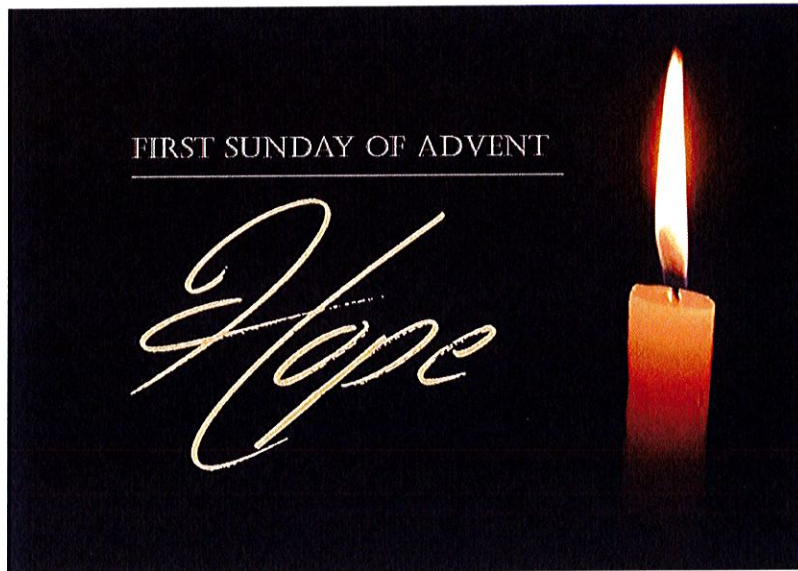


The United Church of Christ, Congregational Burlington, MA



First Sunday in Advent

“We gather for worship, study, planning and mission to celebrate the life, teachings, death and living presence of Jesus Christ which frees us to love boldly and to serve gladly as God would want us to do.”

November 28, 2021

10:30 A.M.

Coming...

Musical Prelude

Singing of Advent & Christmas Carols

Welcome & Announcements

Covenanting Ceremony

Meditative Thought

Emily Dickinson

*“‘Hope’ is the thing with feathers - That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words - And never stops - at all.”*

Introit: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (verse 1) – tune: VENI VENI EMMANUEL,
adapted by Thomas Helmore with accompaniment by Richard Proulx; text:
Latin 9th century, translated by John M. Neale

O come, O 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.

Prayerful Praising & Learning...

Call to Worship

One: Living in a world darkened by understandable despair,

All: We gather as God's people of faith and HOPE!

One: Amidst a world darkened by the chaos of destruction and death,

All: We worship a God of Creation and Salvation!

One: In a world darkened, disheartened, and de-energized,

All: We are drawn to the Light of a Holy-Spirited HOPE descending and dawning...

*Opening Hymn

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

NCH #21

*Opening Prayer

Come, O God, come! Come into our hearts which ache with desire for global well-being. Come into our world desperate for salvation. Come into our lives personally, come into the life of our church, and come into the life of the world! Come in Christ, come in Spirit, come as we worship today... Amen!

*Praise Response "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn!"

**Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn,
For angels herald its dawning,
Sing out your joy, for Jesus is born,
Behold! The Child of our longing
Come as a baby weak and poor,
To bring all hearts together,
To open wide the heavenly door
And lives now inside us forever.**

Lighting of First Advent Candle

One: Advent is a time of preparing for Christmas!

All: Advent is a season for harboring HOPE amidst waves of despair crashing upon the shores of our lives.

One: Advent is a time for guarding against destructive waves flooding our lives with despair.

All: HOPE shall beat in our hearts, reside in our homes, and rule our world!

Candle Lighting & Response "Christ, Be Our Light", refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine in our darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gathered today.

Children of God Time

"Birthday Eves and New Year's Eve"

Congregational Response "Rejoice in the Lord Always"

Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice, rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice, rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:7

And Mary gave birth to her firstborn son, wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger because there was no place for them in the inn.

Choral Anthem

“Keep Your Lamps”-- Spiritual, arranged by Andre Thomas

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh. (Repeat)

Children, don't get weary,
Children, don't get weary,
Children, don't get weary,
“Til your work is done. (Repeat)

Christian, journey soon be over.
Christian, journey soon be over.
Christian, journey soon be over,
The time is drawing nigh. (Repeat)

Reflecting & Praying...

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10, Luke 1:26-37

Isaiah 35:10

*The wilderness, and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and bloom...
Say to those who are of a fearful heart: “Be strong; do not fear!”...
A highway shall be there... and the ransomed of the Lord shall return.*

Luke 1:37

For nothing will be impossible with God.

Our Sermon **Keeping Room at Our Hearts' Inn for Holy Birth...** The Rev. Ed Koonz
“Keeping Room at the Inn with HOPE”

Hymn of Faith (seated) “My Soul Gives Glory to My God”, verses 1 & 3-5 *NCH #119*

Sharing of Prayer Concerns & Joys
Pastoral Prayer & 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 debts - as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Committing...

Stewardship Invitation

Offertory *Wachet auf, ruft uns die stimme* (Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying)
from *Sechs Choralsätze* -- Samuel Scheidt

***Advent Doxology** *NCH #782*

**To God, all glorious heavenly Light,
To Christ revealed in earthly night,
To God the Spirit now we raise
Our joyful songs of thankful praise.**

(hymn #782, The New Century Hymnal)

***Prayer of Dedication & Consecration**

Going...

*Commissioning

One: Go into the world, basking in the Light of God!

All: Let the Light of Christ shine from within us!

One: Let us light up the world with HOPE!

All: Let the world's prospects be brightened; by our lives!

*Closing Hymn

"Come, O Long Expected Jesus"

NCH #122

*Benediction

Postlude Chorale Prelude on *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*
(Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying) – Johann Sebastian Bach

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Church Vision Statement, adopted February 2017:

*At the UCC Burlington, we cultivate a thriving environment, which empowers us to embody the beloved, diverse community that Jesus modeled for us, proclaiming that **all are welcome, all are loved**. We celebrate our colonial roots as we change, adapt and grow into who God is calling us to be. We respect the sanctity of each person's spiritual journey and we are blessed by the gifts that each person brings to the life of the church. We join together in faithful service and advocacy with the ongoing hope that we can make the world a better, more just, and peaceful place for everyone.*

In 2021, UCC Burlington will focus on *healing and recovery* as our church goals for the year. We will work together, across the generations, to heal physical, emotional, and social wounds that have collectively injured us. We will support one another in our mutual healing so that we can recover as stronger and more faithful followers of Christ. This is inspired by the scripture from Micah 7:8,
"When I fall, I shall rise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me.

Rev. Ed Koonz, Interim Pastor
Joe Stoddard, Jr.-Director of Music
Deb Raymond-Director of Christian Ed
Bobbie Killilea-Administrative Asst.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Tom Killilea –upcoming surgeries
Marilyn Langley's friend Linda's son Kevin
And her
Karen Ciardi's husband
Joe Stoddard's Mom Lillian
Alan Wright's cousin Tim
Barbara Moran
Joyce Carpenter- upcoming surgery
Anne Stafford
Luella Brown
Dave Ieradi's Dad and son Dano
Sue Wisniewski's Dad
Kelly Sievert's brother, Geoff
Mark Flecchia's mother Vivian
Jean Bastos
Rev. Elizabeth King
Jan Blandino
Bobbie Martino
Barbara Garland
Jessy McNeil's brother Mel and sister Grace
Henry Knopp
Dot Drinkwater
Everett Langley's brother George
John Heald's sister Susan & Mom
Jim Mungillo

Our First Responders! Our caregivers!
Urgent Care workers!
Military here and abroad!
BE SAFE!

CHOIR REHEARSALS

We have started rehearsing back in the sanctuary on Wednesday evenings at a new time 7:00PM. If you would like to join the choir, please contact Joe Stoddard at music@uccburlington.org

November 28 First Sunday of Advent **Worship begins at 10:20 with** **a hymn sing**

Interim Pastor:	Rev. Ed Koonz
Organist:	Joe Stoddard, Jr.
Advent Candle Lighters:	Interim Search Committee
Lay Leader:	Chris Stahlinski
Head Usher:	Deb Glancy
Usher:	Dave McNeil
Greeter:	Lucy Damiani
Collector:	Marcia Rich
Flowers:	Debbie Claar
Nursery:	
Coffee Hour:	Marge Zamanian
Sunday School:	Deb Raymond

December 5 Second Sunday of Advent **Communion Worship at 10:30amA**

Interim Pastor:	Rev. Ed Koonz
Organist:	Joe Stoddard, Jr.
Advent Candle Lighters:	Volunteer
Lay Leader:	Marcia Rich
Head Usher:	Deb Glancy
Usher:	Chris Stahlinski
Greeter:	Sally Willard
Collector:	Joan Zink
Flowers:	Sally Willard
Nursery:	Volunteer
Coffee Hour:	Jan McSheffrey
Sunday School:	Deb Raymond

SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERING!

We now have the ability to sign up for any of the Sunday morning worship duties through the online tool **SignUp.com**. Donna Flecchia will walk you through the quick enrollment.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS

We are looking for families, friends, individuals, committee members, to light our Advent Candles for the following dates: December 5, December 12, and December 19. Please contact Pastor Ed at RevEd85@aol.com or Bobbie at uccburlington.org

WELCOMING OUR INTERIM PASTOR

This morning we welcome our Interim Pastor, Rev. Ed Koonz. Pastor Ed resides in Nashua, was born and raised in Shelburne Falls, MA. He graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. degree in Religious Studies from Brown University in 1977. He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA and was ordained at the Church of the Beatitudes in Phoenix, AZ by the Southwest Conference of the United Church of Christ in 1985. Rev. Koonz served as Associate Pastor of Neighborhood Church of Palos Verdes Estates, CA from 1985-1989. From 1989-2010, Rev. Koonz was Pastor of Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC in Nashua. While there, he co-founded the Nashua Caregivers, served on the Board of Nashua Home Health & Hospice, the Southern NH Medical Center Chaplain's Advisory Team, and chaired the Boards of Emmaus Counseling Institute and the New Hampshire Teen Institute.

After 21 years, Rev. Koonz went to serve as Pastor of Hampstead Congregational Church, UCC for 6 years. In 2016, Rev. Koonz completed the Interim Ministry Network training for transitional ministries. He served for 2 years as Interim Senior Pastor at the Congregational Church of Laconia, UCC and for 3 years as Interim Pastor of the Congregational Church of Harvard, UCC.

Ed is married to Barbara, whom he met as a college student. Barbara is a retired educator with a degree in elementary and special education. Barbara and Ed have three adult children: Justin, Alison, and Elizabeth - and two granddaughters, Luma, 6 and Niall, 3.

Pastor Ed can be reached by email at: reved85@aol.com or by phone at: 603-620-4498.

LOWELL TRANSITIONAL LIVING CENTER

The LTLC is in need of warm clothing such as: **winter jackets, sweatpants, sweat-shirts, gloves and socks.** They do not have to be new items! There is a bin inside the RED doors for you to put your donations. We deliver once a month to Lowell.

WISH TREE AT THE BURLINGTON MALL

People Helping People will have their Wish Tree Table at the Burlington Mall. Come by and pick up a card with a child's wish on it. Purchase the item and drop off the gift back at the Wish Table. These gifts are for those children in Burlington who are connected to the Pantry. Help make their Christmas a little brighter!

C4C (CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE)

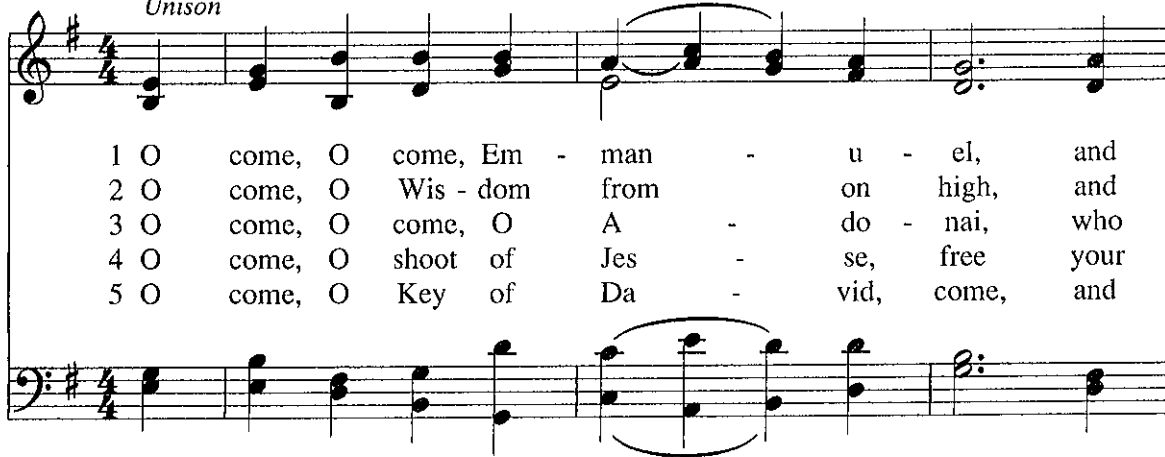
C4C continues to meet on Thursdays at 1pm. We will not meet this week, but wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving. We will see you in December via Zoom!

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Isa. 11:1-12; Exod. 19-20:17

Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, 1710
 Based on ancient antiphons from Advent Vespers
 Transl. John Mason Neale, 1851, and others; alt.
 St. 2, 7, transl. Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916; alt.

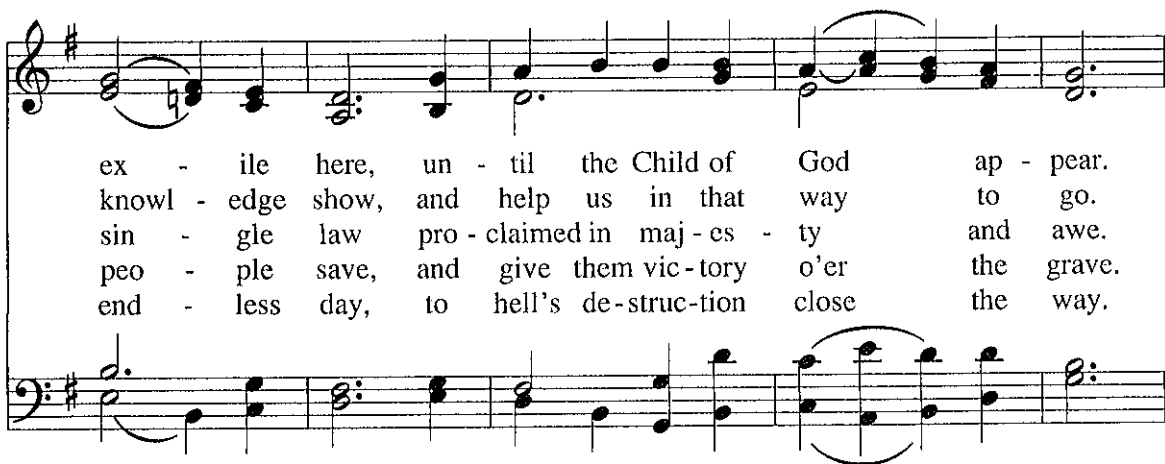
Unison



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, and
 3 O come, O come, O A - do - nai, who
 4 O come, O shoot of Jes - se, free your
 5 O come, O Key of Da - vid, come, and



ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly
 or - der all things far and nigh; To us the path of
 came to all on Si - nai high, And from its peak a
 own from Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny, From depths of hell your
 o - pen wide your heaven - ly home; Make safe the path to



ex - ile here, un - til the Child of God ap - pear.
 knowl - edge show, and help us in that way to go.
 sin - gle law pro - claimed in maj - es - ty and awe.
 peo - ple save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.
 end - less day, to hell's de - struc - tion close the way.

In the medieval Western church, seven "Great O" antiphons, the basis for this hymn, were sung consecutively on the seven days before Christmas, ending with what appears above as the first stanza.

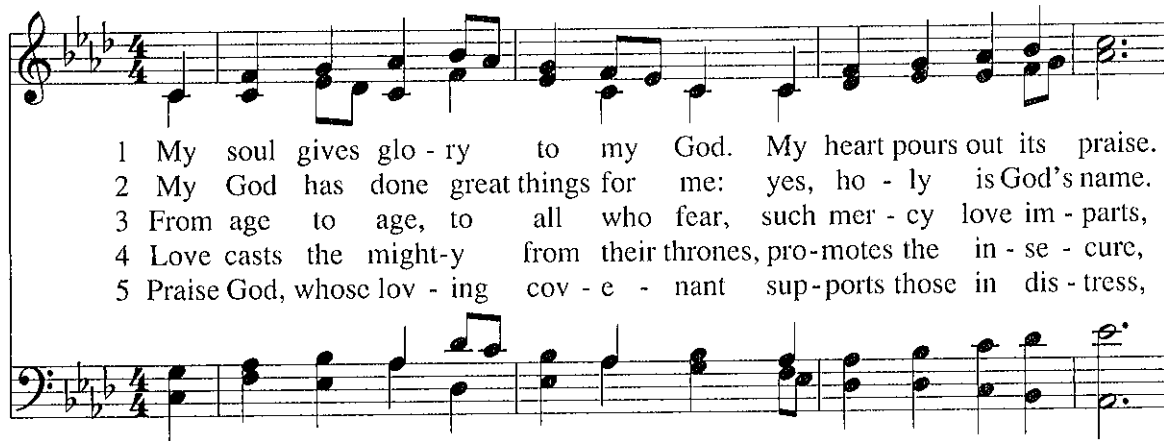
Tune: VENI EMMANUEL L.M. with refrain
 Melody from a 15th-century French "Processional"
 Arr. Thomas Helmore, 1854

My Soul Gives Glory to My God

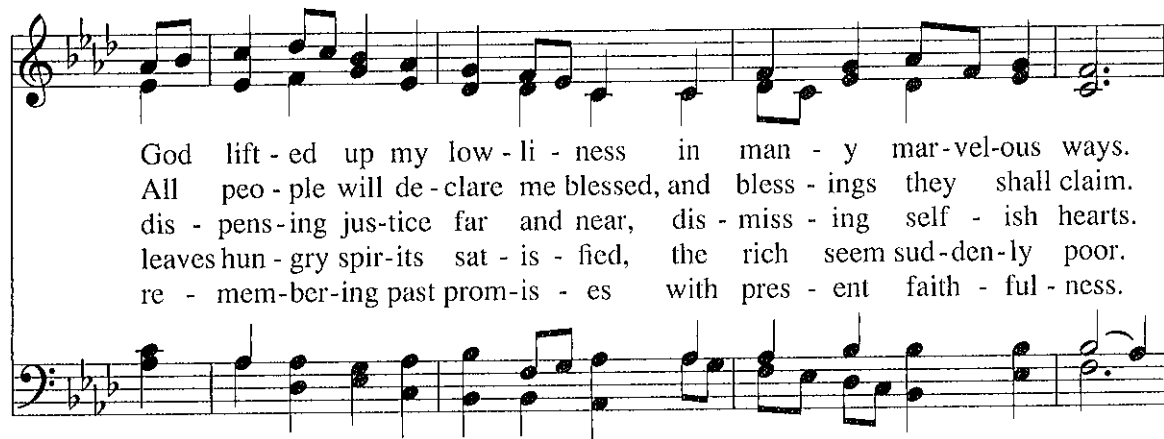
119

Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Sam. 2:1-10



1 My soul gives glo - ry to my God. My heart pours out its praise.
2 My God has done great things for me: yes, ho - ly is God's name.
3 From age to age, to all who fear, such mer - cy love im - parts,
4 Love casts the might-y from their thrones, pro-motes the in - se - cure,
5 Praise God, whose lov - ing cov - e - nant sup-ports those in dis - tress,



God lift - ed up my low - li - ness in man - y mar-vel-ous ways.
All peo - ple will de - clare me blessed, and bless - ings they shall claim.
dis - pens-ing jus-tice far and near, dis - miss - ing self - ish hearts.
leaves hun - gry spir-its sat - is - fied, the rich seem sud-den-ly poor.
re - mem-ber-ing past prom-is - es with pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

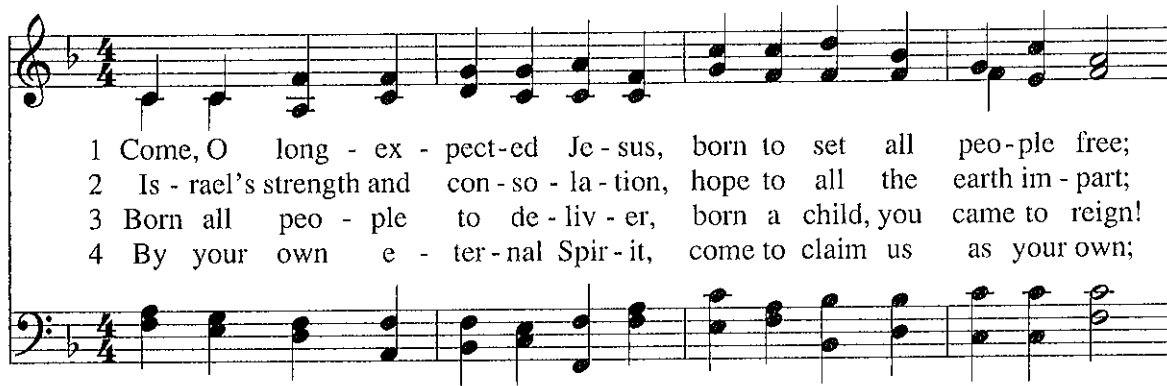
This New Testament canticle, with its mosaic of liberation motifs that proclaim the justice of God, is known as the "Magnificat," the opening word of its Latin translation.

Tune: MORNING SONG C.M.
Melody from Kentucky Harmony, 1816
Harm. C. Winfred Douglas, 1940

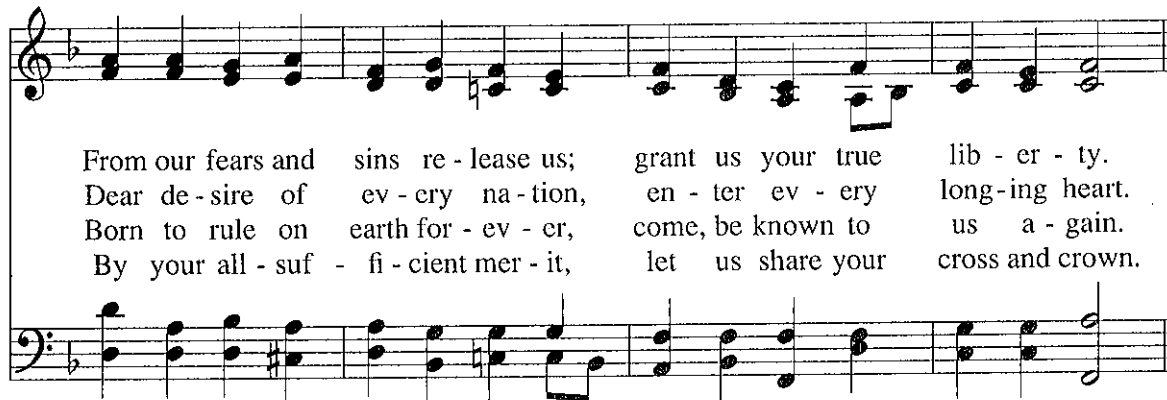
Come, O Long-Expected Jesus

122

Charles Wesley, 1744; alt.



1 Come, O long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set all peo-ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope to all the earth im - part;
3 Born all peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, you came to reign!
4 By your own e - ter - nal Spir - it, come to claim us as your own;



From our fears and sins re - lease us; grant us your true lib - er - ty.
Dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, en - ter ev - ery long - ing heart.
Born to rule on earth for - ev - er, come, be known to us a - gain.
By your all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, let us share your cross and crown.

Charles Wesley, the brother of John, was one of the students known as "Methodists" at Oxford University. He wrote hymns for every occasion. This is from his small collection Hymns for the Nativity.

Tunc: STUTT GART 8.7.8.7.
Melody attrib. to Christian F. Witt (1660-1716)
from Psalmodia Sacra, Gotha, 1715
Alternate tune: IN BABILONE