

*This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad
and rejoice in his salvation. Isaiah 25:9*



INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

P Rejoice in the LORD and celebrate, all you righteous,

C Shout joyfully, all you upright in heart.

P Shout to the LORD with joy, all the earth.

C Serve the LORD with gladness.

P Come before him with joyful songs.

C Know that the LORD is God. He made us, and we are his.

HYMN

CW 80

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Once you sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Magi, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations; you have seen the Savior's star:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P God of all mercy and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:

C We admit that we all too often we lose our joy in you. We simply go through the motions of each day forgetting that everything is a bless from you. We

complain instead of rejoice. We criticize instead of praise. We live in fear instead of the joy of believing you are Lord over all. Forgive us, we pray, for letting the joy of our salvation slip from our lives. Fill us again with the joy of your coming in our world so that we can live with you forever.

P Believe and receive the good news! God sent his Son, the Babe of Bethlehem, to show his infinite love and forgiveness for all people. Your sins are forgiven in the holy name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Response

CW 7

♪ Rejoice, rejoice believers and let your lights appear.
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The bridegroom is a rising, and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.

You saints, who here in patience your cross and suff'rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever when sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory the Lamb you shall behold;
In triumph lay before him your shining crowns of gold.

OLD TESTAMENT READING ... 1 Samuel 2:1-3

Psalm 100



Shout for joy to the LORD, ^áll the earth.*
Worship the LORD with ^gladness;

come before him with ^joyful songs.*
Know that the LORD is God.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his ^ccourts with praise;*
give thanks to him and ^praise his name.

For the LORD is good and his love endures ^forever;*
his faithfulness continues through all ^generations.

Refrain

EPISTLE READING ... Romans 12:11-18

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

CW 7

♪ A rise, Desire of nations; O Jesus, now appear,
The Hope and Expectation of ev'ry Christian here.
With hearts and hands uplifted we plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption that sets your people free.

GOSPEL READING ... Luke 1:39-45

SERMON HYMN

CW 23

Oh come, Oh come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Root of Jesse, free your own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell your people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Dayspring, from on high, and cheer us by your drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

SERMON WAIT ON THE LORD WITH REJOICING

PRAYERS

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

BENEDICTION

P Let us go from this place proclaiming that we have seen the glory of God; believing that there is a light that shines in the darkness which the darkness shall not overcome. And may the love of the Father, the joy of the Spirit and the peace of the Christ-child † be with you always,

C As we wait upon the Lord with joy! Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

CW 17

God's own Son most holy
Came a servant lowly,
Came to live among us,
Came to suffer for us,
Bore the cross to save us,
Hope and freedom gave us.

Still he comes within us;
Still his voice would win us
From the sins that hurt us,
Would to truth convert us
From our foolish errors
Ere he comes in terrors.

Those who then are loyal
Find a welcome royal.
Come, then, O Lord Jesus,
From our sins release us.
Let us here confess you
Till in heav'n we bless you.