



**THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT**

**December 9, 2020**



*What Child is This?*

*“Adoration of the Shepherds” by Gerard van Honthorst, circa 1622, Public Domain*

When God called Abraham, He spoke of a promised land. At first hearing, we may think this means the land and region where Israel would settle and make their homes and build the Temple. But then the Lord said that Abraham would be the father of many nations—all those who would share his faith.

The land of promise is a better land than any found on Earth for it is the heavenly promised land itself. By the grace of God, that gracious promise is ours through Baptism into Christ, our Lord, who leads us to that better country. Come quickly, Son of Mary, Son of David, Son of Abraham, Son of Promise!

# Opening Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

LSB 357, sts. 1, 7

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the  
cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
hearts of all man - kind; Bid Thou our sad di -  
ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
vi - sions cease, And be Thy - self our King of Peace.

*Refrain*  
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el  
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text and tune: Public Domain

## ✠ VESPERS ✠

*Stand*

### Opening Versicles

**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,  
**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.  
**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;  
**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.  
**C** Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.  
Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

*Psalm 51:15*

*Psalm 70:1*

# ✠ Psalmody ✠

## Psalm

*Psalm 105:1–11, 42–45; antiphon: v. 42*

*The pastor and congregation chant responsively. The antiphon is chanted by the pastor before and after the psalm.*



*(Antiphon)* For He remembered His holy | promise,\*  
and Abraham, His | servant.

- <sup>1</sup> Oh give thanks to the LORD; call up- | on His name;\*  
make known His deeds among the | peoples!
  - <sup>2</sup> **Sing to Him, sing prais- | es to Him;\***  
**tell of all His | wondrous works!**
  - <sup>3</sup> Glory in His | holy name;\*  
let the hearts of those who seek the | LORD rejoice!
  - <sup>4</sup> **Seek the LORD | and His strength;\***  
**seek His presence con- | tinually!**
  - <sup>5</sup> Remember the wondrous works that | He has done,\*  
His miracles, and the judgments He | uttered,
  - <sup>6</sup> **O offspring of Abraham, His | servant,\***  
**children of Jacob, His | chosen ones!**
  - <sup>7</sup> He is the | LORD our God;\*  
His judgments are in | all the earth.
  - <sup>8</sup> **He remembers His covenant for- | ever,\***  
**the word that He commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations,**
  - <sup>9</sup> the covenant that He made with | Abraham,\*  
His sworn promise to | Isaac,
  - <sup>10</sup> **which He confirmed to Jacob as a | statute,\***  
**to Israel as an everlasting covenant, | <sup>11</sup>saying,**  
“To you I will give the land of | Canaan\*  
as your portion for an in- | heritance.”
  - <sup>42</sup> **For He remembered His holy | promise,\***  
**and Abraham, His | servant.**
  - <sup>43</sup> So He brought His people | out with joy,\*  
His chosen ones with | singing.
  - <sup>44</sup> **And He gave them the lands of the | nations,\***  
**and they took possession of the fruit of the | peoples’ toil,**
  - <sup>45</sup> that they might keep His | statutes\*  
and observe His laws. | Praise the LORD!
- Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

*The antiphon is repeated.*

*Sit*



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
 2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are  
 3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
 feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The  
 own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
 si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall  
 lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
 pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;  
 song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text and tune: Public Domain

## ✠ Readings ✠

### First Reading

*Genesis 12:1–7*

**P** A reading from Genesis, chapter 12.

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup>And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup>Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land.

<sup>7</sup>Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Second Reading

*Hebrews 11:8–16*

**P** A reading from Hebrews, chapter 11.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered Him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

<sup>13</sup>These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. <sup>14</sup>For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared for them a city.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Holy Gospel

*John 8:48-59*

**P** A reading from the Gospel of Saint John, chapter eight.

<sup>48</sup>The Jews answered Him, “Are we not right in saying that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?”

<sup>49</sup>Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon, but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me. <sup>50</sup>Yet I do not seek My own glory; there is One who seeks it, and He is the judge. <sup>51</sup>Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word, he will never see death.”

<sup>52</sup>The Jews said to Him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet You say, ‘If anyone keeps My word, he will never taste death.’ <sup>53</sup>Are You greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do You make Yourself out to be?”

<sup>54</sup>Jesus answered, “If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing. It is My Father who glorifies Me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’ <sup>55</sup>But you have not known Him. I know Him. If I were to say that I do not know Him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know Him and I keep His word. <sup>56</sup>Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see My day. He saw it and was glad.”

<sup>57</sup>So the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?”

<sup>58</sup>Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”

<sup>59</sup>So they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Responsory for Advent

*Jeremiah 23:5a, 6*



- L** 1 Behold, the days  
are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise  
up for David a righteous Branch.
- 2 In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will  
dwell securely.
- 3 Glory be to the  
Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

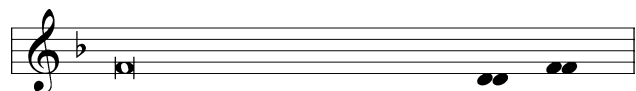


**C** This is the name  
by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

### Sermon

# ✠ CANTICLE ✠

Stand



**I** Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



**C** and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

*Psalm 141:2*

Magnificat

*Luke 1:46-55*



**C** My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Sav-ior;



**I** for He has re-gard - ed the lowliness of His hand-maid - en.



**II** For be-hold, from this day all generations will call me bless - ed.



**I** For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;



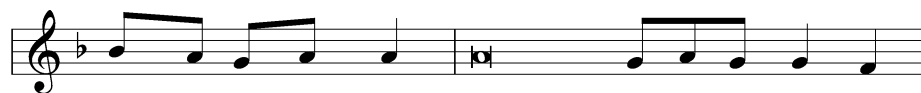
**II** and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to gen - er - a - tion.



**I** He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the



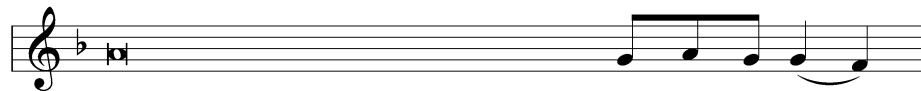
imagination of their hearts. **II** He has cast down the



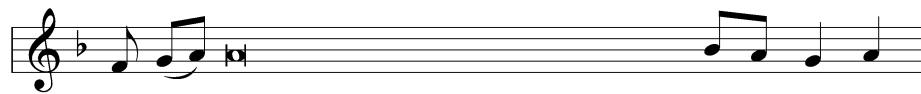
might-y from their thrones and has ex - alt - ed the low - ly.



**I** He has filled the hun - gry with good things,



and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.



II He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mer - cy



as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for-ev-er.



III Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.

## ✠ Prayer ✠

*Kneel or Remain Standing*

### Kyrie

*Mark 10:47*



III Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

### Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9-13*



Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal-low - ed be Thy name,



Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as



it is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly



bread; and for-give us our tres-pass-es as we for-give



those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in -



to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.



For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -



ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## Collects (Prayers)



**L** O Lord, hear my prayer.



**G** And let my cry come to You.

*Psalm 102:1*

## Collect of the Week

**P** Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**G** A - men.

## Collect for Newness of Life in Christ

**P** Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put upon ourselves the armor of light now in the time of this mortal life in which Your Son, Jesus Christ, came to visit us in great humility, that in the Last Day, when He shall come again in glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.



**G** A - men.

## Collect for Peace

**P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**G** A - men.

## Benedicamus



**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**G** Thanks be to God.

*Psalm 103:1*

## Benediction



**P** The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



**G** A - men.

*2 Corinthians 13:14*

✠ SOLI DEO GLORIA ✠  
(TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY)