



An Order of Worship for the Lord's Day  
 Stone Presbyterian Church  
 A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation  
 December 1, 2024 ~ The 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent



**We Gather to Worship the One Who Is Coming**

**PRELUDE** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Alec Wyton  
*(Please listen quietly to the prelude as the community prepares for worship)*

**POURING OF BAPTISMAL WATER**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Psalm 25)

*CHOIR: Lord, you are my strength; hasten to help me.*

**LEADER:** To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

**PEOPLE: Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.**

*CHOIR: Lord, you are my strength; hasten to help me.*

**LEADER:** Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation.

**PEOPLE: Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

*CHOIR: Lord, you are my strength; hasten to help me.*

**LEADER:** Good and upright is the LORD. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

**PEOPLE: All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.**

*CHOIR: Lord, you are my strength; hasten to help me.*

**LEADER:** For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

**ALL: Let us worship God**

+ **HYMN #9 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"**  
*(+Those who are able may stand.) VENI EMMANUEL*

**WELCOME**

**THE 1<sup>ST</sup> ADVENT CANDLE – GIFT OF HOPE**  
 Pat and Buzz Joseph



**UNISON PRAYER**

God of Hope, bring new light into our darkness.  
 Give us ears to hear your still God, small voice  
 through the commercial din of the holiday season.  
 Give us eyes to see your light still shining among all  
 the Christmas lights and  
 decorations. But most of all, God, give us hearts full  
 of hope that we may watch, pray, and work for the  
 coming of your kingdom. Amen.



**+THE ADVENT GIVING – HOPE HOUSE**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (first together then in silent reflection)

Almighty God, we confess our sin to another and to you.  
 Give us grace to cast off the works of darkness  
 and put on the armor of light.  
 Give us hearts to hope and hands to serve,  
 that on the day when Christ comes again in power to sit in judgment of all  
 peoples,  
 we may be ready—not distracted by the anxieties of this life,  
 but living out the law of love into life eternal;  
 through the one who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
 one God, now and forever, and to ages of ages. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**+A DOXOLOGY** (to the tune GLORIA)

To the God of hope we sing, To the Son let praises ring,  
 And the Holy Spirit praise, As this song of hope we raise:  
*Glo—ria in excelsis Deo! Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!*

**+THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**We Listen for the Word of God**

**PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING**

*(You are invited to say the concluding "amen" aloud.)*

**LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES**

**Jeremiah 33:14-16** *A branch will come from David.*  
 The Word of the Lord. / Thanks be to God



**1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 A prayer for faith and love.**

The Word of the Lord. / Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

“Arise, Shine!”

Daniel Moe

**Luke 21:25-36 Signs of the coming of the Son of Man**

The Word of the Lord. / Thanks be to God

SERMON

“Hope Against Hope”

**We Respond in Faith with Thanksgiving**

+ HYMN

“The One Who Comes Is Close at Hand”

REPTON

*(Please see announcements insert.)*

+ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (based on the Prologue to the Gospel of John)

**In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him nothing was made. What was made in him was life, and the life was the light of humankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not been able to overcome it.**

LIFE OF THE CHURCH, JOYS AND CONCERNS

OFFERTORY

“Savior of the Nations Come”

Nicolaus Vetter

+A DOXOLOGY

ADESTE FIDELES

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!**

**Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!**

**Glory to God, all glory in the highest!**

**O Come, let us adore him, O Come let us adore him,**

**O Come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER (see insert)

**We Go Out in Anticipation**

+ HYMN #2

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

+CHARGE & BENEDICTION

+CHORAL RESPONSE

+POSTLUDE

**STONE CHURCH WELCOMES YOU TO WORSHIP**

**December 1, 2024 ~ First Sunday of Advent ~ 10:30 a.m.**



*The purpose of Stone Church is to be an inviting, spiritual community of Christ, engaging in worship that inspires and challenges us to learn and grow as we reach out in caring and service, trusting in the love of God.*

**All the People, Ministers**

Stone Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 33, 8 South Park Row  
Clinton, New York 13323  
315-853-2933  
stonepres@stonepres.org

Scott Leonard, Commissioned Pastor  
G. Roberts Kolb, Director of Music  
Gerald G. Platz, Pastor Emeritus  
Janice LeFrois, Office Administrator  
Lee Kelso, Sexton

[www.stonepres.org](http://www.stonepres.org) ~ [www.facebook.com/stonepres](https://www.facebook.com/stonepres)  
[www.instagram.com/stonepresbyterian/](https://www.instagram.com/stonepresbyterian/)

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

#### +GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. / **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. / **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. /

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

... who forever sing to the glory of your name.

*(Singing)* CRANHAM ("In the Bleak Midwinter")

**Holy, holy, holy God of pow'r and might  
Heav'n and earth your glory show forth day and night.  
We sing loud "Hosannas," the praise that he is due,  
As he brings salvation, our hope to renew.**

...And so we announce to the world the good news of our faith as we sing together:

*(Singing)*

**Crucified with robbers on a cross to die;  
In the tomb for three days, lifeless he did lie.  
By God's loving power raised new life to gain.  
We await with hope his coming once again.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional Version, *Presbyterian Hymnal*, p. 16)

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION, COMMUNION & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*(Please come forward by the center aisle to receive and partake the bread and individual cups, then return to your seat by the side aisles.)*

ADVENT

9

## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL LM with refrain

Latin, c. 12th century

Stanzas 1-2 trans. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1854

Stanza 3 trans. Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916

Adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1854

Accomp. John Weaver, 1988



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
2. O come, Thou Day - spring, come and cheer Our spir - its  
3. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All peo - ples



cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
by Thine ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of  
in one heart and mind; Bid - en - vy, strife, and dis - cord



here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
cease; Fill the whole world with heav - en's peace.



Music: Accompaniment © 1990 John Weaver. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



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



ADVENT

# The One Who Comes Is Close at Hand

REPTON 8.6.8.8.6.6

Dennis Dewey, 2009

C. Hubert H. Parry, 1888



1. The One who comes is close at hand; The  
2. Lift up your hearts in thanks and praise; Sal -  
3. The hoped for One now comes at last To



day is draw - ing near! A - rise in hope to  
va - tion is at hand! This branch that springs from  
heal and save and judge. Our Hope and Help is



meet the Lord, To greet God's own in - car - nate Word; Now  
Da - vid's line Brings hope whose source is love Di - vine; He  
draw - ing near To van - quish sor - row, pain and fear, The



shed your grief and care; This light dis - pels de - spair!  
comes in right - eous - ness, The low - li - est to bless!  
morn - ing dawn - ing bright, The ev - er - last - ing light!

ADVENT

# 2 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Charles Wesley, 1744

HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7 D

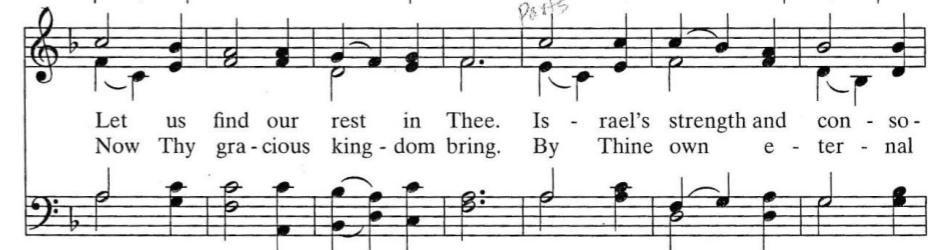
Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831



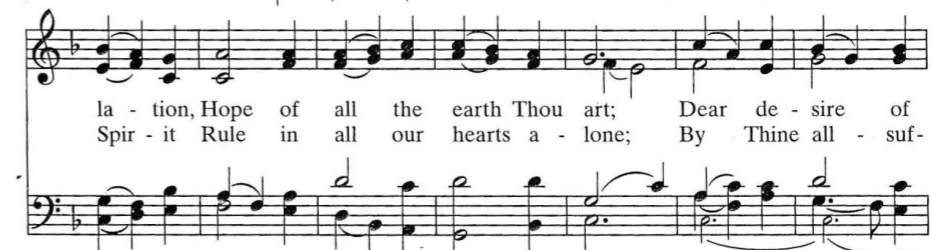
1. Come, Thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy  
2. Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child and



peo - ple free; From our fears and sins re - lease us;  
yet a King, Born to reign in us for - ev - er,



Let us find our rest in Thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so -  
Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By Thine own e - ter - nal



la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art; Dear de - sire of  
Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone; By Thine all - suf -



ev - ery na - tion, Joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

Alternate tune: STUTTART, 1