savior, Lord, our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away like flowers that wither and decay.**

**Stretch forth your hand; our health restore, and make us rise to fall no more.
O let your face upon us shine and fill the world with love divine.**

WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 40:1-5 NRSV
Mark 1:1-8 NRSV

SERMON

Advent Series: The World Is Not Yet Finished
#2 "Turning Towards Peace"
Chris Curvin, Pastor

WE UNITE IN PRAYER AND SACRAMENT

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE SHARING OF THE CUP; THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(Please plan to celebrate communion during this livestream service by preparing a small portion of juice—or something to drink—and bread for your use at home.)

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

HYMN #87

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”

GENEVAN 42

**“Comfort, comfort, now my people; tell of peace!” So says our God.
“Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow’s load.
To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over.”**

**For the herald’s voice is crying in the desert far and near,
calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here.
O, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way.
Let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.**

**Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God’s holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token that God’s word is never broken.**

BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”

Jonathan Reuss

Stephanie Carson, Music Director
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director

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,
 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.</p> | <p>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.</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.

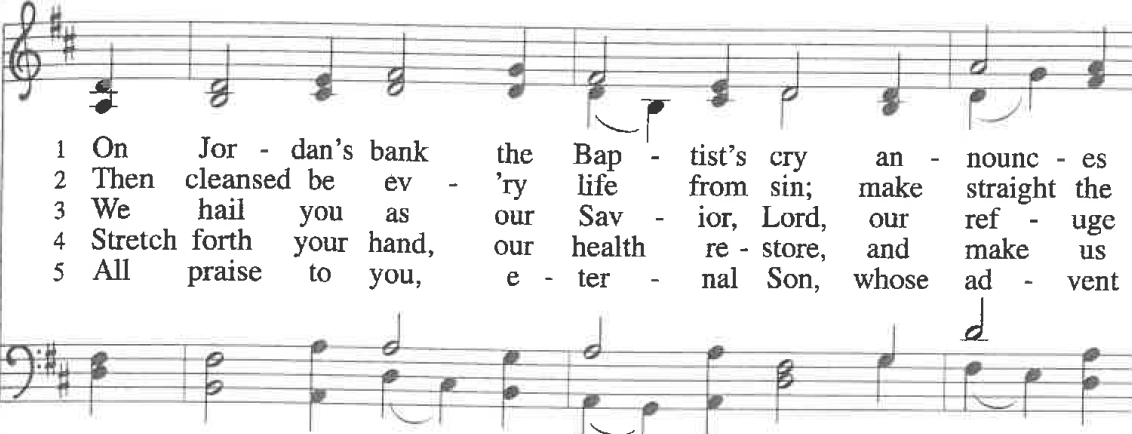
One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:

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)	

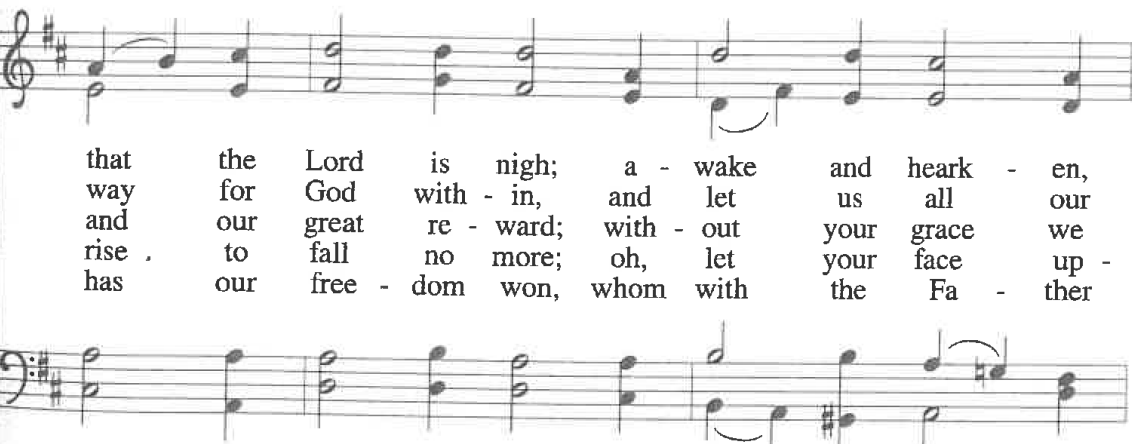
These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

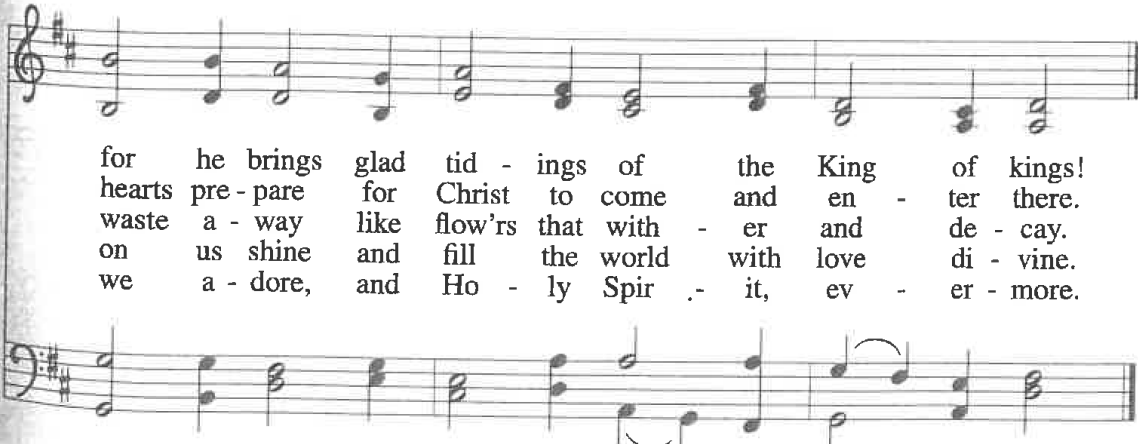
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1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent

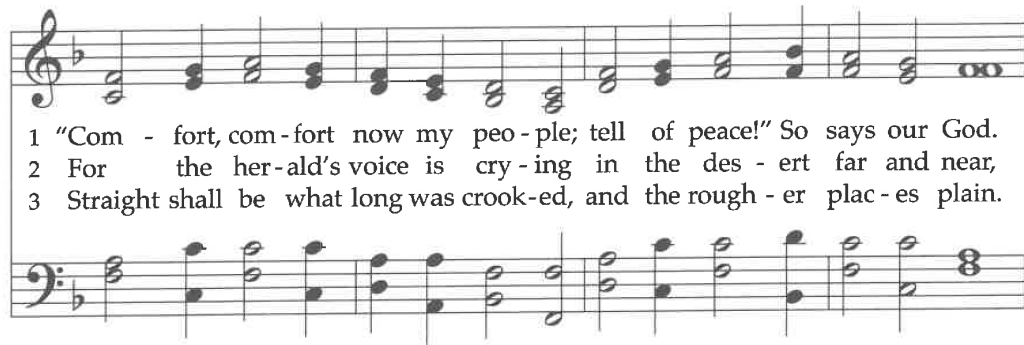


that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 way for God with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther

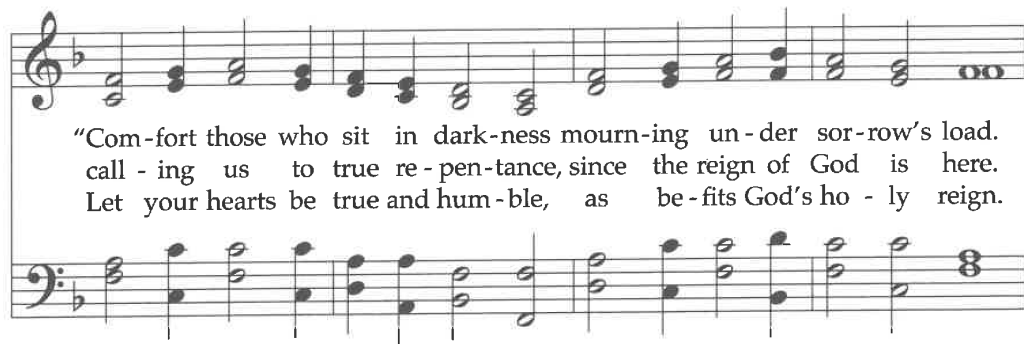


for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

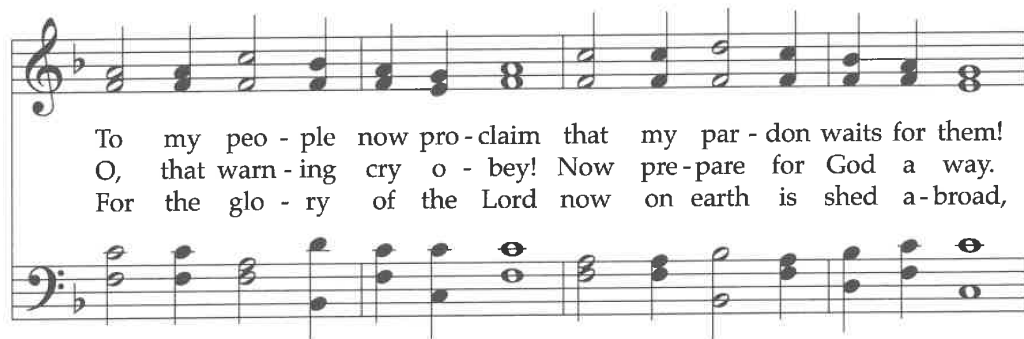
Comfort, Comfort Now My People 87



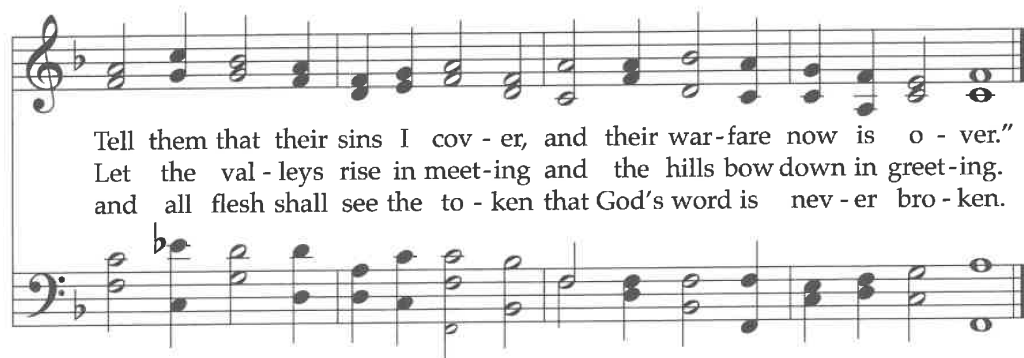
1 "Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
 2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



"Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load.
 call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.



To my peo - ple now pro - claim that my par - don waits for them!
 O, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their sins I cov - er, and their war - fare now is o - ver."
 Let the val - leys rise in meet - ing and the hills bow down in greet - ing.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

This 17th-century German paraphrase of Isaiah 40:1-5 was one of the texts translated as part of the 19th-century British interest in German religious poetry. It is set here to one of the most popular Genevan Psalter tunes, probably derived from an earlier French folksong.