

Prelude & Quiet Meditation (suggested reading Psalm 80:1-7)

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” (Andrew solo)

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” #182

1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord.

2 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God, all glory in the highest; [Refrain]

3 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing; [Refrain]

Responsive Gathering Words

Children of God, the arrival of the Promised One is almost here!

We wait as people of God’s promise.

The message of the prophets and the expectation residing in Mary’s womb call to us today.

We listen as people of God’s promise.

Mary’s “yes” and Elizabeth’s faithfulness guide our path, showing us that we too have a role to play in bearing God’s good news into the world.

We follow as people of God’s promise.

This is the promise Mary, Elizabeth, and the prophets bore that we continue to carry even today—God is with us!

God is with us! We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

“Here I Am to Worship” (3266032)

Verse 1

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

Chorus

So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me

Verse 2

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

Bridge

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

Tim Hughes

CCLI Song #3266032

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Lighting the Advent Candles

“We Light the Advent Candles” #175 {vs. 1&5}

1 We light the Advent candles
against the winter night,
to welcome our Lord Jesus
who is the world's True Light,
to welcome our Lord Jesus
who is the world's True Light.

5 Four candles burning brightly
announce that Christ has come,
prepare, my heart, believe it,
and give the Christ child room,
prepare, my heart, believe it,
and give the Christ child room.

Micah 5:2-5a

Prayer of Confession

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” #180

1 O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.

Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary,
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love,
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to all on earth.

3 How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him still
the dear Christ enters in.

4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

Assurance of Pardon

Passing the Peace

Ministry Opportunities, Celebrations & Concerns

“Love Came Down at Christmas” #210

1 Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas;
star and angels gave the sign.

2 Worship we the Godhead,
Love incarnate, Love divine;
worship we our Jesus,
but wherewith for sacred sign?

3 Love shall be our token;
love be yours and love be mine;
love to God and neighbor,
love for plea and gift and sign.

Prayer of Dedication

“For Ages Women Hoped and Prayed” #172

Verse 1

For ages women hoped and prayed
To bear the Anointed One
Both Israel's Savior and the world's
The new day's shining Sun
Did they not know did they not guess
What pain would then be theirs
If God's anointed graced their home
In answer to their prayers

Verse 2

Young Mary did not think to hope
For miracles of birth
And God chose her to be the one

To make Christ's home on earth
So Mary sang her heartfelt praise
Of God who sets things straight
The mighty fall the weak are raised
The hungry fill their plate

Verse 3

Our hearts rejoice as Mary's song
Becomes our hymn of praise
For Christ has come Emmanuel
To claim our years and days
Both present now and coming still
Accomplished fact and dream
We join the song that Mary sings
An earthly heavenly theme

Jane Parker Huber

CCLI Song #6575397

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Prayers of the People

Luke 1:39-55

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel” #178

Verse

Emmanuel Emmanuel

His name is called Emmanuel

God with us revealed in us

His name is called Emmanuel

Bob McGee

CCLI Song #12949

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SO, YOU WANT TO BE BLESSED?

“Tell Out My Soul” #41

1 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his Word;
in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

2 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name, the Lord, the mighty one.

3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of his Word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and forevermore!

Benediction