

**Prelude & Quiet Meditation** (suggested reading Psalm 25:1-10)

**Call to Worship**

Children of God, prepare the way! The Word of God is coming!

**We come to listen and receive God's Word among us.**

Children of God, the prophets call to us now and from generations past, urging us to prepare and refine.

**We come to listen and prepare to receive God's Word among us.**

Children of God, this is the mark of our preparation: that passion for God's Word would burn within us, cleansing us and renewing us to reflect God's love throughout the world.

**May God ignite our passion for God's Word that has come among us as we listen, prepare, and receive all that God has for us today.**

**"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #154**

1 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!

2 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. [Refrain]

3 O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
and order all things, far and nigh;  
to us the path of knowledge show,  
and cause us in her ways to go. [Refrain]

4 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife and quarrels cease;  
fill the whole world with heaven's peace. [Refrain]

### **Lighting the Advent Candles**

## **“We Light the Advent Candles” (vs. 1&3)**

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.

3 We light the second candle,  
and hear God's holy Word,  
it tells us, cling to Jesus,  
prepare to meet your Lord,  
it tells us, cling to Jesus,  
prepare to meet your Lord!

Malachi 3:1-4

### **Prayer of Confession**

## **“Refiner’s Fire” #374**

Verse 1

Purify my heart  
Let me be as gold  
And precious silver  
Purify my heart  
Let me be as gold

Pure gold

Chorus

Refiner's fire

My heart's one desire

Is to be holy

Set apart for You Lord

I choose to be holy

Set apart for You my Master

Ready to do Your will

Verse 2

Purify my heart

Cleanse me from within

And make me holy

Purify my heart

Cleanse me from my sin

Deep within

Brian Doerksen

CCLI Song #426298

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**Words of Assurance**

**Prayer of Expectation**

**“God Will Make a Way” (458620)**

Chorus

God will make a way

Where there seems to be no way

He works in ways we cannot see  
He will make a way for me  
He will be my guide  
Hold me closely to His side  
With love and strength  
For each new day  
He will make a way  
He will make a way

Verse

By a roadway in the wilderness  
He'll lead me  
And rivers in the desert will I see  
Heaven and earth will fade  
But His Word will still remain  
He will do something new today

Don Moen

CCLI Song #458620

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## **Passing the Peace**

**Ministry Opportunities, Celebrations & Concerns**

# **“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” #589**

1 O Master, let me walk with thee  
in lowly paths of service free;  
tell me thy secret: help me bear  
the strain of toil, the fret of care.

2 Help me the slow of heart to move  
by some clear, winning word of love;  
teach me the wayward feet to stay,  
and guide them in the homeward way.

3 Teach me thy patience--still with thee  
in closer, dearer company,  
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,  
in trust that triumphs over wrong;

4 In hope that sends a shining ray  
far down the future's broadening way,  
in peace that only thou canst give,  
with thee, O Master, let me live.

### **Prayer of Dedication**

Luke 3:1-6

## **“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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#330023

GO AHEAD...PREPARE MY WAY

## Prayer of the People

### “Come and Find the Quiet Center” #477

1 Come and find the quiet center  
in the crowded life we lead,  
find the room for hope to enter,  
find the frame where we are freed:  
clear the chaos and the clutter,  
clear our eyes, that we can see  
all the things that really matter,  
be at peace, and simply be.

2 Silence is a friend who claims us,  
cools the heat and slows the pace,  
God it is who speaks and names us,  
knows our being, touches base,  
making space within our thinking,  
lifting shades to show the sun,  
raising courage when we're shrinking,  
finding scope for faith begun.

3 In the Spirit let us travel,  
open to each other's pain,  
let our loves and fears unravel,  
celebrate the space we gain:  
there's a place for deepest dreaming,  
there's a time for heart to care,  
in the Spirit's lively scheming  
there is always room to spare!

## Benediction