



CHRIST THE KING
— PRESBYTERIAN —

SEASON OF ADVENT – DECEMBER 3, 2023

“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

by Robert J. Hughes and Charles Wesley

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 to those who long to see thee,
Dayspring from on high, appear;
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse,
Of Thy birth we long to hear!

O'er the hills the angels singing
Glad tidings of a birth
“Go to him, your praises bringing;
Christ the Lord has come to Earth.”

Comes to earth to taste our sadness,
He whose glories knew no end;
By His life He brings us gladness,
Our redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.

Leaving riches without number,
Born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder,
Christ was born the Lord of all!

CALL TO WORSHIP - From Isaiah 9

Leader: *The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.*

People: The yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken.

Leader: *For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.*

People: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

Leader: *and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called:*

People: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Leader: *Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness, now and forever.*

All: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

“Brightest and Best”

Words: Reginald Heber

Music: Southern Harmony, arr. J. Bennetch

Hail the blest morn, see the great mediator
Down from the regions of glory descend.
Shepherds go worship the babe in the manger
Lo for His guard the bright angels attend.

Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining,
Low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch, and Savior of all.

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Shall we then yield him, in costly devotion,
Odors of Edom, and offerings divine,
Gems of the mountain, and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest, and gold from the mine?

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gifts would his favor secure;
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

“Gabriel's Message”

Traditional, arr. by Sabine Barring-Gould

The angel Gabriel from Heaven came
His wings as drifted snow His eyes as flame
All hail said he thou lowly maiden Mary
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

For known a blessed mother thou shalt be
All generations laud and honor thee
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel by seers foretold
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head
To me be as it pleaseth God she said
My soul shall laud and magnify His holy name
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!

Of her, Emanuel, the Christ was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,
And everyone throughout the world will ever say
"Most highly favored lady", Glory to God!

PRAYER OF ADORATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 13:24-37

Reader: *This is the Word of the Lord!*

People: Thanks be to God!

CONFESSION OF SIN

O promised Christ:

We are at war —

our peace depends on your coming.

We are anxious —

our comfort depends on your coming.

We are treasonous—

our pardon depends on your coming.

We have fixated on our own concerns. We have ignored the people around us. We have scorned your generosity. Our only hope of doing God's will is your powerful presence with us.

Lord Christ, Word made flesh, our world
waits for your peace, for your comfort, for
your pardon, and for your grace. Even so:
come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Minister: *Our help is in the name of the Lord,*

People: The maker of heaven and earth!

Minister: *O Lord, open our lips,*

People: And our mouths will declare Your
praise!

“Lord I Need You”

*by Jesse Reeves, Matt Maher,
Christy Nockels, and Daniel Carson*

Lord I come I confess
Bowling here I find my rest
And without You I fall apart
You're the one that guides my heart

Lord I need You oh I need You
Every hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
And where You are Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me
Where You are Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me

Lord I need You oh I need You
Every hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus You're my hope and stay
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus You're my hope and stay

Lord I need You oh I need You
Every hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You

GREETING

Leader: *May the peace of Christ be with you!*

People: And also with you!

Leader: *Let us share His peace with one another.*

Children may leave for lesson (ages 4-6).

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As the leader directs, the congregation is invited to pray for those for whom they are burdened.

Pray aloud and by name or silently if you prefer.

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

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 129

Reader: *This is the Word of the Lord!*

People: Thanks be to God!

“Ancient of Days”

*by Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson,
Michael Farren and Jesse Reeves*

Though the nations rage, kingdoms rise and fall
There is still one King reigning over all
So I will not fear for this truth remains
That my God is, the Ancient of Days

None above Him, none before Him

All of time in His hands

For His throne it shall remain and ever stand

All the power, all the glory

I will trust in His name

For my God is, the Ancient of Days

Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul
He is here with me, I am not alone
O His love is sure, and He knows my name
For my God is, the Ancient of Days

None above Him, none before Him

All of time in His hands

For His throne it shall remain and ever stand

All the power, all the glory

I will trust in His name

For my God is, the Ancient of Days

Though I may not see what the future brings
I will watch and wait for the Savior King
Then my joy complete, standing face to face
In the presence of the Ancient of Days

None above Him, none before Him
All of time in His hands
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand
All the power, all the glory
I will trust in His name
For my God is, the Ancient of Days

CELEBRATING COMMUNION

CONFESSION OF FAITH - The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things
visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, God of God, Light of Light, true God of true God, begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made human. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried.

The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the world to come. Amen.

Minister: *The peace of the Lord be always with you.*

People: And also with you!

Minister: *Lift up your hearts!*

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Wine is in the outer circles of cups; the inner circle contains grape juice. Gluten-free bread is in its own tray.

As the usher directs, please come forward one row at a time to pick up your cups.

Please hold your elements until all are served so that we may all partake together, as one body.

“Jesus Paid It All”

*by Alex Nifong, Elvina M. Hall,
and John Thomas Grape*

And I hear the Savior say,
Thy strength indeed is small
Child of weakness watch and pray
Find in me thine all in all.

Jesus paid it all
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain
He washed it white as snow.

Lord now indeed I find
Thy pow'r and Thine alone
Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone.

Jesus paid it all
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain
He washed it white as snow.

And when before the throne,
I stand in Him complete;
Jesus died my soul to save
My lips shall still repeat:

Jesus paid it all
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain
He washed it white as snow.

CELEBRATING COMMUNION

THE SENDING - 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

by Robert J. Hughes and Charles Wesley

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



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