



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 19, AD 2021

WELCOME

Lighting of the Advent Candle of Love

Elizabeth and Eddy Perez (9 am)

Rachel and Colton Underwood (11 am)

OVERTURE

“Veni, Veni”

The work hath need that the Master Builder, the King himself, should come and forthwith restore the house that beneath its roof hath fallen into ruin. He formed the body, the limbs of clay; and now is it time for him, the Prince of life, to deliver this miserable host from their enemies, the wretched from their fears, as he full oft hath done.



O SAPIENTIA (O Wisdom)

Choral Meditation

O thou King of kings, righteous and peaceful, Christ almighty, how didst thou spring into being with thy glorious Father before all the hosts of the world, a child begotten by his power and might! There is now no man under heaven, no hero so exceeding wise and prudent that he can relate or truly explain to the ocean-dwellers how the Guardian of the skies took thee in the beginning for his noble Son.

*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 thy way to go.*



O ADONAI (Sacred Lord of Ancient Israel)

A Reading from Exodus 3

Choral Meditation

A Reading from Psalm 72

*O come, O come, great Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times did give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.*



O RADIX JESSE (Root of Jesse)

Choral Meditation

A Reading from Acts 2

*O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny.
From depths of hell thy people save,
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.*



O CLAVIS DAVID (Key of David)

O Savior Christ, by thine advent graciously bless this world, and the golden gate, which full long stood locked in ages past, do thou, high Lord of heaven, give command to open; do thou visit us, coming in thy very person humbly to earth. We have need of thy help.

Choral Meditation

*O come, thou Key of David, come
and open wide our heav'nly home.
Make safe the way that leads to thee
and close the path to misery.*



O ORIENS (O Radiant Dawn)

Choral Meditation

Scripture

Malachi 4: 2

But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

Luke 1: 76-79

“And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Message

The O Prayers, Part 4: “O Dayspring” Gerrit Dawson

*O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by thine advent here.
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight.*



REX GENTIUM (King of All the Nations)

Choral Meditation

Come now, O King of men, tarry not too long. We have need of thy mercy—that thou deliver us, O righteous One, and grant us thy saving grace, that henceforth we may ever do the better things and work thy will among the people.

*O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid thou our sad divisions cease,
And be thyself our King of Peace.*

“Incarnate God! What Tongue Can Tell”

Dr. Joshua Nichols, composer

Words by George H. Symttan

No. 1 Recitative

Joshua Staes, baritone

Incarnate God! what tongue can tell the mystery of Emmanuel?
What human lyre, what angel choir, can sing that marvel passing ken,
the Word made flesh for sinful men?

No. 2 Chorus

Thine advent, Lord, was pain and shame, our world from Satan to reclaim;
Oh, grace unknown, that from thy throne thou cam'st to be despised of those thy love
would rescue from their woes.

No. 3 Recitative

Sydney Sorbet, mezzo-soprano

A man of sorrows, man of grief— as if thou wert the very chief of sinners lost, thou
cam'st the host o' spotless Lamb of God, to be for man, his soul from death to free.

No. 4 Chorus

Yes, thou was wounded, bruised, and torn, that we might healed be, and born to life
again, and saved from pain; and yet from thee we hid our face, who came from guilt
to cleanse our race.

No. 5 Duet

Lauren Honea, soprano & Joshua Staes, baritone

When, Jesu, thou shalt come once more, not poor and lowly as of yore, but clothed in
light, and full of might, more glorious than ten thousand days, with angels
peeling forth thy praise.

No. 6 Chorus

With eager eyes and longing heart thy Church would see thee as thou art; Oh, hear her cry, her lone-lorn sigh, and hasten, Lord, the promised hour, when she will reach her bridal bower. The clouds of heaven thy chariot-throne, and crowned with majesty thine own, grant I may stand on thy right hand, a sinner, yet absolved by thee, and worthy made thy face to see.



O EMMANUEL (God with Us)

Lo! how wondrous is the change in the life of men, that the gentle Creator of mankind took from a virgin flesh undefiled; she knew not at all the embraces of man; the Lord of triumph came not to earth through the seed of man; but it was a marvel greater than all the dwellers on earth could understand in its hidden meaning, how the Glory of the skies, heaven's high Lord, brought help to mankind through his mother's womb.

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.*

May his name endure forever; may it continue as long as the sun. Then all nations will be blessed through him, and they will call him blessed. Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone does marvelous deeds. Praise be to his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory. Amen and Amen.

Rejoice and Rest!

ERO CRAS

Christopher Phillips, conductor
First Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir and Orchestra

Flute
Rachel Ciraldo

Oboe
Jana Zilova

Clarinet
Javier Elizondo

French Horn
Lauren Braud

Trumpet
Blake Hanna

Violin
Borislava Iltcheva
Aaron Farrell

Viola
Teodora Peeva

Cello
Eduard Teregulov

Double Bass
Taylor Hollyer

Timpani & Percussion
Chase Gillette

Percussion & Electric Bass
Jordan Tupper

Piano and Organ
Steve Gustafson

Piano
Sherry Kadair



AN ADVENT WORSHIP EXPERIENCE
Inspired by the Ancient "O" Antiphons



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Eve Worship. 11 am, 4 pm and 6 pm Worship in the Sanctuary

December 26 Worship. Join us for our annual "hymn sing" service at 10.30 am in the Sanctuary. Normal 7.45, 9 and 11 am schedule resumes January 2.

Christmas Church Office Hours. The church office will be closed between Christmas and New Year's. We return Monday, January 3.

"God in Skin and Time: Jesus As Beloved Son" is a Christmas article by Gerrit which will appear Wednesday on desiringgod.org. Hard copies are available today at the Connection Center.

ADVENT GIVING OPPORTUNITIES:

Christmas Offering for City Ministry. Our annual Christmas offering (December 12-26) goes directly to support The Christian Outreach Center and the daily operations of Gardere Community Christian School.

Christmas Bags for Malachi Dads. Toiletry items are being collected for Christmas bags to be distributed to the Malachi Dads (prisoners) at Angola Penitentiary. Please consider making a donation and dropping it off at the Connection Center.
Cash donations also accepted.

Christmas Eve Scripture: Isaiah 7: 14; Matthew 1: 23
Next Sunday's Scripture: Ezekiel 37: 1-6; Acts 20: 35

Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD
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DECEMBER 19, AD 2021