



MUSICAL SELECTION

“Come, Lord Jesus”

Based on Isaiah 9:1. 11:1, 35:5-6, 40:1-2, 64:7-8 Dan Schutte ©1972, 2002, Daniel L. Schutte. Published by OCP Publications

The soloist will sing the verses, the congregation will join in on the refrain.

REFRAIN

Come, Lord Je - sus. Come and vis - it your peo - ple.
We a - wait your com - ing. Come, O Lord.

And on that day a branch shall spring from Jesse's tree,
sign of hope that life is born to those who wait. REFRAIN

And on that day a hope shall rise for all who seek.\
A light will shine for those who walk amid the gloom. REFRAIN

And on that day the lame shall dance and leap for joy.
The deaf shall hear, the blind shall see the face of God. REFRAIN

Prepare the way, make straight a path for God who saves,
for then the wondrous deeds of God shall be revealed. REFRAIN

We are the clay that God will mould with tender care.
The potter's hand will shape our lives with heaven's grace. REFRAIN

No eye has seen what God prepares for those who wait.
No ear has heard what God reveals to those who love. REFRAIN



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: "Come, Lord Je - sus. Come and vis - it your peo - ple." The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "We a - wait your com - ing. Come, O Lord." The lyrics are printed below the notes.

CALL TO WORSHIP

P (Pastor): We worship in the name of our God, who was, and is, and ever shall be—
C (Congregation): **Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

P: During the season of Advent, we celebrate the faithfulness of God. He promised a Savior, and in a manger, on a cross, and in an empty tomb, he has kept his Word. He promised to pierce our darkness with his light, and he fulfilled that promise by sending his Son, Jesus Christ, as the Light of the world.

C: **Come, Lord Jesus. Fill our lives with the light of your presence.**

P: Let your light shine,

C: **And scatter the darkness of our sinfulness.**

P: Let your light shine,

C: **That others may see you within us.**

P: Let your light shine,

C: And fill us with joy and peace.

P: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

C: The light no darkness can overcome.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

(silence)



PRAYER

P: 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 with the light of your Christ. May his Word be a lamp to our feet and a light for our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation. We, your creatures, glorify you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

EPISTLE READING

1 Peter 1:17-21

¹⁷ Since you call on a Father who judges each person's work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear. ¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. ²⁰ He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. ²¹ Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

GOSPEL

John 1:19-31

¹⁹ Now this was John's testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. ²⁰ He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Messiah."

²¹ They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?"

He said, "I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?"

He answered, "No."

²² Finally they said, "Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

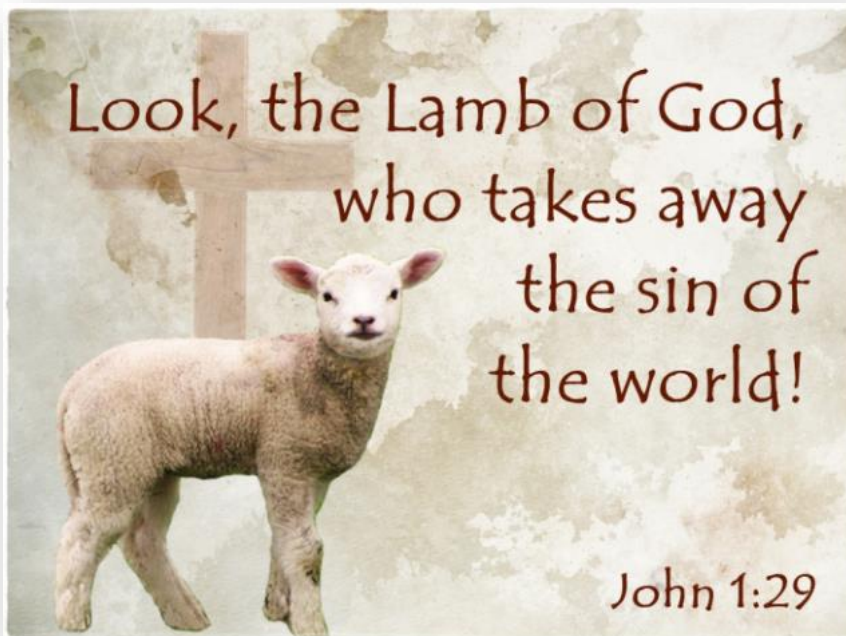
²³ John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'"

²⁴ Now the Pharisees who had been sent ²⁵ questioned him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"

²⁶ "I baptize with water," John replied, "but among you stands one you do not know. ²⁷ He is the one who comes after me, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie."

²⁸ This all happened at Bethany on the other side of the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

²⁹ The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is the one I meant when I said, 'A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.' ³¹ I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel."



SERMON HYMN

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

CW 16 Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain



On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry
 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin
 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord,
 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store,
 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son.



An - nounce - es that the Lord is nigh;
 And fur - nished for a guest with - in,
 Our ref - uge and our great re - ward.
 And lift us up to fall no more.
 Whose ad - vent has our free - dom won.



Come, then, and lis - ten, for he brings
 And let us all our hearts pre - pare
 With - out your grace we waste a - way
 Oh, make your face on us to shine.
 Whom with the Fa - ther we a - dore



Good news a - bout the King of kings.
 for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 Like flow'rs that with - er and and de - cay.
 And fill the world with love di - vine.
 And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

SERMON TEXT

Malachi 3:1-4

¹ “I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty.

² But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, ⁴ and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years.

SERMON

PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

P: The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice"

CW 377:1, 4-6 Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain



Dear Chris - tians, one and all, re - joice,
 But God be - held my wretch - ed state
 He spoke to his be - lov - ed Son;
 The Son o - beyed his Fa - ther's will,



With ex - ul - ta - tion spring - ing, And, with u - nit - ed
 Be - fore the world's foun - da - tion, And, mind - ful of his
 'Tis time to have com - pas - sion. Then go, bright Jew - el
 Was born of vir - gin moth - er, And, God's good plea - sure



heart and voice And ho - ly rap - ture sing - ing. Pro -
 mer - cies great, He planned my soul's sal - va - tion. A
 of my crown, And bring man - kind sal - va - tion, from
 to ful - fill, He came to be my broth - er. No



- claim the won - ders God has done, How his right arm the
 Fa - ther's heart he turned to me, Sought my re - demp - tion
 sin and sor - row set them free; Slay bit - ter death for
 garb of pomp or pow'r he wore; A ser - vant's form like



vic - t'ry won. How dear - ly it has cost him!
 fer - vent - ly; He gave his dear - est trea - sure.
 them that they May live with you for - ev - er."
 mine he bore To lead the dev - il cap - tive.

POINSETTIAS: If you would like to purchase a poinsettia to be used at COR during the Christmas Season and then taken home by you, please contact Teresa Miller 303-969-8143 or teresam11757@gmail.com.

OFFERING ENVELOPES: Your 2021 offering envelopes are in your COR mailbox. Please make certain to pick them up. We praise God for your offerings and remind you that if you give electronically, envelope numbers still need to be assigned for tracking reasons.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Christmas Eve - Noon & 6p

Christmas Day - 9a

Sunday, December 27 - 9a

New Year's Eve - 7p