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Advent Midweek One

December 4, 2024



309 The Advent of Our King

CW 309



- 1 The ad - vent of our King our prayers must now em - ploy,
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son, in flesh con - tent to be,
3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise to meet your low - ly King,
4 As judge, on clouds of light, he soon will come a - gain



and we must hymns of wel - come sing in strains of ho - ly joy.
him - self a ser - vant's form puts on to set his ser - vants free.
nor let a faith - less heart de - spise the peace he comes to bring.
and his true mem - bers all u - nite with him in heav'n to reign.

- 5 Before the dawning day
let sin's dark deeds be gone,
the old self all be put away,
the new self now put on.

- 6 All glory to the Son,
who comes to set us free,
with Father, Spirit, ever one
through all eternity.

Text: tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, alt.; Charles Coffin, 1676–1749

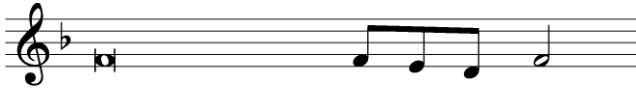
Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–1776

Text and tune: Public domain

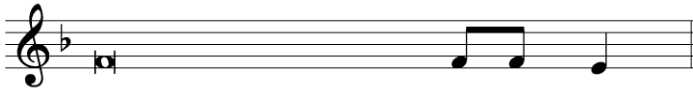
Please stand, if you are able

Opening Sentences

CW 215



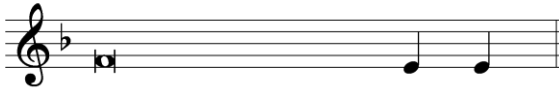
Jesus Christ is the light of the world,



the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



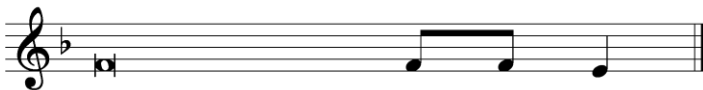
Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,



and the day is almost o - ver.



Be our light and scat - ter the darkness,



and hear our evening prayer and praise.

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Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who led your people Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ. May his Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path, for you are merciful and you love your whole creation. We, your creatures, glorify you—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

141A Let My Prayer Rise before You

Psalm 141A

Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.
O LORD, I call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice
when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a double bar line. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of the fifth staff.

Tune: David Schack

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Tune: Public domain

Let the incense of our prayers rise before you, O Lord, and let your mercy descend on us, that we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and forever in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

Scripture Reading

Genesis 3:1-15

³ Now the serpent was more clever than any wild animal which the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Has God really said, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” ² The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees of the garden, ³ but not from the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden. God has said, ‘You shall not eat from it. You shall not touch it, or else you will die.’”

⁴ The serpent said to the woman, “You certainly will not die. ⁵ In fact, God knows that the day you eat from it, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

⁶ When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was appealing to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took some of its fruit and ate. She gave some also to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷ The eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked. They sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for their waists. ⁸ They heard the voice of the LORD God, who was walking around in the garden during the cooler part of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ The LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰ The man said, “I heard your voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, so I hid myself.” ¹¹ God said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹² The man said, “The woman you gave to be with me—she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate it.” ¹³ The LORD God said to the woman, “What have you done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” ¹⁴ The LORD God said to the serpent:

Because you have done this,
you are cursed more than all the livestock,
and more than every wild animal.

You shall crawl on your belly,
and you shall eat dust all the days of your life.

¹⁵ I will put hostility between you and the woman,
and between your seed and her seed.^[c]

He will crush your head,
and you will crush his heel.

“Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying

Choir

Wake, awake, for night is flying, the watchmen on the heights are crying,
Awake, Jerusalem, at last!
Midnight hears the welcome voices and at the thrilling cry rejoices,
“Come forth, ye virgins, night is past!
The Bridegroom comes, awake! Your lamps with gladness take!
Hallelujah!
And for his marriage feast prepare, for ye must go to meet Him, there.”

Zion hears the watchmen singing, and all her heart with joy is springing;
She wakes, she rises from her gloom;
For her Lord comes down all glorious, the strong in grace, in truth victorious,
Her star is ris’n, her Light is come;
Now come, thou Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God’s own Son,
Hail Hosanna!
The joyful call we answer all, and follow to the nuptial hall.

PRAYER

Lord God, grant us your Holy Spirit that we may hear and believe your Word. Cleanse our minds and renew our hearts that we may live for you here and hereafter; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Scripture Reading

Galatians 3:7-13

⁷Understand, then, that those who believe are the children of Abraham. ⁸Foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, Scripture proclaimed the gospel in advance to Abraham, saying, “In you, all nations will be blessed.” ⁹So then, those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith. ¹⁰In fact, those who rely on the works of the law are under a curse. For it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the book of the law.” ¹¹Clearly no one is declared righteous before God by the law, because “The righteous will live by faith.” ¹²The law does not say “by faith.” Instead it says, “The one who does these things will live by them.” ¹³Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us. As it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.”

Gospel Reading

Matthew 3:4-10

⁴ John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem, all of Judea, and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him. ⁶ They were baptized by him in the Jordan River as they confessed their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You offspring of vipers, who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?" ⁸ Therefore produce fruit in keeping with repentance! ⁹ Do not think of saying to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these stones. ¹⁰ Already the ax is ready to strike^[a] the root of the trees. So every tree that does not produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

306 Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates

CW 306



1 Lift up your heads, you might - y gates! Be - hold, the
2 How blest the land, the cit - y blest, where Christ the
3 Fling wide the gates; pre - pare your heart to be a
4 Re - deem - er, come! We o - pen wide our hearts to
5 E - ter - nal praise, un - end - ing fame we of - fer



King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is
rul - er is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
tem - ple set a - part from earth - ly use for
you; here, Lord, a - bide. O en - ter with your
to your sav - ing name. Your Ho - ly Spir - it



draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
hap - py homes to whom this King in tri - umph comes!
heav'n's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
grace di - vine and cause your face on us to shine.
guide us on un - til our glo - rious goal is won.

SERMON

Please stand, if you are able

1 My soul pro - claims your great-ness, O God, and my
2 You have cast the might - y down from their thrones, and up-

spir - it re - joic - es in you. You have looked with love on your
lift - ed the hum - ble of heart. You have filled the hun - gry with

ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.

Great and might-y are you, O Ho - ly One, strong is your
Great and might-y are you, O Faith-ful One, strong is your

kind - ness ev - er - more. How you fa - vor the
jus - tice, strong your love, as you prom - ised to

weak and low - ly one, hum - bling the proud of heart.
Sar - ah and A - bra - ham, kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

3 My soul pro - claims your great - ness, O God, and my
spir - it re - joic - es in you. You have looked with love on your
ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.

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Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of
all, let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

For the leaders of our synod and district, for all pastors in Christ, for all who are servants of the Church, and for all the people of God, let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

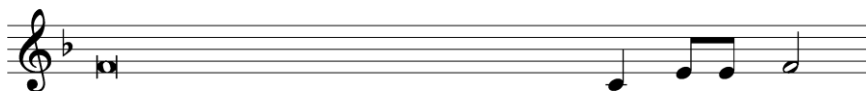
For all who govern our nation and for all public servants, that they may be upheld and strengthened for every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

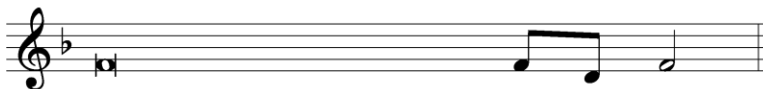
For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.



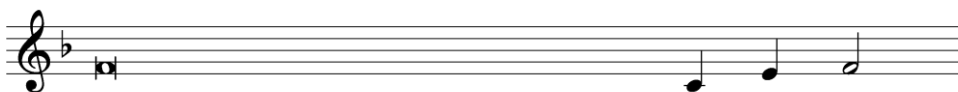
For the faithful who have gone before us
and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord.





Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.



Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints,
let us commend ourselves, one another,
and our whole life to Christ our Lord:



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Prayer of the Day

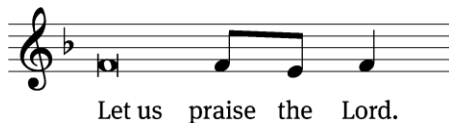
Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies, that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Benedicamus



Blessing



Please be seated

308 There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying

CW 308



1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a
 2 O___ Chris - tians, you bring___ good ti - dings; get
 3 But the Word of our God is e - ter - nal; the



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a
 up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late
 arm of the Lord is strong. He stands in the midst of the



high - way, a high - way for our God!
 peo - ple the com - ing of their King.
 na - tions, and he shall right the wrong.



The___ val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
 Like the flow'rs of the field they___ per - ish; like
 He shall feed his___ flock like a shep - herd, the



loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
 grass their works de - cay. The pow'r and___ pomp of
 lambs shall gent - ly hold, to pas - tures of peace shall



plac - es where the Lord our___ God___ may go!
 na - tions shall___ pass like a dream___ a - way.
 lead them, and___ bring them___ safe to his fold.

Text: James L. Milligan, 1876–1961, alt.

Tune: Henry H. Bancroft, 1904–1988

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