

(organ music) ♪ Come Thou long expected Jesus ♪ ♪ Born to set Thy people free ♪ ♪ From our fears and sins
release us ♪ ♪ Let us find our rest in Thee ♪ ♪ Israel's strength and consolation ♪ ♪ Hope of all the earth Thou
art ♪ ♪ Dear desire of every nation ♪ ♪ Joy of every longing heart ♪ ♪ Born Thy people to deliver ♪ ♪ Born a
child and yet a King ♪ ♪ Born to reign in us forever ♪ ♪ Now Thy gracious kingdom bring ♪ ♪ By Thine own
eternal Spirit ♪ ♪ Rule in all our hearts alone ♪ ♪ By Thine all sufficient merit ♪ ♪ Raise us to Thy glorious
throne ♪

- The Lord be with you.

- And also with you.

- Let us pray. Almighty God, Lord of all creation, and the Lord we would have reign in our hearts, you who give all things life, help us in these coming days and weeks to watch for your advent and to await your coming with a sense of joy and expectation. Make your love to grow and bloom anew in our hearts. Cause us to leave behind the darkness of the night and to be reborn in the spirit of the Christ so that the whole of our beings may shine with your light and may sing with your love and joy. Lord of grace, we pray this morning for all your children who have needs. For those whom we know and for those who we do not know. Help us to be sensitive to their pain and suffering. Help us to respond with caring and with the very best that we have within us. We ask that, even as you always remember your children, we too will be led to remember our sisters and brothers who are sad or lonely, who are hungry or cold, who are anxious or depressed, who are weary or brokenhearted so that we will reach out to alleviate their needs. Remind us if we should try to forget that we cannot truly love you unless we love those who seem to us to be the most unlovable. Our world cries aloud, oh God, for the fulfillment of your gift, once offered in the manger of Bethlehem. We pray that your peace may come and be known all across our world. In Northern Ireland, in South Africa, in Nicaragua and El Salvador, in Afghanistan and in Poland, and in the Middle East. May your holy star of justice and righteousness, of love and peace be seen once more. May it expose all places where there is want or need, oppression or violence. Holy Spirit we open our hearts to you this morning. Hear our secret prayers and nourish our cherished hopes and dreams for the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven. We are bold to make our prayer in the name of the Christ who emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, and being born in our likeness. Amen. Out of the richness with which we have been blessed, let us now return a portion of that bounty to God through our tithes and offerings. ("Worthy is the Lamb that was Slain" by Handel) ♪
Worthy is the Lamb ♪ ♪ That was slain ♪ ♪ And hath redeemed us to God ♪ ♪ By his blood ♪ ♪ To receive
power and riches and wisdom ♪ ♪ And strength and honor and glory and blessing ♪ ♪ Worthy is the Lamb
that was slain ♪ ♪ And hath redeemed us to God ♪ ♪ To God by his blood ♪ ♪ To receive power and riches and
wisdom ♪ ♪ And strength and honor and glory and blessing ♪ ♪ Blessing and honor glory and power ♪ ♪ Be
unto him ♪ ♪ Be unto him ♪ ♪ That sitteth upon the throne ♪ ♪ And unto the Lamb ♪ ♪ Blessing and honor
glory and power ♪ ♪ Be unto him ♪ ♪ Be unto him ♪ ♪ That sitteth upon the throne ♪ ♪ And unto the Lamb ♪ ♪
Forever and ever ♪ (continue singing in a round) ♪ Forever ♪ ♪ Blessing and honor glory and power ♪ ♪ Be

unto him ♪ ♪ Be unto him ♪ ♪ Blessing and honor glory and power ♪ ♪ Be unto him ♪ ♪ Be unto him ♪ ♪
 Blessing ♪ ♪ Honor ♪ ♪ Glory ♪ ♪ And Power be unto him ♪ ♪ That sitteth upon the throne ♪ ♪ That sitteth upon
 the throne ♪ ♪ And unto the lamb ♪ ♪ Forever and ever ♪ ♪ Forever and ever ♪ ♪ Forever and ever ♪ ♪ Forever
 and ever ♪ ♪ Forever and ever ♪ ♪ Forever and ever ♪ ♪ Forever and ever ♪ ♪ Forever and ever ♪ ♪ Hallelujah ♪
 ♪ Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪ ♪
 Hallelujah ♪ ♪ For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪ ♪
 For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪ (continue singing in round) ♪ For the Lord God
 omnipotent reigneth ♪ ♪ Hallelujah ♪ ♪ The kingdom of this world ♪ ♪ Is become the kingdom of our Lord ♪ ♪
 And of His Christ and of His Christ ♪ ♪ And He shall reign for ever and ever ♪ ♪ And He shall reign for ever and
 ever ♪ ♪ And He shall reign for ever and ever ♪ ♪ And He shall reign for ever and ever ♪ ♪ King of Kings ♪ ♪
 Forever and ever ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪ ♪ And Lord of Lords ♪ ♪ Forever and ever ♪ ♪ Hallelujah
 Hallelujah ♪ ♪ King of Kings ♪ ♪ Forever and ever ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪ ♪ And Lord of Lords ♪ ♪ Forever
 and ever ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪ ♪ King of kings ♪ ♪ Forever and ever ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪ ♪ And
 Lord of Lords ♪ ♪ King of Kings and Lord of Lords ♪ ♪ And he shall reign forever and ever ♪ ♪ And he shall
 reign forever and ever ♪ ♪ King of Kings ♪ ♪ Forever and ever ♪ ♪ And Lord of Lords ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪
 ♪ And he shall reign forever and ever ♪ ♪ King of Kings ♪ ♪ And Lord of Lords ♪ ♪ King of Kings ♪ ♪ And Lord of
 Lords ♪ ♪ And he shall reign forever and ever ♪ ♪ Forever and ever ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah
 Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah ♪ ("Doxology") ♪ Praise God from whom all blessings flow
 ♪ ♪ Praise Him all creatures here below ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Praise Him above ye heavenly host ♪ ♪
 Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Hallelujah ♪ ♪ Amen
 ♪

- The Lord be with you.

- And also with you.

- Lift up your hearts.

- Give thanks to the Lord.

- Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

- It is right to give our thanks and praise.

- Almighty God, in this season when we celebrate the coming of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks and praise. You created all things and called them good. You made us in your own image. Even though we rebelled against your love, you did not desert us. You delivered us from captivity and made covenant to be our sovereign God. You spoke to us through prophets who looked for that day when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, when nations shall not lift up sword against nation, and neither shall they learn war anymore. Therefore with the prophets and all who have looked for a better age to come, with your people in all ages and the whole company of heaven, we

join the song of unending praise, saying Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Holy is your name and blessed is your son, Jesus Christ, who you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations. You scatter the proud and the imagination of their hearts and have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation. You put down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree. You fill the hungry with good things, and the rich you send empty away. Your own Son came among us as a servant to be Emmanuel, your presence with us. He humbled himself in obedience to your will and freely accepted death on a cross. On the night he offered himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat. "This is my body which is given for you. "Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples and said, "Drink from this, all of you, for this is my blood "of the new covenant, poured out for you "and for many for the forgiveness of sins. "Do this, as often as you drink it, "in remembrance of me." By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from captivity to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant. Therefore in remembrance of all your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we ask you to accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, which we offer in union with Christ's sacrifice for us, as a living and holy surrender of ourselves. Send the power of your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that in the breaking of this bread and the drinking of this wine, we may know the presence of the living Christ. Be one body in him, cleansed by his blood, faithfully serve him in the world, and look forward to that day foretold by prophets and apostles when the one who came in humility, and who comes today in word and spirit, shall come in final victory. Through him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen. 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen. (organ music) Let us pray. Lord, we give thanks for these holy mysteries which bring to us, here on earth, a share in the life to come through Christ our Lord. Amen. ("O Come O Come Emmanuel") ♪ 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 Wisdom from on high ♪ ♪ And order all things far and nigh ♪ ♪ To us the path of knowledge show ♪ ♪ And cause us in her ways to go ♪ ♪ Rejoice Rejoice Emmanuel ♪ ♪ Shall come to thee O Israel ♪ ♪ O come desire of nations bind ♪ ♪ In one the hearts of all mankind ♪ ♪ Bid envy strife and quarrels cease ♪ ♪ And be Thyself our King of peace ♪ ♪ 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 ♪

- And now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit now and forevermore. ♪ Amen ♪ ♪ Amen ♪ ♪ Amen ♪ ♪ Amen ♪ ♪ Amen ♪ ♪ Amen ♪ (organ music)