



December 1, 2024

At Home Bulletin

WELCOME and ADVENT READING

He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 111

INVOCATION

SONGS OF PRAISE

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 ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry 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 news, glad tidings of a birth:
"Go to him, your praises bringin; Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Come 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.

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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Psalm 134:24-35

Tune: Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

Open the Eyes of My Heart

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see You, I want to see You. (repeat)

To see You high and lifted up, shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love, as we sing "Holy, holy, holy."

Bridge:

"Holy, holy, holy, Holy, holy, holy,
Holy, holy, holy. I want to see You."

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GOD'S LAW AND OUR CONFESSION

When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field
right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest.
And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the
fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and
for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God. You shall not steal; you shall
not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another. *Leviticus 19:9-11*

Our Father, forgive us for thinking small thoughts of you
and for ignoring your immensity and greatness

**Lord Jesus, forgive us when we forget that you rule
the nations and our small lives.**

Holy Spirit, we offend you in minimizing your power
and squandering your gifts.

**We confess that our blindness to your glory, O triune God,
has resulted in shallow confession,
tepid conviction, and only mild repentance.
Have mercy upon us.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of
woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that
we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent
the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no
longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Christians, what do you believe?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come 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.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

RECEPTION OF OFFERINGS

PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near, the Savior of the world is here.

A helper just he comes to thee, his chariot is humility,
his kingly crown is holiness, his scepter, pity in distress.

O blest the land, the city blest, where Christ the Ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes to whom this King in triumph comes!

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heav'n's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide!
Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.

So come, my Sovereign, enter in! Let new and nobler life begin!
Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.

George Weissel, Catherine Winkworth. © Public Domain

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 1:4-8

Pew Bible p. 874

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Alpha & Omega”

Pastor Ian Hard

HYMN OF RESPONSE*

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

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CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

*If you are following along at home, please refrain from taking Communion
as it is a form of worship meant to be celebrated in the physical presence
of the body of Christ.*

MERCY OFFERING

HYMN OF SENDING

O, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

He breaks the pow'r of reigning sin, he sets the pris'ner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.

He speaks and, list'ning to his voice, new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosen'd tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Savior come; and leap, ye lame, for joy.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1739; Tune: AZMAN C.M.; Carl G. Glaser 1784-1829

Arranger: Lowell Mason 1829

BENEDICTION

Sermon NOTES: *Alpha & Omega*