

THE ADVENT WREATH

The Advent Season is the time for preparing for the coming of Christ and the celebration of the Incarnation of the Eternally-begotten Son of God, the second Person of the Holy Trinity. Believers remember how the Hebrews longed for the coming of the Messiah, and how their prophets foretold the birth of Christ. Our anticipation of Christmas is coupled with our anticipation of the Second Advent of Christ, when He Who is Blessed Hope will come again. The beauty and symbolism of the Advent Wreath reminds Christians to “prepare the way of the Lord.”

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ The Prophets’ Candle, the first purple candle, which represents Christ’s royalty and the sinner’s repentance, is lighted. The coming of Christ was indeed foretold by the prophets of the Old Testament hundreds of years before the Incarnation of Christ.

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ The Bethlehem Candle, the second candle, is lighted pointing to the Messiah being born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem as foretold by the prophet, Micah.

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ The Shepherds’ Candle, the third candle, is lighted to remind us that the birth of the Messiah was announced to humble shepherds, and that we, straying sheep, must go to Him, believe in Him and tell to others the Good News of salvation.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ The Angels’ Candle, lighted as the Festival of the Incarnation nears, reminds us of the angelic announcement and calls us to focus on Christ’s finished work on the cross and to anticipate His second coming.

CHRISTMAS EVE ~ The Christ Candle, the white one in the center of the wreath, proclaims the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, Who gives the Light of Salvation to those who walked in sin’s darkness. It is lighted on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

NOVEMBER 27, 2022

MORNING WORSHIP

THE SILENT MEDITATION UPON ENTERING THE SANCTUARY

*I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it,
but because by it I see everything else.*

—C. S. LEWIS

*Do you mortify? Do you make it your daily work? Be always at it whilst you live;
cease not a day from this work; be killing sin or it will be killing you.*

—JOHN OWEN



APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

The Christian Greeting and Call to Preparation

9:55 a.m.

The Prelude

Of the Father's Love Begotten
Derrick Muraya, oboe

arr. Wilcox/Mathai

*This is He Whom seers and sages sang of old with one accord,
Whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the long-expected; let creation praise its Lord evermore and evermore.*

— Aurelius Clemens Prudentius; Translation by John M. Neale

The Striking of the Hour

Minister: I was glad when they said to me, "let us go to the house of the Lord!"

People: Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

Minister: Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!

People: For my brothers and companions' sake I will say "Peace be within you!"

Minister: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,

People: I will seek your good.

† The Hymn

Joy to the World

(see page 7)

† The Prayer of Invocation

† The Lord's Prayer

Our Father Which art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in 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, for ever. Amen.

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Corporate Prayer of Confession

Lord Christ, we confess our willingness to be loved but also our reluctance to love.

We confess our readiness to accept your forgiving love but also our refusal to

forgive. We confess our eagerness to grasp your offer of redeeming love but also our resistance to follow You without question. In this Advent time, forgive us our failure

to respond as we should. Come to us anew, and by Your grace, assist us to receive

You with joy, as the shepherds; with gratitude, as Simeon; with obedience, as Mary;

with love, as You have loved us. Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

The Personal Prayer of Confession

The Assurance of God's Pardon

Comfort, comfort My people, says your God. Your sins are pardoned. The penalty is paid. Thanks be to God.

† The Hymn *Comfort, Comfort Ye, My People* (see page 8)

The Offering of His Tithes and Our Gifts Beyond the Tithe

HEARING GOD'S VOICE

The Anthem *There Shall a Star Come Out of Jacob* Mendelssohn
based on Numbers 24:17-19

There shall a star come out of Jacob, And a scepter shall rise out of Israel;
With might destroying princes and cities! As bright the star of morning gleams,
So Jesus sheddeth glorious beams of light and consolation.
Thy Word, O Lord, radiance darting, truth imparting, gives salvation;
Thine be praise and adoration!

† The Reading of God's Word Romans 13:11-14

11 Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. 12 The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. 13 Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field.

**The grass withers and the flowers fade,
but the Word of our God shall stand forever. Amen.**

*Children age four through kindergarten may leave to attend Children's Church.
They may be picked up in Room E-100 (Pre-K4) and Room E-105 (Kindergarten) after the service.*

The Sermon

WHO KNOWS WHEN THE SUNRISE WILL BE

Mr. Cooper

Romans 13:11-14

—

A sermon outline may be found on page 10.

The Closing Prayer

BELIEVING GOD’S PROMISES

The Sacrament of Baptism

The Words of Instruction and Exhortation

✠ The Hymn

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

(see page 9)

✠ The Introduction of the Covenant Family

RUSH HARRISS VAN HOOSER

Parents: Kristen and William Van Hooser, Jr.

Sibling: Will Van Hooser III

Assisting: Teaching Elder Wilson Van Hooser (uncle)

Ruling Elder/Shepherd Stephen Morris

✠ The Confession of Our Faith

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Biblical Promise

The Covenant Vows

1. Do you acknowledge Rush's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises on his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate Rush to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Vow of the Congregation

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting these parents in the Christian nurture of Rush?

The Baptism

The Baptismal Benediction

The Covenant Prayer

FOLLOWING GOD'S SPIRIT

† The Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The Benediction

The Threefold Amen (*sung by all*):

The Postlude

Paean on 'Of the Father's Love Begotten'

John Earnest Cook


*Sing, ye heights of Heav'n His praises; angels and archangels, sing!
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful, let your joyous anthem ring,
Ev'ry tongue His Name confessing, countless voices answering, Evermore and evermore!*

- Aurelius Clemens Prudentius; Translation by John M. Neale

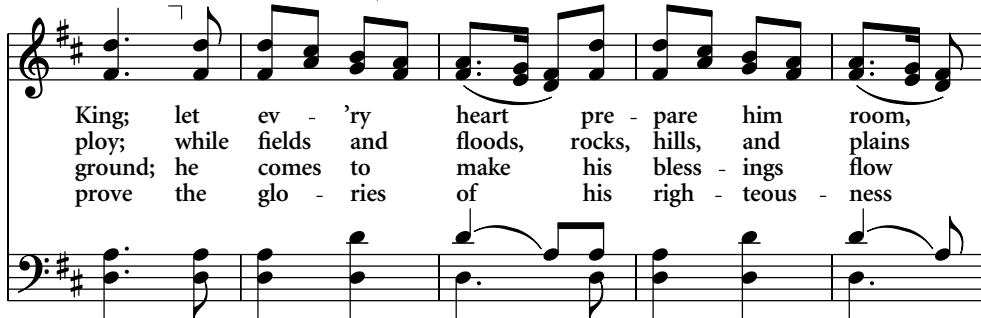


Following the service, the congregation is encouraged to greet the Van Hoosers at the front of Trinity Hall. Join them in their excitement, thanksgiving and anticipation of God's faithfulness to His covenant promises. Please use this time to assure them that you will indeed be there for them in prayer, with encouragement, as a source of refuge and partnership, as well as an aid in instructing Rush in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

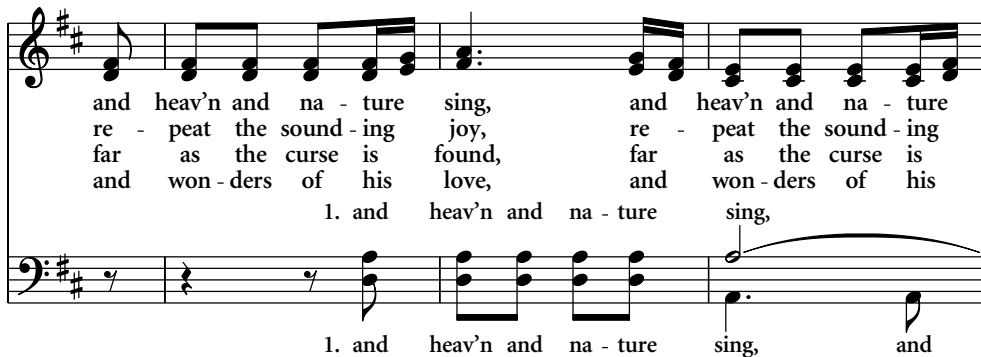
Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come



1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her
 2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - ior reigns: let men their songs em -
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions



King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him room,
 play; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

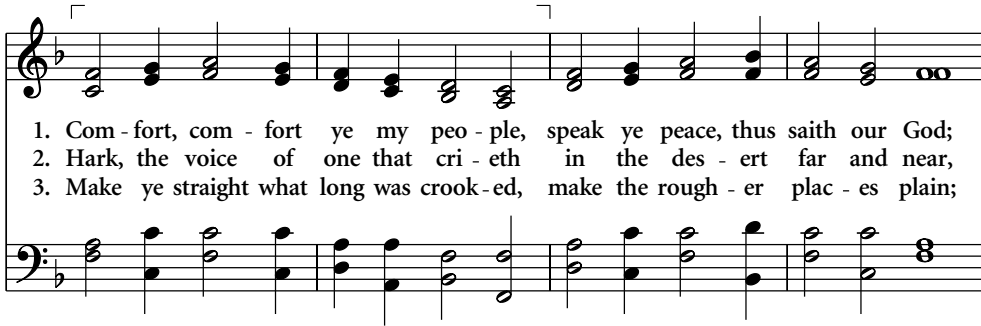


and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far - as the curse is found, far - as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 1. and heav'n and na - ture sing,

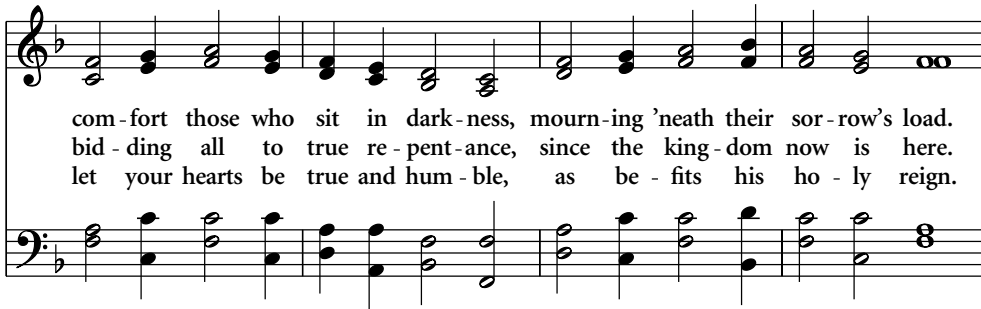


sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.
 heav'n and na - ture sing,

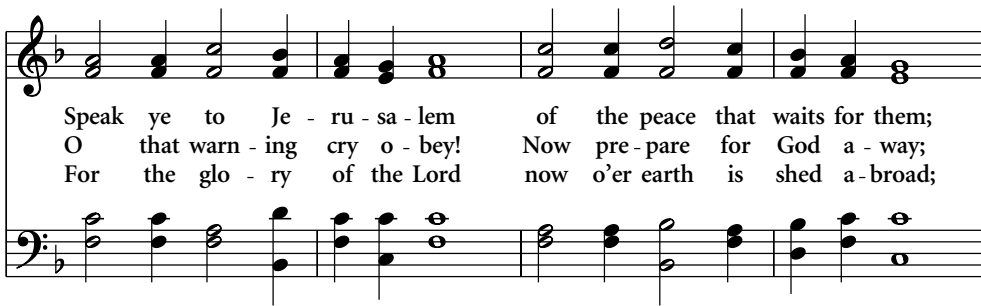
Comfort, Comfort Ye My People



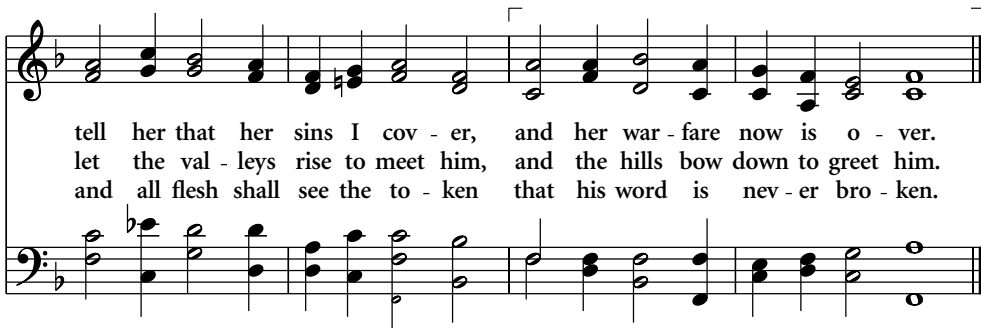
1. Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
2. Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert far and near,
3. Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er plac - es plain;



com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, mourn - ing 'neath their sor - row's load.
bid - ding all to true re - pent - ance, since the king - dom now is here.
let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits his ho - ly reign.

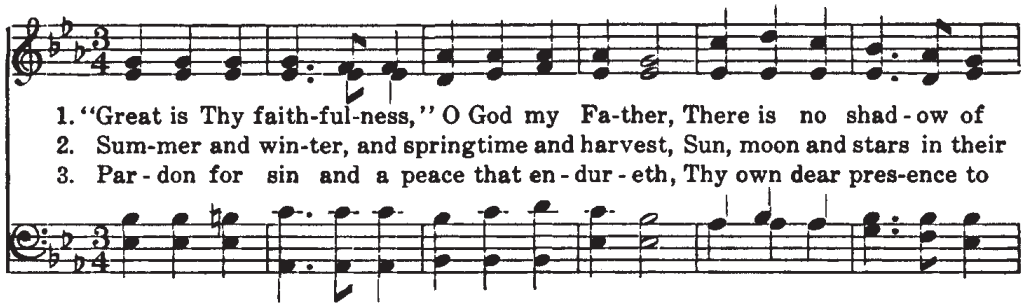


Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
O that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a - way;
For the glo - ry of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;

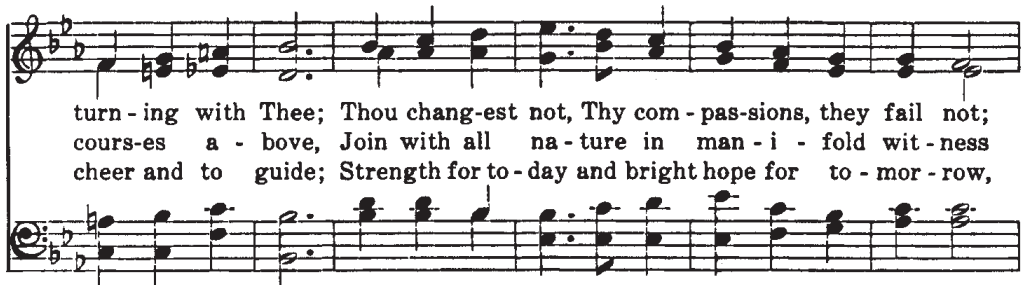


tell her that her sins I cov - er, and her war - fare now is o - ver.
let the val - leys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him.
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that his word is nev - er bro - ken.

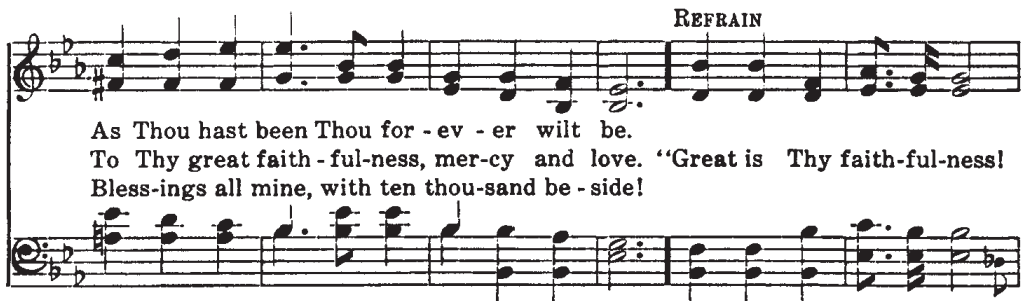
Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1. "Great is Thy faith-ful-ness," O God my Fa-ther, There is no shad-ow of
2. Sum-mer and win-ter, and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon and stars in their
3. Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, Thy own dear pres-ence to

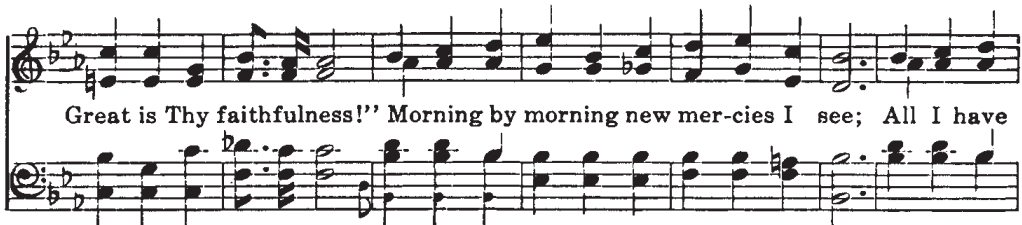


turn-ing with Thee; Thou chang-est not, Thy com-pas-sions, they fail not;
cours-es a - bove, Join with all na-ture in man-i - fold wit-ness
cheer and to guide; Strength for to-day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

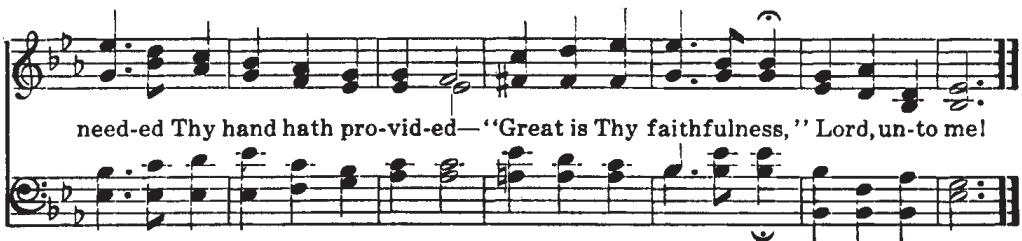


REFRAIN

As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
To Thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy and love. "Great is Thy faith-ful-ness!
Bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!



Great is Thy faithfulness!" Morning by morning new mer-cies I see; All I have



need-ed Thy hand hath pro-vid-ed—"Great is Thy faithfulness," Lord, un-to me!

WHO KNOWS WHEN THE SUNRISE WILL BE

Romans 13:11-14

I. ADVENT

II. TIME AFTER TIME

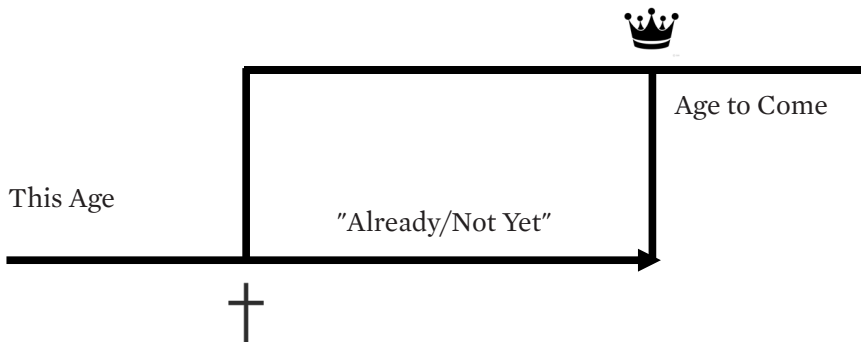
A. The Night Is Far Gone

B. The Day Is At Hand

III. WHAT NOT TO WEAR

A. Works of Darkness

B. The Armor of Light



*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to all who will come,
this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome
in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*



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