

November 27, 2022 ~ 1st Sunday of Advent

Gathering Music ~ “O Come, All Ye Faithful” (arr. Berry) ~ Leigh Emmett

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude ~ “Bring Us Hope” (R.E. Schram) ~ Celebration Choir

“Light One Candle” (N. Sleeth)

Light one candle for hope, one bright candle for hope.

He brings hope to every heart, He comes, He comes. (repeat)

Lighting of the Advent Candle ~ The Earnley Family

Call to Worship ~ *responsive*

Leader: As we come to worship, a voice cries out in the wilderness:

**People: “In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**

Leader: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

**People: Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it
together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.” Amen!**

**you are invited to stand in body or in spirit*

**Hymn #105 ~ “People, Look East”*

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession ~ *in unison*

Jesus, we praise you and thank you for the gifts of love and grace you have given us. You saved us and called us to work alongside you in the Kingdom of God.

For the times we have forgotten your call and your return, forgive us. May we be filled with your Spirit and faithfully follow in your call for our lives and world until you come again. Amen. (A time of silent, personal prayer).

Assurance of Forgiveness

Responsive Chorus #88 ~ “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (refrain)

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

Passing the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Responsive Chorus #123 ~ *"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"* (v. 1)
*It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all gracious King":
the world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.*

Offering Prayer

Offertory #658 ~ *"God Is So Good"*
*Good is so good; Good is so good; God is so good; God's so good to me.
God loves me so; God loves me so; God loves me so; God's so good to me.*

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Scripture ~ Isaiah 2:1-5

Special Music ~ *"The Advent Gift"* (J.M. Martin)

Christian Scripture ~ Matthew 24:36-44

Message ~ *"Coming Soon: Jesus is coming back"*

*Hymn #82 ~ *"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

Community at Prayer

Prayer Preparation ~ *"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"*
*Hear our prayer, O Lord, Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Incline Thine ear to us, And grant us Thy peace.*

The Lord's Prayer ~ *in unison*

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper ~ *responsive*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

*"All Belong Here"~ (L. Rand/H. Rand) as recorded by The Many
Come and remember who you are here. Do this to remember who I am.
Come and remember you belong here. All belong here.
At this table come as you are, broken and bleeding's ok.
At this table eat and be filled, come and drink in this grace.
Come and remember who you are here. Do this to remember who I am.
Come and remember you belong here. All belong here.*

Breaking of the Bread and Sharing of the Cup

Prayer after Communion

*Hymn #88 ~ "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

*Benediction

*Choral Response #113 ~ "Angels We Have Heard on High" (refrain)
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Postlude ~ "Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow" (arr. Hayes)

CCLI#2342595/20863950 CVLI#504305417

Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Thank you to all who volunteered their time and creativity on November 21 to decorate the church for the season! The silk poinsettias on the table in the lobby are surplus and the Deacons have made them available for a donation of \$4.00 or 3 for \$10.00. All proceeds will be dedicated by the Deacons to the 2022 Giving Tree Project.

2022 Giving Tree: The collection of NEW children's books for COTS in Detroit beginning Sunday, November 27th through Sunday, January 8th. The books can be left in or near the baskets in the lobby by the fireplace Christmas tree display! These will not be delivered to COTS until mid-January, so Christmas/seasonal books are not our focus for this collection. We will be collecting books for infant - elementary aged children. Give the gift of reading this season!

The 2023 Stewardship Commitments were dedicated on November 20 and St. Paul's is grateful to all who submitted a pledge. If you have not yet done so, please prayerfully consider a pledge to St. Paul's. You may bring your commitment card to worship, mail it, or drop it in the secure mailbox outside the church.

Coffee Hour following worship on Sunday, December 4.

A Meeting of the Congregation is called for Sunday, December 11, 2022, immediately following worship, for the purpose of the election of officers.

A message from Mark Handford...

1. Please talk to Mark about your willingness to commit to an 'Advent season with the choir'.

1. If you are able to make it to Thursday rehearsals at 7pm, great!
2. Or if you are able, at least join us Sunday mornings at 9:30am.
 - i. “if you sing loud, great ... if tentative, at least sing with us”!
There will be a Christmas Cantata, during worship,
on Sunday, December 18, 2022.

The Adult Forum will offer a four week Advent Video Series entitled *All the Good: A Wesleyan Way of Christmas*, beginning November 29th on Tuesday mornings at 9am online and in person at the church! All are welcome to participate! Join us online at: meet.google.com/ofb-mozw-shc or by phone: 513-818-1609 PIN: 389 490 359# or in person in Room 11! Prepare the way to Christmas and beyond with fellow believers following in God's way!

From Kathy Potter...“ROMANS 12:4 : Cookies for Crossroads Farm, December 11, following worship! We will gather for a meal, Christmas carols & packaging 125 Christmas cookie decorating kits for the rural youth served by Crossroad Farms in western Michigan! Lunch will be provided by the Faith Formation Committee. Everyone is invited! We will be requesting assistance from anyone who would be willing to bake large, plain sugar cookies to be bagged by the dozen in gallon ziploc baggies. They can be Christmas shaped or round, but NOT decorated, as we are making cookie-decorating kits for the youth to decorate themselves! We need 125 dozen. Cookies can be brought in Sunday, December 11th, bagged & ready to be boxed & included in the kit. Please sign up by Tuesday, December 6th in the church lobby or by responding to this invitation. Indicate how many will be participating on Sunday, so we can plan for the meal. Also indicate if you will be willing to bake and how many dozen you can provide. We will also need large boxes to transport the kits to the delivery point. These can be brought in on the 11th also. If baking isn't your thing, Gordon Food Service has Christmas shaped sugar cookies ready to bake in boxes of 6 dozen!!! No mixing! Just bake, cool & bag! On Sunday, the 11th, we will be boxing cookies, bagging sprinkles, and assembling the decorating kit for gifting! Crossroads Farm is a Christian ministry to at-risk rural youth in Western Michigan. These cookie decorating kits are added to other gifts donated by a variety of groups and individuals to form a Christmas package given to each of the youth served by this ministry at their annual Christmas party. We always have a wonderful time of fellowship & service as we prepare to bless and encourage these youth. I hope you will plan to join us!”

There is a gold box in the Narthex where you may submit your suggestions to Pastor Nate for his upcoming “Fireside Chat” series. Or you may email your suggestions to sppcemail@stpaulspresbyterian.church and they will be given to Pastor Nate, anonymously, of course.

All are invited to the Redford Civic Symphony Holiday Concert which will be held in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 4 at 3:00PM.

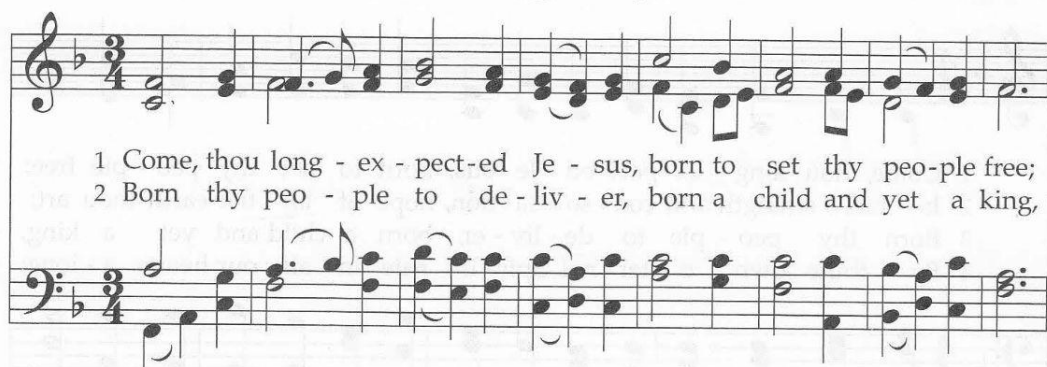
“The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus” ~ a charming story by L. Frank Baum, the author of “The Wizard of Oz” and adapted for Readers’ Theatre, presented by Livonia Community Theatre. Recommended for adults and for children age 8 and above. Free admission! Tuesday, December 12 at 7:00PM at the Livonia Public Library at 32777 Five Mile Rd., Thursday, December 15 at 7:00PM at the Livonia Senior Center at 15218 Farmington Rd., and Saturday, December 17 at 2:00PM at the Senior Center.

Please hold those listed in prayer... and REVIEW and REPORT updates, PLEASE

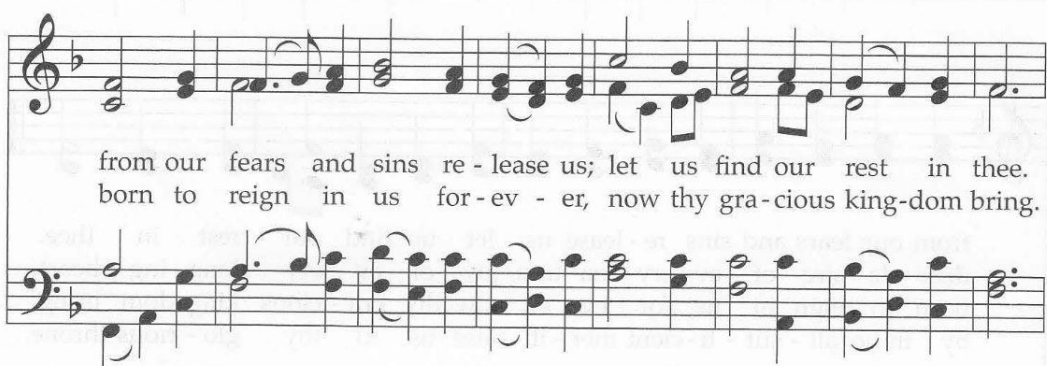


Bill Garvey, Mike Graham, Janet Frank, Grace Erwin, August Kornowicz, Karen Bright
Sheldon Davis, Doris Knecht, Joyce Barton, Pam Phillips, Suzanne Tabaka, Jim & Joanna Roye, Jerry Stone
Beverly Dearth, Kathleen Warren, Bob Liebertz, Grace Campbell, Susan Grant, Bruce Phillips
Sister-in law and nephew of Pat Garvey, Linda Thompson & her sister, Shirley Kircoff
Joan Velis and family; Westin ~ infant grandson of Jeanne Sinclair
John Branch ~ father of Christie Piastowski
Dave Schulz ~ nephew of Carol & Mike Graham
Rita Czanko ~ cousin of Terry Earnley
John Candiloro ~ friend of August Kornowicz
Ray & Mary Clark ~ neighbors of Don & Meta Tulley
Sarah & Mason Young ~ family of Judy McGregor
Chris O'Neill, Tracey Ford, Phil Decker & Vickie McVeigh ~ friends of Judy McGregor
Ben Abela ~ son-in-law of August & Faith Kornowicz
Macaylah Whitlock ~ daughter of the Rev. Kellie Whitlock
Rosemary Iaquina ~ sister of Cathy DeSautel; Pamela Serene ~ daughter of the late Marilyn Allen
Glenn Ellan Rubright ~ sister of Mike Graham; Nicole Snead ~ daughter of Bill VanEck
Nancy Kreipke ~ mother of Christian; Rich McKenzie ~ son of Jean; Erin Lewis ~ daughter of Pattie Benoit
Phyllis Badman ~ niece of Georgia Hunt; Christie Piastowski ~ daughter of Karen Bright
Janet Kusuhara ~ cousin of Meta Tulley; Joe Ducsay ~ friend of Mike & Carol Graham
Mark Osborne ~ son of the late Janet
Cyndi Knecht ~ daughter of Doris; Joe Perko ~ friend of Wanda & Bob Seymour
David Bonandrini ~ son of Ben; Gideon Janku ~ great nephew of Bob Westbrook
Judy Siegfried ~ sister-in-law of Pam Phillips; Randy Tillman ~ son of Gloria Rubbo
Mary Rayes ~ friend of Pat Hutchison; Adam Schilling & Eric Shilling ~ grandsons of Ron & Janet Frank
Donald Keller III ~ son of Jan Lapenta; Scott Davis ~ son of Sheldon & Marion Davis

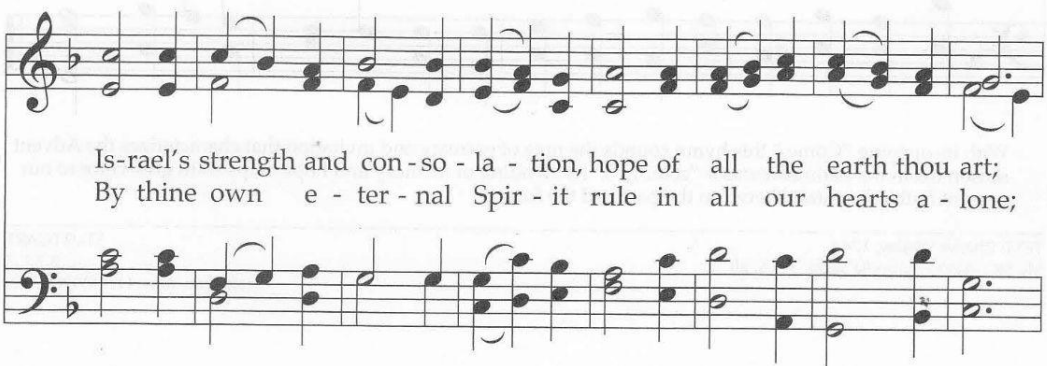
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 4 O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 all things might - i - ly: to us the path of knowl - edge
 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple



here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 law in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 save and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 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.
- 6 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.
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
 all peoples in one heart and mind;
 bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
 fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:

Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)	Dec. 20: O Key of David (5)	Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1)
Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3)	Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)	
Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4)	Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7)	

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

105 People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more
 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the
 4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more
 5 An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who

crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
 seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to
 nest that must be filled. E - ven the hour when wings are
 light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y
 brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley

Peo - ple, look

a - ble; trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.
 nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish.
 fro - zen God for fledg - ing time has cho - sen.
 weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.
 hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

east and sing to - day:

Peo - ple, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 Love, the Bird, is on the way.
 Love, the Star, is on the way.
 Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Peo - ple, look east: (Love is on the way.)

This text was written to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated. The author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation.

