

**Advent One**  
**November 27th, 2022 + 4pm**



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*Beloved companions in the Spirit -  
Come as you are offering our lives  
in the beautiful struggle of faith...*

# We Gather

## **Opening Loop (Announcements & Land Acknowledgement in ləkʷəŋən from elder Butch Dick) Tolling of the Bells**

*During the invocation, the youth and children bring forward  
lit candles as a sign of hope in the bleakness.*

### **Invocation: Come To Us Emmanuel**

Come to us, Emmanuel  
We wait for thee with bated breath  
And hope filled hearts  
And anxious minds  
Longing to see your face  
And worship at your feet

Isaiah's vision didst unfold  
When you descended into this world  
to bring good news  
and set the prisoners free  
You set aside eternity  
so that we might live

So come to us Emmanuel  
we live in hope of your return  
to bring new life to this old world  
to end all wars and to heal all hearts  
and to reign forevermore  
to reign forevermore.

Peter LeGrand (Ordinary Time) / CCLI

### **Candle Lighting**

We come to know you, Holy One, as Wisdom Incarnate, as  
Flickering Flame, as Spirit of Life, as Hope, Peace, Joy,  
and Love, Enfleshed.

**You come to us as the Stranger, and the Strange.  
Often we do not recognize you. Often we turn away  
from your gifts and your demands.**

**Yet you come to us in Wilderness, in the Impossible  
Made Possible, in Silence and Singing and Sighs Too  
Deep for Words.**

**And so, this Advent, we pause... We breathe... We pray.  
We dig deep. We reach out. We rise up. We remember.  
We vision. We sit with the pain. We long for you.  
We wait, expectant.** © *enfleshed* 2018, Rev. Anna Blaedel.

*The first Advent candle is lit*

Today, as we mark the Advent Path with candle flames, we  
light the first candle, the candle of hope.

*Bell. Silence. Bell*

### **Opening Song: Come Away from Rush and Hurry**

Come away from rush and hurry  
to the stillness of God's peace;  
From our vain ambition's worry,  
come to Christ and find release.  
Come away from noise and clamor,  
life's demands and frenzied pace;  
Come to join the people gathered  
Here to seek and find God's face.

In the pastures of God's goodness  
we lie down to rest our soul.  
From the waters of God's mercy  
we drink deeply, are made whole.  
At the table of God's presence  
all the saints are richly fed.  
With the oil of God's anointing  
into service we are led.

Come, then children, with your burdens  
Life's confusions, fears and pain.  
Leave them at the cross of Jesus;  
take instead Christ's kingdom's reign.  
Bring your thirsts, for he will quench them  
he alone will satisfy.  
All our longings find attainment  
when to self we gladly die.

Marva J. Dawn Hope Publishing Company / OneLicense, Tune: Nettleton

**Poem: The Poem You've Been Waiting For**

by Tarfia Faizullah

**Read by Rebecca Yeo**

**Psalm 122 Lætatus sum** (chanted - \* indicates a pause)

I was glad when they said to me, \*  
“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”  
Now our feet are standing \*  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.  
Jerusalem is built as a city \*  
that is at unity with itself.  
To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, \*  
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.  
For there are the thrones of judgement, \*  
the thrones of the house of David.  
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: \*  
“May they prosper who love you.  
Peace be within your walls \*  
and quietness within your towers.  
For my kindred and companions' sake, \*  
I pray for your prosperity.  
Because of the house of the Lord our God, \*  
I will seek to do you good.”

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah (2:1-5)**

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw  
concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised above the hills;  
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,  
‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways  
and that we may walk in his paths.’

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,  
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,  
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;  
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,  
and their spears into pruning-hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,  
come, let us walk  
in the light of the Lord!

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

*You are invited to rise in body or in spirit as we prepare our  
hearts to hear the Gospel.*

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Ha- lle- lu - jah  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah Hallelujah! Halle - lu- jah

Wait for the Lord God, who shall free us

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Ha- lle- lu - jah! Ha- lle- lu - jah!

Based on Handel's Messiah and other borrowed themes / R. Crosby-Shearer

### **The Gospel**

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops!

**With our words and with our lives!**

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew (24:32-44)

*Wil Gafney translation.*

Jesus said, "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that the Son of humanity is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Most High God. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake

therefore, for you do not know on what day your Redeemer is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, the owner would have stayed awake and would not have let the house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Woman is coming at an unexpected hour.

Let us proclaim the gospel from the rooftops!

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Based on Handel's Messiah and other borrowed themes / R. Crosby-Shearer

### **Sermon**

**Meagan Crosby-Shearer, EC**

*Bell / Silence / Bell*

*You are invited to rise in body or in spirit  
as we affirm our faith.*

### **Affirmation of Faith**

Hear, O Israel\*,

**the Lord our God, the Lord is one.**

**Love the Lord your God**

**with all your heart,**

**with all your soul,**

**with all your mind,**

**and with all your strength.**

**This is the first and the great commandment.**

**The second is like it:**

**Love your neighbour as yourself.**

**There is no commandment greater than these.**

### **Our Prayers**

## **The Confession and Assurance**

Friends, in confidence that God is with us, let us turn to Christ who forgives and heals us.

*Silence*

God of all mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives.**

**We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We**

**repent of the evil that enslaves us,**

**the evil we have done,**

**and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us**

**through our Savior Jesus Christ,**

**that we may abide in your love**

**and serve only your will.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.** Enriching Our Worship, Church Publishing, 1997.

## **The Peace**

Beloved in Christ. The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

*We exchange the peace with a gesture.*

*During this next 'offertory' song, the table is set.*

*You are welcomed (now, or later) to place any financial contributions to our common life in the vintage record player in the back of the worship space. Cheques can be made out to 'The Emmaus Community'. Charitable receipts will be issued if you leave us your address.*

## **Offertory Song: The Reign of Mercy**

Oh may our world at last be just

and hilltops echo with your peace.

The harvest come from barren dust

the reign of mercy never cease.

He comes as rain upon the grass  
high heaven's sun to earth descends  
not as the seasons that will pass  
but with a light that never ends.

Oh come to him and find your rest  
who saw the poor and came as one.  
who hears the crises of the oppressed  
and rules till all oppression's done.

Someday he'll come to reign as king  
and we will see his justice done.  
Our souls will magnify and sing  
the Christ whose kingdom now is come.

And all the mighty and the strong  
will bow before him on that day  
the silenced fill the world with song;  
the poor and lowly he will raise.

And all our bitterness and tears  
our violence and our endless wars  
will end at last when he draws near  
Come soon, come soon, O Christ our Lord!

Kate Bluett & Paul Zach 2021 Integrity Worship Music/PG Songs & Hymns/CCLI

## **We Celebrate**

### **Prayer Over The Gifts**

Come with gratitude and joy to the table of the Lord. Come with all your longing and all your hope. Bring the works of your hands and the gifts of your lives as an offering of praise. **Amen** Feasting on the Word, (alt).

### **The Communion/Eucharist**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

In the beginning you spoke and at your word your Spirit moved over the waters, bringing order, light, and life out of chaos. By your hands you formed our bodies and knit us in your own image and breathed breath and life into us. When we turn away from you and our love fails, your love remains constant. You lead us through the chaotic waters of our lives and you call us back to yourself.

Therefore, with choirs of angels and archangels and with those of every time and place, we give you praise and glory to you our God with us:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy, mighty and tender God, in time you sent Jesus of Nazareth to be our Emmanuel – God With Us. Dwelling among us, good news was seen and heard and our world transformed. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with the outcast. In his life, death and resurrection, he opened a way for us to your Kingdom and became a living hope for all.

On the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, ‘Take, this is my body, do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way after supper he took the cup, and giving thanks said once more, ‘Take, drink this, this cup is the new covenant in my blood: do this in remembrance of me.’

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we share may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. May our hearts burn within us at the mystery of Emmanuel and may our longing for your Kingdom transform our lives and the life of your world.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, world without end. **Amen.**

Presbyterian Church in Canada, 2016, (It.)

### **The Prayer of Jesus**

As beloved children of a loving parent let us pray:

**Our Father (Mother/Source) in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*Silence is kept.*

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God, given for the life of the world. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*All are welcome to receive at Jesus' table! The bread is gluten-free. It may contain dairy and/or almond flour. If you'd like a dairy or nut free option, please let the presider know. Juice is in the small cups. Wine is in the common cup, please do not dip the bread into the cup.*

### **Communion Song: We Come**

Our hearts our empty without you  
Barren and cold but for the bold  
hope that you yourself planted within

*Refrain:* In the mighty name of God  
In the saving name of Jesus  
In the strong name of the Spirit  
We come, we cry, we watch we wait  
We look, we long for you.  
We come, we cry, we watch, we wait  
We look, we long for you.

Sometimes we long for the morning  
For a refrain, from etchings in pain  
Yet our loneliness draws us to you. *Refrain.*

Jim Croegaert: and David Adam / 1997 Rough Stones Music / OneLicense

## **Communion Song: We Will Take What you Offer**

We will take what you offer  
we will live by your word;  
We will love one another  
and be fed by you Lord (repeat)

John Bell / 1998, GIA / Iona Community / WGRG / OneLicense

## **We Are Sent**

### **Prayer after Communion**

We thank you, God, for breaking into our world  
and pouring into our lives and our experiences.  
We thank you, God, for this meal of thanksgiving  
and the stories of love, grace, and hope that it tells. **Amen.**

Alydia Smith, The United Church of Canada, 2015.

### **Blessing**

### **Closing Song: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus**

Come Thou long expected Jesus born to set Thy people free  
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee  
Israel's strength and consolation hope of all the earth Thou art  
Dear desire of every nation - Joy of every longing heart

Born Thy people to deliver, born a Child and yet a King  
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring  
By Thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone  
By Thine all sufficient merit raise us to Thy glorious throne

And rejoice, rejoice, Immanu - el  
And rejoice, rejoice, and glory be to God  
And glory be to God in the highest

Charles Wesley. Tune: Chris Eaton, John Hartley and Gareth Robinson / CCLI

### **Sending**

May we go from here with ears, and eyes,  
and hearts open to the Sacred  
**for God calls us to take heart and be of good courage!**  
In assurance the Spirit goes with us, let us go in peace.  
**Thanks be to God!** Enfleshed, (alt).

### **Closing Announcement Loop**



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We would love to connect! Call, text, email.  
(community cell monitored regularly)