

Be Born in Us



Advent Lutheran Church
8840 University City Blvd
Charlotte, NC 28213
(704) 549-1555
www.adventlu.org

December 5, 2021

Pastoral Welcome

Lighting the Advent Wreath

L: Into our world as into Mary's womb . . .

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

L: Into the forgotten places as into the stable . . .

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

L: Into the lives of the poor, bringing hope.

Into the lives of the powerful, bringing caution.

Into the lives of the weary, bringing rest.

Into the lives of the complacent, bringing restlessness.

And into our lives . . . every moment . . . making our hearts Your Bethlehem.

C: Come, Lord Jesus and be born in us.

Gathering Song *"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"* (vv. 1 & 2) Tracy Heberlig



1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

L: This is the good news: Christ is coming and blessed are those who wait on the Lord.

C: Therefore, come quickly, Lord. Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Merciful God,

C: We confess that we are not at peace with others or with ourselves. We bring to you all that tears us apart:

Discord in our families.

Deliberate ignorance of the suffering of others.

Violence in our world.

Our own conflicted hearts.

In your mercy, come to us, open our hearts, and reconnect us to one another and to you.

L: In the Word who has come to dwell with us, God has given us grace upon grace. Forgiveness that is stronger than our sins and love that heals every broken heart. Hear this word of God's pardon and peace: God has set you free from all your sins, so now go and prepare God's way with love. Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Greeting

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of Illumination

L: Let us pray. For the desert places in which we find ourselves, for the streets we walk, and for the paths we cross . . . God, guide our feet, take us to the places and people where you would go and give us the words of hope that you would use; so that in this Advent season of promise and preparation, we might point the way with John the Baptist to the One who is coming. May we make the space in our lives where your love might be born anew and may we welcome you with open arms into the cradle of this world.

C: Amen.

The First Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God!

The Gospel Acclamation

"Emmanuel"

Emmanuel, Emmanuel
His name is called Emmanuel.
God with us revealed in us,
His name is called Emmanuel.

CCLI Song # 12949 Bob McGee
© 1976 C.A. Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)
CCLI License # 2705565

The Holy Scripture

Luke 3:1-6

The Message

Song of the Day "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry" (vv. 1-3 & 5)



1 On Jor - dan's banks the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and hear - ken,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Prayers of the Faithful

L: God, our beginning and our end, we confess to you that we live in a world that needs your mercy now more than ever. As we celebrate joyfully in anticipation of your coming Son, we recognize that joy does not come as easily to everyone. So, with the joyful and the heavy-hearted, we lift our prayers to you.

A brief silence.

L: God, our strength, awaken us to action. Stir us to courage. Empower us to be your hands and feet as we prepare a way in the wilderness for your coming, clearing the road of the obstacles of oppression, racism, injustice, and hopelessness—so that all may see your light and experience your salvation.

L: Come Lord Jesus,

C: hear our prayer.

L: God, our source of compassion, we pray for family and friends who are undergoing tests, facing surgeries, and dealing with illness. As we speak their names, we bring them to you in the confidence that you love them and know their every need and that your healing power will bring comfort and restoration. Bless all that is being done for their recovery and answer our prayers as you see best.

We especially pray for:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| ▪ Val Allred | ▪ Leo Peeler |
| ▪ Lemont Bell | ▪ Joyce Quigley |
| ▪ Charliese Eichler | ▪ Calvin Roberson |
| ▪ Gary Emblar | ▪ Shannon Roberson |
| ▪ Michael Funke | ▪ Richard Schulz |
| ▪ Amy Hill | ▪ Lisa Marie Shepherd |
| ▪ Donnell Horton | ▪ L.D. Shockley |
| ▪ Veronica Jordan | ▪ Leni Taite |
| ▪ Waylon Kuklantz | ▪ David Townsend |
| ▪ John Lewis | ▪ Laura Tucker |
| ▪ Ray Matthews | ▪ Herbert Watson |
| ▪ Vickie McCombs | ▪ Velia Watson |
| ▪ Trey O'Quinn | ▪ Renate Wilson |

L: We pray for Mohamed & Esther Abdel-Hameed's family in Egypt.

L: And for the deepest hopes of our hearts, we pray now.

Time for the community to pray.

L: We give thanks for the birth of Graham MacGregor Gunn, son of Laura and Greg Gunn and grandson of Annette & John Nolan, born on November 30.

L: Come Lord Jesus

C: Hear our prayer.

L: God, our healer, we pray for all healthcare professionals and relief workers. We give thanks for them and for the care and healing they provide. Strengthen and encourage them as they continue to serve and work on behalf of the health of our communities.

L: Come Lord Jesus

C: Hear our prayer.

L: God, you came into this world as a fragile child – crying in the night for your mother’s comfort, hungering for the nourishment of milk, and needing the swaddling of warmth. We pin our hopes on you, the Word made flesh, as we offer our prayers to you, those spoken and those still unknown to us. Give us peace to trust you with the timing and the answers you provide.

C: Come, Lord Jesus and be born in us. Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

Preparing the Table

Annette Nolan

The Words of Institution

*This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
Your holy presence living in me*

*And I . . . I'm desperate for you
And I . . . I'm lost without you*

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,
Our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
Broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

*This is my daily bread
This is my daily bread
Your very word spoken to me
And I . . . I'm desperate for you
And I . . . I'm lost without you*

P: Again, after supper, he took the cup,
Gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
Shed for you and for all people
For the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

*This is the living Lord
This is the living Lord
Your very blood given for me*

*And I . . . I'm desperate for you
And I . . . I'm lost without you*

*This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe
This is the air I breathe*

The Lord's Prayer (*spoken*)

C: 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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Post-Communion Blessing

L: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE

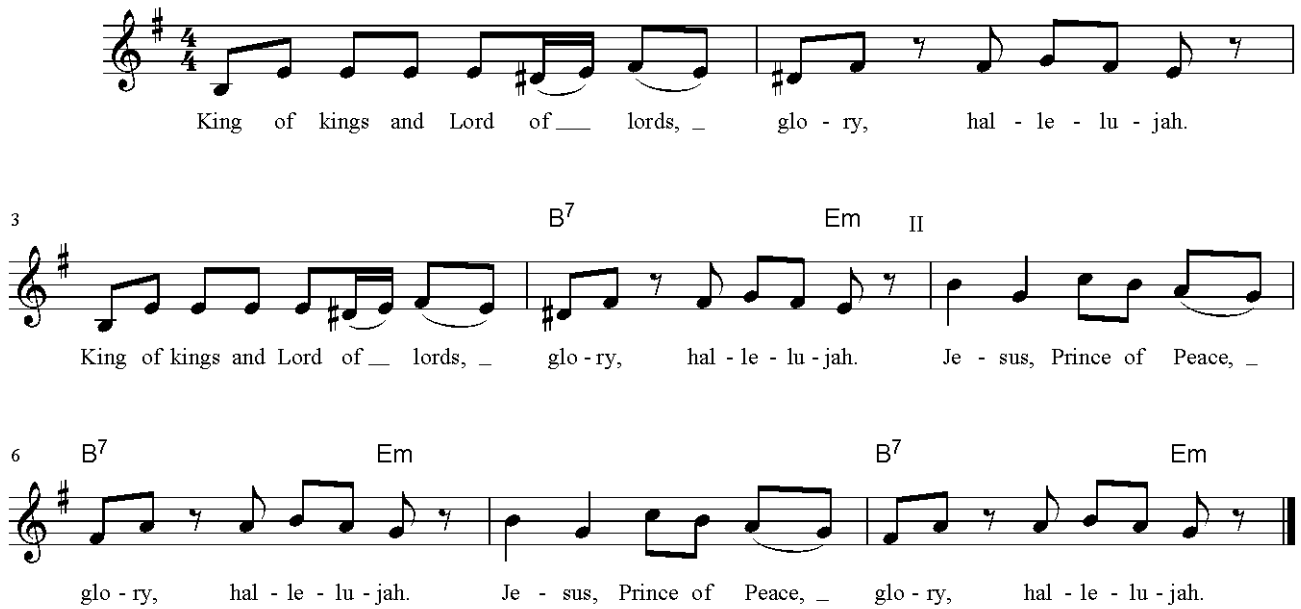
Advent Blessing

L: God of the watching ones, the waiting ones, the slow and suffering ones, the angels in heaven, and the child in the womb,

C: **Pour out your blessing upon us, your good word for our hearts, that we might rest and rise in the kindness of your company. Amen.**

Sending Song

"King of Kings"



King of kings and Lord of lords, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah.

3 B⁷ Em II
King of kings and Lord of lords, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah. Je - sus, Prince of Peace, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah.

6 B⁷ Em B⁷ Em
glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah. Je - sus, Prince of Peace, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah.

CCLI Song # 23952
© 1980 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com
CCLI License # 2705565

Dismissal

