

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 20, 2020

* * * * *

**The Sung Responses and Hymns are from The Lutheran Hymnal
(RED BOOK), unless indicated otherwise. Please stand at the
appropriate times.**

9:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION

THE ORGAN PRELUDE

THE WELCOME

**THE OPENING HYMN - "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" (See insert)
(Please stand to stanza 4)**

THE INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

C: Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess
our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our
Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

C: O Almighty God, Merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess
unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended
Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment.
But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them.
and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy,
innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ,
to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

C: Amen.

THE INTROIT (Pastor and Congregation chant alternately)

P: Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down / righteousness;* let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may / bear fruit.

C: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His / handiwork.* In them He has set a tent / for the sun,

P: which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his / chamber,* and, like a strong man, runs its / course with joy.

C: Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the / end of them,* and there is nothing hidden / from its heat.

THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

THE KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

P: Glory be to God on high:

C: And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee,
we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks
to Thee for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King,
God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son,
Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy;
Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And with thy spirit.**

P: Let us pray. Stir up Thy power, O Lord, and come and help us by Thy might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Thy grace and mercy; for Thou livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

C: **Amen. (Be seated)**

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

P: This the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE GRADUAL (Pastor and Congregation chant alternately)

P: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of / Zion.*

Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- / rusalem.

C: **Behold, your king is com- / ing to you;***
righteous and having sal- / vation.

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name / of the Lord.*

From the house of the Lord we / bless you.

THE EPISTLE LESSON: Romans 16:25-27

P: This the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Stand)

THE GOSPEL ACCOUNT: Luke 1:26-38

C: **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of His
Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God,
Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, by whom all
things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was
made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered
and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures;

And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead;
Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life,
Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and
the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets.

And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge
one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection
of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Be seated after making confession of our faith)

SERMON HYMN NO. 62 - "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel"
(Please stand to sing stanza 4)

THE SERMON - "The Best Mystery Revealed."
Text: Romans 16 25-27

(Stand)

THE OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence;
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

After each petition the pastor will say "Lord, in Your mercy."
Congregation responds with "Hear our prayer."

THE PREFACE OF HOLY COMMUNION (pages 24-27)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C: It is meet and right so to do.

P: It is truly meet, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty Everlasting God;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who having created all things, took on human
flesh and was born of the Virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and
rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Thy will and gaining
(continued on page 5)

for Thee a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

**C: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory;
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He
that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**P: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil:
C: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever
and ever. Amen.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**THE PAX DOMINI: P: The peace of the Lord be with you alway! C: Amen.
THE AGNUS DEI**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us Thy peace. Amen. (Be seated)**

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

**Hymn No. 68 - "The Advent of Our King"
Hymn - "Jesus Comes Today with Healing" (See insert)**

(Stand)

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace
according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation:
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

THE THANKSGIVING

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

C: **And His mercy endureth forever.**

P: We give thanks to Thee, Almighty God, that Thou hast refreshed us through this salutary gift; and we beseech Thee that of Thy mercy Thou wouldst strengthen us through the same in faith toward Thee and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

C: **Amen.**

THE SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And with thy spirit.**

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless thee and keep thee.

The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace.

C: **Amen, Amen, Amen. (Please be seated)**

THE CLOSING HYMN NO. 73 - "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" (Third Tune)

+ + + + + + +

The Presiding Minister - Rev. James A. Haugen, Jr.

The Organist - Karen Kostelnik

The Head Usher - Steve Szucs

Caring for the Altar - Rhea Browning and Martha Prok

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born

With wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
All gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
In Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
Thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
And Chris - tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say:

Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

Glo - ri - a!

*Mary was uniquely favored among women—chosen by God to give birth to His Son!
She responded with firm faith in God's word of promise carried to her by the angel Gabriel.*

Text: Basque, c. 18th cent.; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924

Tung: Basque, c. 18th cent.; setting: C. Edgar Pettman, 1865-1943

Text and tune: Public domain

Setting: © 1955, ren. 1983 E. H. Freeman, Ltd.; admin. Hal Leonard Corporation

GABRIEL'S MESSAGE

10 10 11 7 3

Luke 1:26-38; Is. 7:14

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

62

Is. 59: 20

S. S. S. S. S.

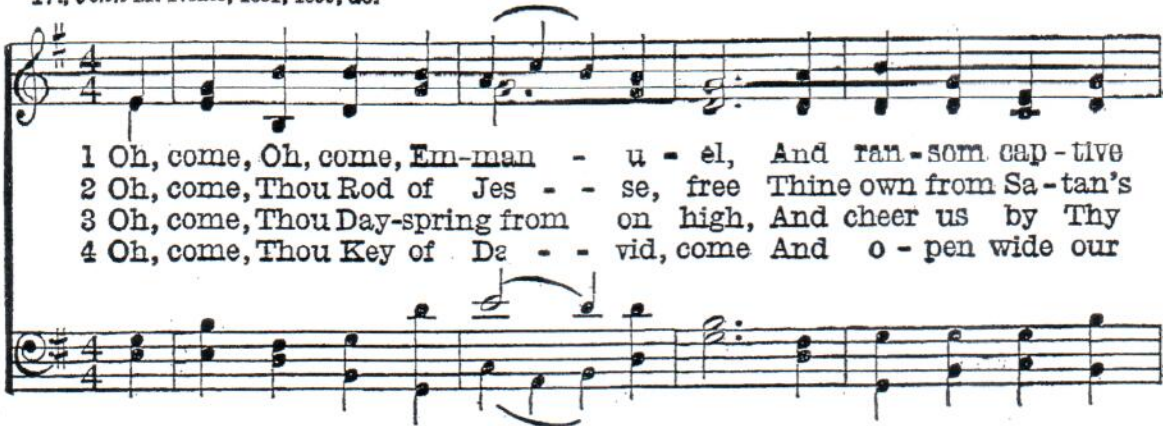
Veni, veni, Emmanuel

Veni, Emmanuel

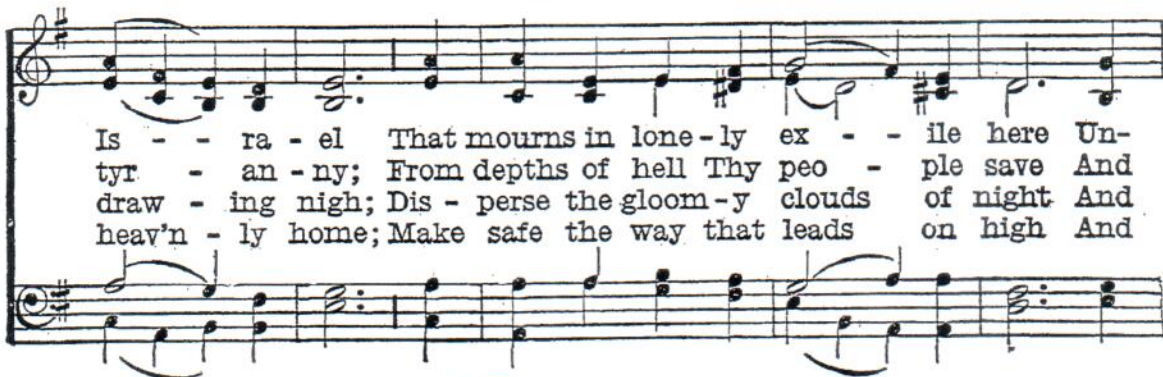
Latin author unknown, c. 1100

Plain-song melody, c. 1200

Tr., John M. Neale, 1851, 1859, ab.



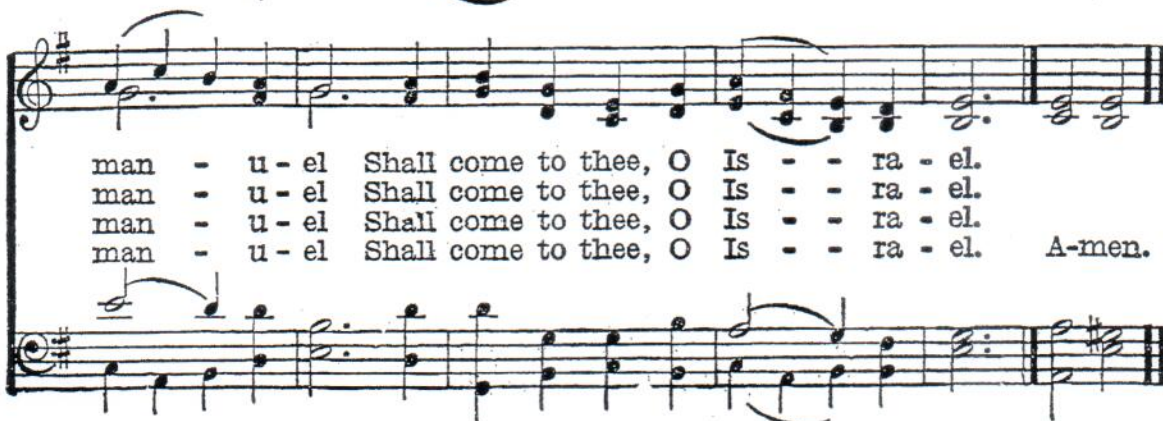
1 Oh, come, Oh, come, Em-man - u - el, And ran-som cap-tive
 2 Oh, come, Thou Rod of Jes - - se, free Thine own from Sa-tan's
 3 Oh, come, Thou Day-spring from on high, And cheer us by Thy
 4 Oh, come, Thou Key of Da - - vid, come And o - pen wide our



Is - - ra - el That mourns in lone-ly ex - - ile here Un-
 tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell Thy peo - ple save And
 draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom-y clouds of night And
 heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that leads on high And



til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re-joyce! Em-
 give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re-joyce! Em-
 death's dark shad-ows put to flight. Re - joice! Re-joyce! Em-
 close the path to mis - er - y. Re - joice! Re-joyce! Em-



man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - - ra - el.
 man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - - ra - el.
 man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - - ra - el.
 man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - - ra - el. A-men.

Old Testament Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16

¹Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ²the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." ³And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵"Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in?' ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. ⁷In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?'" ⁸Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. . . . ¹⁶And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.'"

Epistle: Romans 16:25–27

²⁵Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Holy Gospel: Luke 1:26–38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

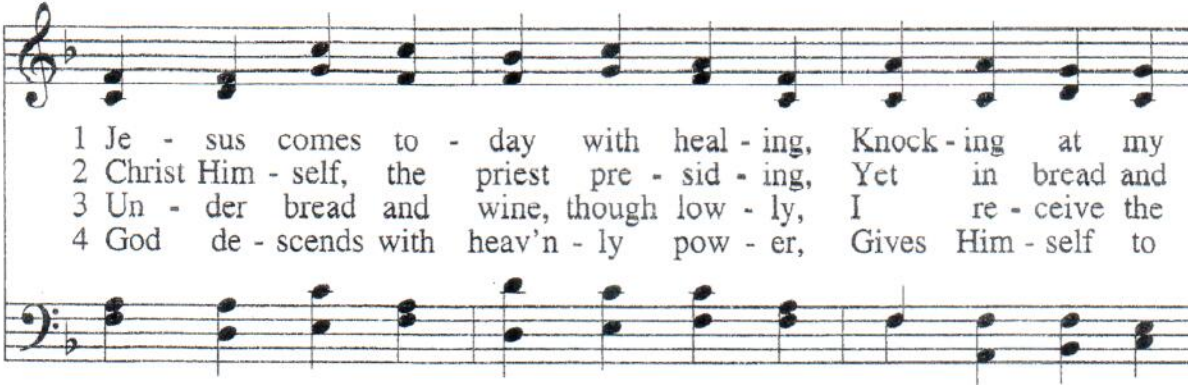
³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

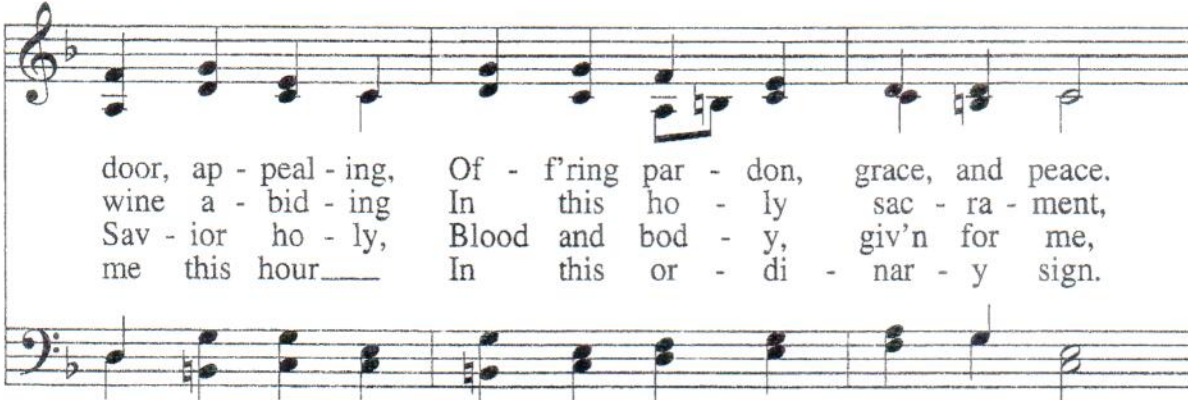


About the Cover: Mary is blessed and favored because she bore the

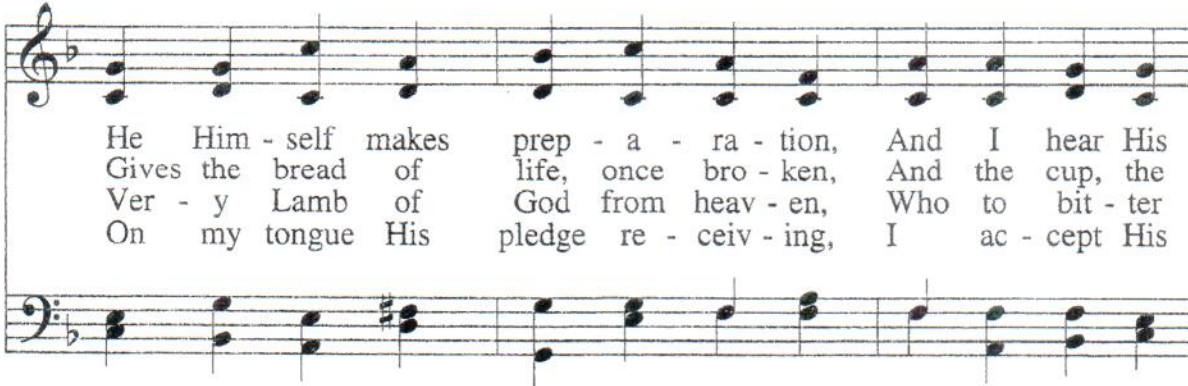
Jesus Comes Today with Healing



1 Je - sus comes to - day with heal - ing, Knock - ing at my
 2 Christ Him - self, the priest pre - sid - ing, Yet in bread and
 3 Un - der bread and wine, though low - ly, I re - ceive the
 4 God de - scends with heav'n - ly pow - er, Gives Him - self to



door, ap - peal - ing, Of - f'ring par - don, grace, and peace.
 wine a - bid - ing In this ho - ly sac - ra - ment,
 Sav - ior ho - ly, Blood and bod - y, giv'n for me,
 me this hour— In this or - di - nar - y sign.



He Him - self makes prep - a - ra - tion, And I hear His
 Gives the bread of life, once bro - ken, And the cup, the
 Ver - y Lamb of God from heav - en, Who to bit - ter
 On my tongue His pledge re - ceiv - ing, I ac - cept His



in - vi - ta - tion: "Come and taste the bless - ed feast."
 pre - cious to - ken Of His sa - cred cov - e - nant.
 death was giv - en, Hung up - on the curs - ed tree.
 grace, be - liev - ing That I taste His love di - vine.

Text: Heinrich Puchta, 1808-58; tr. David W. Rogner, b. 1960
 Tune: Johann Löhner, 1645-1705; adapt. Johann Balthasar König, 1691-1758;
 setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN
 887 887

5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,
Whose own feast of love I savor,
Bidden by His gracious call.
Wedding garments He provides me,
With a robe of white He hides me,
Fits me for the royal hall.

6 Now have I found consolation,
Comfort in my tribulation,
Balm to heal the troubled soul.
God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
Cleanses me from sin and error,
Makes my wounded spirit whole.

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

62

Is. 59: 20

Veni, veni, Emmanuel


Latin author unknown, c. 1100

Tr., John M. Neale, 1851, 1859, ab.

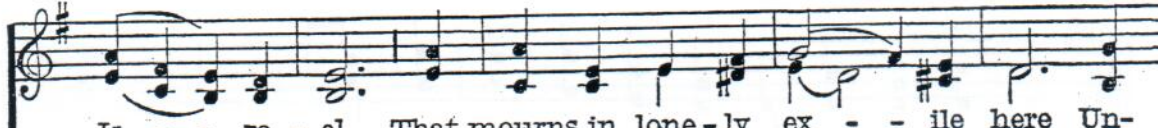
S. S. S. S. S.

Veni, Emmanuel

Plain-song melody, c. 1200



1 Oh, come, Oh, come, Em-man - u - el, And ran-som cap-tive
 2 Oh, come, Thou Rod of Jes - - se, free Thine own from Sa-tan's
 3 Oh, come, Thou Day-spring from on high, And cheer us by Thy
 4 Oh, come, Thou Key of Da - - vid, come And o - pen wide our



Is - - ra - el That mourns in lone-ly ex - - ile here Un-
 tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell Thy peo - ple save And
 draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom-y clouds of night And
 heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that leads on high And



til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re-joice! Em-
 give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re-joice! Em-
 death's dark shad-ows put to flight. Re - joice! Re-joice! Em-
 close the path to mis - er - y. Re - joice! Re-joice! Em-



man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - - ra - el.
 man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - - ra - el.
 man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - - ra - el.
 man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - - ra - el. A-men.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

S. S. S. S. S. S. S. S.

(THIRD TUNE)

Macht hoch die Tür
August Lemke, 1849

Ps. 24

Macht hoch die Tür

Georg Weiszel, 1642

Tr., Catherine Winkworth, 1855, alt

1 Lift up your heads, ye might-y gates! Be-hold, the King of Glo-ry waits;

The King of kings is draw-ing near, The Sav-ior of the world is here.

Life and sal-va-tion He doth bring, Where-fore re-joice and glad-ly sing:

We praise Thee, Fa-ther, now, Cre-a - tor, wise art Thou! A-men.

2 A Helper just He comes to thee,
His chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness,
His scepter, pity in distress.
The end of all our woe He brings;
Wherefore the earth is glad and sings:
We praise Thee, Savior, now,
Mighty in deed art Thou!

3 O blest the land, the city blest,
Where Christ the Ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes
To whom this King in triumph comes!
The cloudless Sun of joy He is,
Who bringeth pure delight and bliss.
We praise Thee, Spirit, now,
Our Comforter art Thou!

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

- | | |
|--|--|
| 4 Fling wide the portals of your heart;
Make it a temple set apart
From earthly use for Heaven's employ,
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.
So shall your Sovereign enter in
And new and nobler life begin.
To Thee, O God, be praise
For word and deed and grace! | 5 Redeemer, come! I open wide
My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!
Let me Thine inner presence feel,
Thy grace and love in me reveal;
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on
Until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame
We offer to Thy name. |
|--|--|