

First Sunday in Advent

28th Nov 2021

Led by *Fiona Bennett & Mike Holroyd*



Build you own door
By
Jan Richardson

Welcome

Call to worship

One: Waiting for Peace

ALL: We look to God's Promise

One: Waiting for Hope

ALL: We seek for God's Saviour

One: Waiting for Love

ALL: We work with God's Spirit

ALL: Holy Three-in-One we gather to worship you.

Hymn: O come O come Emmanuel CH4 273

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 thee, O Israel.*

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe:
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,

and give them victory o'er the grave:
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery:
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*
O come, thou Dayspring, come and
cheer
our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight:
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*18th century, based on the ancient Advent Antiphons
translated John Mason Neale (1818–1866)*

Opening Prayer with movement (with video)

One: By day and by night,

ALL: God is with us – Emmanuel (using BSL)

One: In our strength & fragility,

ALL: God is with us – Emmanuel (using BSL)

One: In our hope & fear,

ALL: God is with us – Emmanuel (Using BSL)

Advent Introduction

Advent Candle

One: We light this candle for all people
Struggling to be bearers of Hope
In a troubled world.

ALL: GOD AS WE WAIT FOR YOUR PROMISE
GIVE LIGHT, GIVE HOPE.

Hymn: The Candle Song

*The holly and the ivy
are dancing in a ring,
round the berry-bright red candles
and the hope the Christ Light brings.*

And one is for God's people,
in every age and day,

who are hoping for Christ's coming;
May we always watch and pray.

*The holly and the ivy
are dancing in a ring,
round the berry-bright red candles
and the hope the Christ Light brings.*

Emily Chisholm

Reading: Jeremiah 29:1,4-17 read by Katrina Tweedie

29 These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.

4 Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: 5 Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. 6 Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. 7 But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. 8 For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream 9 for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the Lord.

10 For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfil to you my promise and bring you back to this place. 11 For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. 12 Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. 13 When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, 14 I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

15 Because you have said, 'The Lord has raised up prophets for us in Babylon'— 16 thus says the Lord concerning the king who sits on the throne of David, and concerning all the people who live in this city, your kinsfolk who did not go out with you into exile: 17 Thus says the Lord of hosts, I am going to let loose on them sword, famine, and pestilence, and I will make them like rotten figs that are so bad they cannot be eaten.

Sermon by Mike Holroyd

Meditation by Harriet Davidson

Prayers of the People by Harriet Davidson

Offering & Dedication

Hymn: Longing for light CH4 543

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.
Christ, be our light!

Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957)

Notices

Blessing & Sung Amen

Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.