



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

1st Sunday of Advent | November 29, 2020

PRELUDE

Come as King!

Dana Mengel

Sue Anderson, Alberta Gisel, Wayne Tillman, Ken Curry, vocal quartet

Come, O come, holy One, come, descend on wings of love. Come and set all Your captive people free. Come as warmth, come as light breaking through the clouds of night. Come as truth, come as life, come as King! Come with grace, come in peace, come to save and to redeem. Come in powers, come in splendor, come in glory, come as King! Come in splendor, come in glory, come as King! As a child, as a lamb, come to bless our land. Come with healing in Your mighty wing. Come as brother and friend. Come, the poorest to defend. Come as Savior and Lord, come as King! Come with grace, come in peace, come to save and to redeem. Come in powers, come in splendor, come in glory, come as King! Come in splendor, come in glory, come as King!

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CALL TO WORSHIP/LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Don & Carol Kauffman, liturgists

*(All speak words in **boldface**.)*

The Holy One of love is coming!

How will we prepare the way?

We will light this candle and remember God's inclusive and saving love. ☩

Come, Lord Jesus, be born in us, we pray. Amen.

ADVENT HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

***Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.***

Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.

Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

God of the Christ child,

holy is your name.

You come in many forms.

In the good news

to the oppressed, the brokenhearted, the prisoners and captives.

You come in the times this world is turned around
and the humble **are lifted up,**
the starving **are satisfied,**
the weak **are made strong.**

You come in us—in all people—who know firsthand,
the saving power and restoring justice in your word.

From generation to generation:
you have looked on us with favor
even though we have failed you;
you have called us blessed
despite our harmful ways;
you have kept your word
though we have let you down.

**Forgive us, Lord. Help us return our focus to you as we wait expectantly.
Guide our work for justice in our homes, neighborhoods, and world.**

(Silent confession)

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Return to the Lord your God, for God is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. Turn toward your God in the confidence that, through Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Alleluia! Holy is your name. Amen.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE *You've Given Us Yourself, Your Grace* GOD REST YOU MERRY

***You've given us yourself, your grace, through Jesus Christ your Son;
to help you heal this broken world, by faith, in hope, through love;
to dream new patterns that are just and turn this world around.
Glory be, glory be to you we sing, God most high!
Glory be to you we sing, O God most high!***

(TEXT: R.W. TUNE: English 18th C. P.D.)

SCRIPTURE READING

Daniel 6:6-27

MUSICAL OFFERING *You Are My Refuge, Faithful God* Arr. Lynn Arthur Koch
Lynn Auman, violin; Chad Hammer, cello

*"I put my spirit in your hands and call upon your name. . . .
Deliver me from hidden snares, from sorrow, pain, and strife. . . .
Redeem me, in your faithful love: my life is in your hands."*

SERMON "The Promise of Advent" Rev. Laura Viau

SCRIPTURAL AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

("The Magnificat", Luke 1:46-54)

Gail Thomas, Laura Viau, Wayne Tillman, Ken Curry, vocal quartet
Lynn Auman, violin; Chad Hammer, cello

Let our hearts rejoice as we affirm our faith singing Mary's song of praise.

***My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servants plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?***

Refrain



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.

TEXT: Rory Cooney. TUNE: Traditional Irish Folksong, star of county down. Text and Music Arr. © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.
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PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

*(Not often provided, verse two requests defensive and offensive support from God.
A prayer like Daniel might have prayed that night in the Lion's Den.)*

***Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.***

***Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
be thou my armor, and be thou my might;
thou my soul's shelter, thou— my high tow'r:
raise thou me heavenward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.***

BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

CLOSING RESPONSE

People, Look East

BESANÇON

Jon-Jon Braxton, acolyte

Vicki Chadwick, Lynn Auman, Ken Curry, & Chad Hammer, vocal quartet

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.

Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.

People, look and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

TEXT: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928, alt. MUSIC: French folk melody. Text © 1960 David Higham Associates, Ltd. Music Harm. © 1928 Oxford University Press
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Rev. Laura Viau, Interim Pastor (laurabviau@gmail.com)

Randy Warner, Liturgy and Music Associate and Accompanist;
Kathy Sasso, Church Secretary; **Linda Rowell**, Church Treasurer;
Joyce Winkler, Qualified Ruling Elder; **Crystal Braxton**, Nursery;
Hery Ramambasoa, Regional Liaison for Southeast Asia and the Pacific



Shallotte Presbyterian Church

5070 M.H. Rourk Drive, P.O. Box 3526 Shallotte, NC 28459 | (910) 754-6929
church@atmc.net, www.shallottechurch.org

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