

Advent Evening Prayer 2024

The link to join the Advent Evening Prayer Service is

<https://zoom.us/j/231599312?pwd=bHJMT1NZOEtERE1oOTQwdS84NU45Zz09>

You will be put into a waiting room. Please join before liturgy begins so that you can participate.

For those joining by phone or through an app, you will need meeting ID and password:

Meeting ID: 231 599 312 Password: 333 333

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

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Meeting ID: 231 599 312 **Password: 333 333**

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/231599312?pwd=bHJMT1NZOEtERE1oOTQwdS84NU45Zz09>

Opening Hymn:

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.

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Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

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Greeting:

Leader: We begin, in the name of God, who is the All-Holy, the Eternal Word, + and the Life-Giving Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: May the grace and peace of God be with each of us.

All: And also with you.

Leader:

As we celebrate the season of Advent, we rejoice, as always, in the first coming of our Savior Jesus Christ, we await his second coming in glory, and we praise God for the coming of Jesus, Emmanuel, into our lives. Moved by the Holy Spirit we pray: Come Jesus Christ, Come.

Leader:

Let us pray.

Creator and redeemer of the human race, it was your will that your Word should take flesh in the womb of the ever-virgin Mary. Grant that your only Son, who came to share our human nature, may lead us to share in his divine life. We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

61:1-2. 10-11

The spirit of Exalted YHWH has been given to me,
for YHWH has anointed me.
God has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken;
To proclaim liberty to captives,
freedom to those in prison;
to proclaim a year of favour from YHWH.

'I exult for joy in YHWH
who is the joy of my soul!
My God has clothed me in the robe of deliverance and wrapped me in the cloak of justice,
the way a bridegroom puts on a turban,
and a bride bedecks herself with jewels.
'For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and a garden brings its seeds to blossom,

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so Exalted YHWH makes justice sprout, and praise spring up before all nations.'

The Word of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

O Antiphons

The O antiphons are read slowly. The response may be repeated.

O Wisdom of the Most High, ordering all things with strength and gentleness,
R/ come and teach us the way of truth.

Pause

O Ruler of the House of Israel, who gave the law to Moses on Sinai,
R/ come and save us with outstretched arm.

Pause

O Root of Jesse, set up as a sign to the peoples,
R/ come to save us, and delay no more.

Pause

O Key of David, who open the gates of the eternal kin-dom,
R/ come to liberate from prison the captive who lives in darkness.

Pause

O King of the peoples and corner-stone of the Church,
R/ come and save us whom you made from the dust of the earth.

Pause

O Morning Star, radiance of eternal light, sun of justice,
R/ come and enlighten those who live in darkness and the shadow of death.

Pause

O Emmanuel, our king and lawgiver,
R/ come and save us, Lord, our God.

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May God be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke +

All: Glory to you our God.

Mary arose in those days
and went into the hill country with haste,
into a town of Judah,
and entered Zachariah's house
and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,
the baby leaped in her womb,
and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

She called out with a loud voice, and said,
"Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb!

Why am I so favored,
that the mother of the Messiah should come to me?

For behold, when the voice of your greeting
came to my ears,

the baby leaped in my womb for joy!

Blessed is she who believed,
that there will be a fulfillment of the things
which have been spoken to her from our God!

Mary said, "My soul magnifies your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you, my Savior."

The Good News of Salvation.

Praise to you our God.

Reflection:

I don't know what will happen now. We've got some difficult days ahead. But it really doesn't matter with me now, because I've been to the mountaintop. And I don't mind. Like anybody, I would like to have a long life. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And he's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the promised land. And I'm happy. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing anyone. Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.

Dr Martin Luther King Jr.

Intercessions:

Response is, **Be near us, O God.** What shall we pray for?

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Leader:

Let us pray for the coming of the kin-dom as Jesus taught us.:

Our ever-loving God, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.

Thy Kin-dom come: thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and
forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the Kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Concluding Prayer:

Leader:

Come, Jesus, do not delay! We entrust ourselves to your love: strengthen us by your advent and raise us up, for you live and reign with the Creator in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Leader: Go forth in peace to prepare the way of our Savior.

. All: Thanks be to God.

Concluding Hymn

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 Wisdom from on high,
Who ord'rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.

3. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the law,
In cloud and majesty and awe.

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4. O come, Thou Rod of Jesse's stem,
From ev'ry foe deliver them
That trust thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

5. O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

6. O come, Thou Dayspring from on high
And cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadow put to flight.

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

Text: LM with refrain; 'O' Antiphons, Latin, 9th cent.; verses 1, 3–6 para. in *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Cologne, 1710; tr. by John M. Neale, 1818–1866; verses 2, 7 tr. fr. *The Hymnal* 1940, alt. Music: Chant, Mode I; Processionale, French, 15th cent.; adapt. by Thomas Helmore, 1811–1890.

Adapted from the Resources of the National Centre for Liturgy for Advent 2020.