

St. John's United Church of Christ
November 28, 2021
First Sunday of Advent

*Please stand as you are able, in body or in Spirit.

Gathering Song

"This is the Day"

Unison Welcome

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here"

Announcements

Passing of the Peace

"The peace of Christ be with you"

"And also with you"

Prelude

*Call to Worship

from Feasting on the Word Advent Companion

The days are surely coming, says the Lord,
when I will fulfill my promise to my people.

**Justice and righteousness will fill the land
and all will live in peace and safety.**

*Hymn #90

"People, Look East"

*Prayer of the Day

from Feasting on the Word Advent Companion

Holy One, you have promised us that the day of our salvation is near. Keep us faithful in love and watchful in prayer, so that we may stand with confidence and joy at the coming of Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.

*Prayer for Illumination

from Feasting on the Word Advent Companion

Amid much confusion, signs leading away from you, we seek your truth. Open our hearts to the wonders of your work and the wisdom of your word. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Candle Lighting

"Hope for God's Presence" from "Love's Pure Light" arr. Joel Raney

Responsive Litany

The Harold Collier Family

In this season of Advent, we long for God's presence.

Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

In this season of Advent, we search for God's truth.

Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

In this season of Advent, we seek God's guidance.

Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

In this season of Advent, we remember God's promise.

Christ is our light and the source of our hope.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Closing Prayer

Gracious God, as we begin our Advent journey, we thank you for the gift of your Son, and for sending hope into a world filled with dread. Help us remember that we are your people, and because of your promises we have every reason to be hopeful. Take away our doubt and fear, and remind us that Christ is our light, and the true source of hope. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Roxanne Davenport

Children's Corner will be offered following the children's sermon.

Anthem

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

arr. Donald McCullough

Scripture Reading

Luke 21:25-36

Sermon

Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

Hymn #723 (attached)

"Canticle of the Turning"

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Our Savior (debts)

*Hymn #79

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*Invitation to Giving

*Commission & Benediction

from Feasting on the Word Advent Companion

Hear with your hearts the word and wisdom of the Lord.

May the God of mercy keep you, the Holy Spirit cheer you, and Christ in glory greet you, now and at the day of his coming.

Postlude

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If you are ill, have a fever, or are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, we respectfully ask that you remain at home.

The Flowers at the Foot of the Cross are given to the glory of God.

Worship Resources: *Feasting on the Word Advent Companion* and *Love's Pure Light*.

| Worship Participants | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Pastor | Rev. Caroline E. Saxton |
| Organist | Gloria Crum |
| Deacon in Charge | Julie Dereef |
| Lector | Henry Hopper |
| Children's Sermon | Roxanne Davenport |
| Media Coordinator | Ginny and Scott Cairns |
| Pastor Emeritus | Rev. Stephen W. Hoffman |

People, Look East

1. Peo - ple, look east, the time is near of the
 2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more
 3. An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who

crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
 seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to
 brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley

a - ble, trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
 nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
 hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east and sing to - day: Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 east and sing to - day: Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 east and sing to - day: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928

MUSIC: French folk melody; harm. Shelby Trapp, 2008

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BESANÇON

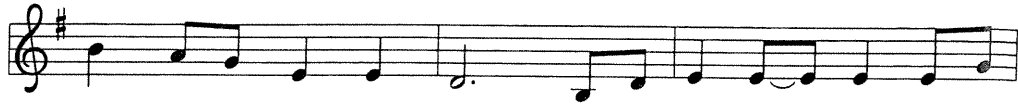
8.7.9.8.8.7

Higher key, No. 211

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



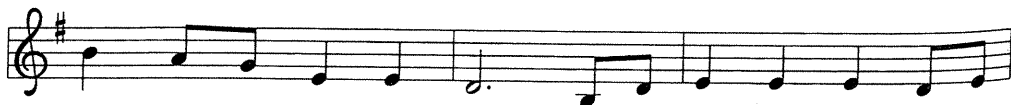
God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



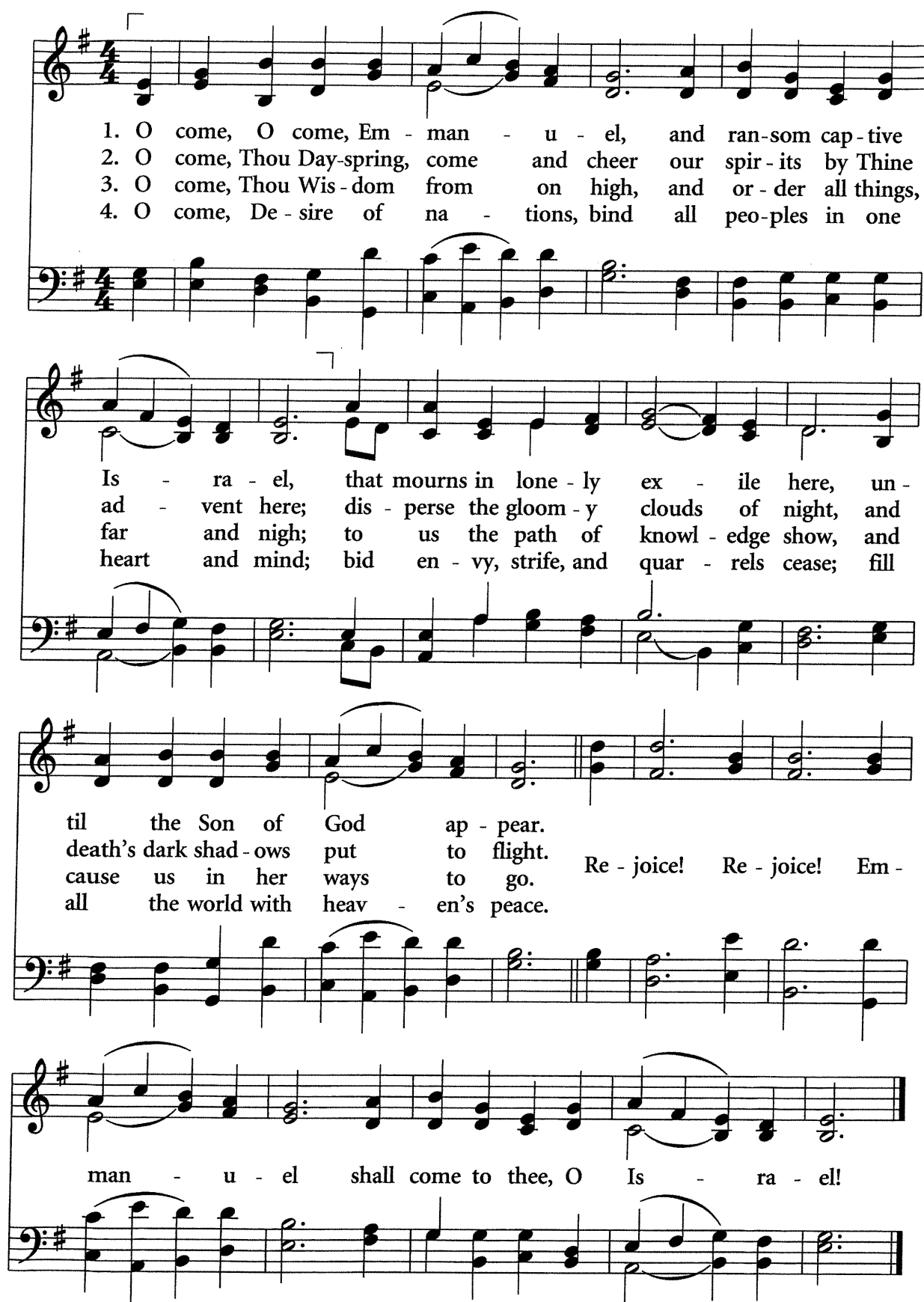
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

79



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran-som cap-tive
 2. O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer our spir - its by Thine
 3. O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, and or - der all things,
 4. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind all peo-ples in one

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, un -
 ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and
 far and nigh; to us the path of knowl - edge show, and
 heart and mind; bid en - vy, strife, and quar - rels cease; fill

til the Son of God ap - pear.
 death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
 cause us in her ways to go. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
 all the world with heav - en's peace.

man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

WORDS: Latin hymn; tr. John Mason Neale (sts. 1, 2), 1851;
 Henry Sloane Coffin (sts. 3, 4), 1916
 MUSIC: Plainsong; adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1854

VENI EMMANUEL
 LM with refrain