

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Advent Sunday

Voluntary:

i) Fantasia on "Veni Emmanuel"

Alec Rowley

ii) Chorale Prelude on "Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland" BWV 659

J S Bach

Introit: O Radiant Dawn

James Macmillan

"Hark, your watchmen lift up their voice,
together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see
the return of the Lord to Zion"

Isaiah 52:8

Call to Worship

Hymn: 273 O come, O come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

- 1 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.*

- 2 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.*

- 3 O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave:

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

4 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.*

5 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.*

Admission of New Communicant

Sung Blessing (Hymn: 796)

The Lord bless thee and keep thee;
The Lord make His face to shine upon thee,
The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee,
And give thee peace.
Amen

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father,
Which art in heaven
Hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done in 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, the power and the glory,
Forever.
Amen**

We respond to God's Word with our Offering
(Children invited to help with the Offering)

Offertory: Ecce Dominus veniet

Marcel Dupré

Prayer

We light the first Advent Candle

Children leave for Crèche and Sunday Club

We hear the Word of God

New Testament:

Luke 21:25-28

(read by Douglas Paterson)

²⁵ “And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and upon the earth distress of nations in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶ men fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ And then they will see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Amen

We bring to God our prayers of Adoration and Confession

Intimations

Hymn: 645 I'm not ashamed to own my Lord

Jackson

1. I'm not ashamed to own my Lord,
Or to defend His cause,
Maintain the glory of His cross,
And honour all His laws.
2. Jesus, my Lord! I know His name,
His name is all my boast;
He will not put my soul to shame,
Nor let my hope be lost.
3. I know that safe with Him remains,
Protected by His power,
What I've committed to His trust,
Till the decisive hour.

4. Then will He own His servant's name
Before His Father's face,
And in the new Jerusalem
Appoint my soul a place.

Sermon

Raise your heads!

*We bring to God our prayers
of Thanksgiving and Intercession*

*We make confession of our Faith
in the Apostles' Creed (all standing)*

**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**

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

Hymn: 19 Ye gates lift up your heads on high *St George's Edinburgh*

1. Ye gates, lift up your heads on high;
Ye doors that last for aye,
Be lifted up, that so the King
Of glory enter may.
But Who of glory is the King?
The mighty Lord is this.
Even that same Lord that great in might
And strong in battle is.
Even that same Lord that great in might
And strong in battle is.

2. Ye gates, lift up your heads; ye doors,
Doors that do last for aye,
Be lifted up, that so the King
Of glory enter may.
But Who is He that is the King,
The King of glory? Who is this?
The Lord of hosts, and none but He,
The King of glory is.
The Lord of hosts, and none but He,
The King of glory is.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!
Amen, amen, amen.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

At the Communion:

Benedictus (from "The Armed Man": A Mass for Peace)

Karl Jenkins

Hymn: 477 Lo, He comes with clouds descending

Helmsley

- 1 Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
Christ, the Lamb, for sinners slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
join to sing the glad refrain:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
God appears on earth to reign.

- 2 Every eye shall now behold him,
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold him,
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, shall the
true Messiah see.
- 3 Those deep wounds of cross and passion
still his glorious body bears;
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshippers:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
See! the day of God appears.
- 4 Yea, amen, let all adore you,
high on your eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for your own:
oh, come quickly, oh, come quickly,
oh, come quickly,
Alleluia! come, Lord, come!

Benediction and Threefold Amen

Voluntary: Prelude in b, BWV 544(i)

J S Bach

*The Apostles' Creed is an ancient creed of the Church. It is the preferred statement of belief of the Reformed churches and was included in weekly worship by both Calvin and Knox. The word 'creed' comes from the Latin word **credo** meaning 'I believe.' The Creed can be understood literally, though it is best read as poetry. It is Scriptural and, therefore, draws upon the faith narratives of the Bible. It employs powerful religious imagery intended for meditation.*