

Sunday 11 December

Third Sunday of Advent

Processional Hymn

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, 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! ...

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! ...

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! ...

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.*

Collect

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 35. 1 – 10 (OT p. 673)*

Psalm 146

The Lord shall reign for ever
The Lord shall reign for ever

Praise the Lord O my soul
while I live will I praise the Lord
as long as I have any being I will sing praises to my God
Put not your trust in princes nor in any human power for there is no help in them
The Lord shall reign for ever

Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help
Whose hope is in the Lord their God
Who made heaven and earth
The sea and all that is in them; who keeps his promise for ever
The Lord shall reign for ever

The Lord looses those that are bound
The Lord opens the eyes of the blind
The Lord shall reign for ever
Your God O Zion throughout all generations
The Lord shall reign for ever

New Testament Reading *James 5. 7 – 10 (NT p. 228)*

Gradual Hymn

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here;
come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around;
he burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of Light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place,
he comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace.
No work too hard for him, in faith receive from him;
be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

Words and Music: David J. Evans © 1986 Kingway's Thankyou Music

Gospel Reading *Matthew 11. 2 – 11 (NT p. 10)*

Offertory Hymn

Lord, the light of your love is shining
in the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth you now bring us,
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your Word Lord, and let there be light.*

Lord, I come to your awesome presence
from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness,
search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.

Words and Music: Graham Kendrick © 1987 Make Way Music,

*During Communion Ian Seddon plays Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 599
by J S Bach, and the choir sings This is the truth sent from above, by Vaughan
Williams.*

*Nun komm is a Lutheran hymn: now come, saviour of the Gentiles. Bach returned to
it numerous times.*

Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn.

Hark! a herald voice is calling:
'Christ is nigh!' it seems to say;
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!'

Startled at the solemn warning,
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heav'n;
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all to be forgiven.

So when next he comes with glory,
wrapping all the earth in fear,
may he then, as our defender,
on the clouds of heav'n appear.

Honour, glory, virtue, merit,
to the Father and the Son,
with the co-eternal Spirit,
while unending ages run.

Words: 6th century, trans Edward Caswall

Tune: MERTON

Organ Voluntary

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 661

J S Bach