

Third Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist Rite II
December 17, 2023 8:45am

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude

Light Three Candles

Yiddish folk tune

Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.

Candlelighting (Lucernaria)

- V. Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.
R. *Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.*
V. Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved:
R. O Lord God of hosts.
V. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
R. *Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.*
V. Show us your mercy, O Lord:
R. *And grant us your salvation.*



Opening Hymn

Even So Come

Tomlin/Cates/Ingram

All of creation, All of the earth, make straight a highway, a path for the Lord. Jesus is coming soon.

Call back the sinner, wake up the saint, let every nation shout of Your fame. Jesus is coming soon.

Refrain:

Like a bride waiting for her groom we'll be a church ready for You. Every heart longing for our King we sing even so come, Lord Jesus come. Even so come, Lord Jesus come.

There will be justice, all will be new. Your name forever, faithful and true, Jesus is coming soon. Refrain

So we wait, we wait for You. God we wait, You're coming soon. (2X)

Like a bride waiting for her groom, we'll be a church ready for You. Every heart longing for our King, we sing.

Like a bride waiting for her groom, (we'll be) ready for You. Every heart longing for our King, we sing. Even so come, Lord Jesus come.

Even so come, Lord Jesus come. (3X)

Acclamation

pg. 355 in Book of Common Prayer

Collect for Purity

Gloria

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord

Prepare ye the way of the Lord. Prepare ye the way of the Lord.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Part of a Heavenly Plan - solo

Mark & Helen Johnson

Why choose a young girl to mother a king, why choose a manger for laying Him in
It is too marvelous to understand, it was part of a heavenly plan, it was part of a heavenly plan

The Lessons

The First Reading: *Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11*

¹The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; ²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

⁸For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The Psalm: *Psalms 126*

¹***When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, ****
then were we like those who dream.

²***Then was our mouth filled with laughter, ****
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

³***Then they said among the nations, ****
"The LORD has done great things for them."

⁴***The LORD has done great things for us, ****
and we are glad indeed.

⁵***Restore our fortunes, O LORD, ****
like the watercourses of the Negev.

⁶***Those who sowed with tears ****
will reap with songs of joy.

⁷***Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, ****
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

The Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil.

²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Sequence Hymn

Emmanuel

*Emmanuel, Emmanuel, wonderful Counselor, Lord of life, Lord of all,
He is the Prince of Peace, Mighty God, Holy One. Emmanuel. Emmanuel.*

The Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²²Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said.

²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Gospel Response – Emmanuel

The Sermon

Nicene Creed

pg. 358 in Book of Common Prayer

Prayers of the People

Deacon or other leader: In waiting on your return, we lift our prayers saying, **Hear our Prayer. . .**

Confession of Sin

pg. 360 in BCP

The Peace

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Music

Mary Did You Know?

Mark Lowry

Offertory

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing . . . to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

People **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God . . .

. . . Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice and thanksgiving . . .

. . . By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Music

Advent Hymn

Christy Nockels

Christ whose glory fills the skies; Christ the everlasting light;
Son of righteousness arise and triumph o'er these chains of mine.

Come, thou long awaited One, in the fullness of Your love.
And loose this heart bound up by shame, and I will never be the same.

Chorus: **So, here I wait in hope of You. All my soul's longing through and through.
And Dayspring from on high be near, and Daystar in my heart appear.**

Dark and cheerless is the morn, until Your love in me is born.
And joyless is the evening song, until Emmanuel has come (Chorus)

Postcommunion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

Closing Hymn

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

***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!***

***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!***

Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*

Dismissal

Postlude

Youth Group Quartet "Carol of the Bells"

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