

## December 15, 2024 | Advent Week 3 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

I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."

Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones! *Psalm 89* 

## INVOCATION

### SONGS OF PRAISE

#### O Come, O Come Emmanuel

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.

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. *(refrain)* 

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny; from depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *(refrain)*  O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing night, disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. *(refrain)* 

O come, thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. *(refrain)* John Mason Neale | Thomas Helmore © Public Domain

#### The Battle Belongs to the Lord

In heavenly armor we'll enter the land, The battle belongs to the Lord! No weapon that's fashioned against us will stand, The battle belongs to the Lord!

#### Chorus:

And we sing glory, honor, power and strength to the Lord. We sing glory, honor, power and strength to the Lord!

When the power of darkness comes in like a flood, The battle belongs to the Lord! He's raised up a standard, the pow'r of His blood, The battle belongs to the Lord! (Chorus)

End:

Power and strength to the Lord 2xs CCLI Song No. 21583. © 1985 Fairhill Music (Admin. by Fairhill Music). Jamie Owens-Collins. CCLI License No. 1843136.

**Psalm 101** Tune: The Church's One Foundation

## GOD'S LAW AND OUR CONFESSION

"You shall not commit adultery." Exodus 20:14

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence, and do not take your Holy Spirit from me. *Psalm 51* 

## SILENT CONFESSION

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Isaiah 40:1-2

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

### **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**

#### Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand, Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

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 heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way, as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day, that the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye, veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,

"Alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!" Liturgy of St. James, 5<sup>s</sup> Century; Adapted by Gerard Moultrie, 1864; PICARDY, French Melody 17<sup>s</sup> Century, Arr. By Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906.

### SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 19:6-21

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

### SERMON

"Of Wedding & Warfare"

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 Public Domain

## **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

#### He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail Christ will hold me fast When the tempter would prevail He will hold me fast I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path For my love is often cold He must hold me fast

Chorus

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast

Those He saves are His delight Christ will hold me fast Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast He'll not let my soul be lost, His Promises shall last Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast. *(chorus)* 

For my life He bled and died Christ will hold me fast Justice has been satisfied, He will hold me fast Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast Till our faith is turned to sight when He comes at last. *(chorus)* CCLI Song # 7016161 Ada Ruth Habershon | Matthew Merker © 2013 Getty Music Publishing (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Matthew Merker Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) *For use solely with the SongSelect*® <u>Terms of Use</u>. All rights reserved. <u>www.ccli.com</u> CCLI License # 1843136

# BENEDICTION

Sermon NOTES: Of Wedding & Warfare