

Veni Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
Redeem thy captive Israel
That into exile drear is gone,
Far from the face of God's dear Son
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Branch of Jesse! draw
The quarry from the lion's claw;
From the dread caverns of the grave,
From nether hell, thy people save.

O come, O Come, thou Dayspring bright!
Pour on our souls thy healing light;
Dispel the long night's lingering gloom,
And pierce the shadows of the tomb.

O come, thou Lord of David's Key,
The royal door fling wide and free;
Safeguard for us the heavenward road,
And bar the way to death's abode.

O come, O Come, Adonia,
Who in thy glorious majesty
From that high mountain clothed in awe,
Gavest thy folk the elder Law
Latin c 13th century (tr J M Neale 1851)

Our Advent proclamation

A day is coming
And we will be with the Lord forever

A day is coming
Life a thief in the night

A day is coming
And we shall know fully

A day is coming
And we shall be without fault

A day is coming
And peace shall reign

The Lord be with you: **And also with you**

Let us pray:

We thank you loving Father, that we are people of hope because Jesus is coming back. Thank you that in the new creation, we shall see Jesus' face and be with him forever. Fill our hearts with joyful expectation this Advent, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Two Commandments

'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' Jesus said: 'This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

Lord have mercy on us: and write your law in our hearts by your Holy Spirit.

Collect for the first Sunday in Advent

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came among us in great humility; that on the last day, when he comes again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

From Psalm: 80:1-3, 17-19

Hear us, Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock. You who sit enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth ²before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh. Awaken your might; come and save us.

³Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

Let your hand rest on the man at your right hand, the son of man you have raised up for yourself.

¹⁸Then we will not turn away from you; revive us, and we will call on your name.

¹⁹Restore us, LORD God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

Glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, as in the beginning, so now and for ever. Amen.

The Epistle reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God**

The Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

Response at the announcement: **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

At the conclusion: **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

A day is coming

We will be with the Lord forever!

Bishop Mark Calder

Anthem – from St Andrew’s Cathedral choir, Sydney

And I saw a new heaven | Edgar Bainton

And I saw a new heavens and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I, John, saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, “Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them and they shall be his people and God himself shall be with them and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be neither sorrow or crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things are passed away. God shall wipe away all tears, for the former things are passed away.

Time of Prayer

Let us pray for the world and for the church

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

Our Father 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

The Confession and assurance

The Lord comes, bringing to light things now hidden in darkness, and disclosing the purposes of the heart.

Let us open our hearts and prepare for his coming, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him. Heb 9:24-28

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

All glory and honour, thanks and praise, be yours now and always, Lord, holy Father, mighty Creator, everliving God. We give thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by his death on the cross and rising to new life offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people. We thank you that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may with joy behold his appearing, and in confidence stand before him who redeems us from sin and death and makes us heirs of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels, and the whole company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

And now, Father, we pray that we who receive these your gifts of bread and wine according to our Saviour’s word may be partakers of his body and blood.

For on the night he was betrayed he took bread; and when he had given thanks to you his Almighty Father, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, ‘Take, eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, ‘Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me’.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We offer our prayer and praise, Father, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

From the BCP “Communion of the sick” if someone is unable to partake of the elements: if he do truly repent him of his sins, and steadfastly believe that Jesus Christ both suffered death upon the Cross for him, and shed his Blood for his redemption, earnestly remembering the benefits he hath thereby, and giving him hearty thanks therefore, he doth eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ profitably to his Soul’s health, although he do not receive the Sacrament with his mouth.

Following communion

God for whom we wait, we thank you that you have blessed us with life and salvation. As we joyfully await your Son, keep us ever watchful that by putting our trust in Him, we may be ready to stand before him on the day of his coming.

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

272 Cross of 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 for ever;
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.

C Wesley 1744

The Benediction

Christ, the Sun of righteousness shine upon you and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**