



WORSHIP

resources for worship

Warren Howell, Editor

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FAITHELEMENT

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December 22, 2019 - ADVENT 4A

Color: Blue or Purple

Scriptures: [Scripture linked to NRSV at Oremus Bible Browser]

[Isaiah 7:10-16](#) (The sign of Immanuel)

[Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19](#) (Plea to the Lord, the Shepherd of Israel: Restore!)

[Romans 1:1-7](#) (Paul's greeting to the church at Rome)

[Matthew 1:18-25](#) (The Birth of Jesus: "God with us")

Themes: Incarnation, Redemption/Salvation, Grace, Love (Advent Wreath)

FOCAL Faithelement PASSAGE: Isaiah 7:10-16

([Podcast](#) will be ready 2 weeks before date of use)

HYMN SUGGESTIONS

Hymn Suggestions link to Hymnary.org, a searchable resource with a wealth of information regarding writers, composers, alternate and associated texts and tunes, corresponding hymn numbers, and more. The tunes listed here are the ones most commonly associated with the texts.

[O Come, O Come, Emmanuel](#) (VENI EMMANUEL)

[O Little Town of Bethlehem](#) (ST. LOUIS)

[O Come, All Ye Faithful](#) (ADESTE FIDELES)

[Love Came Down at Christmas](#) (GARTAN)

[From Heaven Above to Earth I Come](#) (VOM HIMMEL HOCH)

[The Hands that First Held Mary's Child](#) (KINGSFOLD)

[Once in Royal David's City](#) (IRBY)

[What Child is This](#) (GREENSLEEVES)

Before/During Prayer/Lighting of Advent Wreath Candle

[Emmanuel, Emmanuel](#) (MCGEE)

Kindle a Flame (see below)

ANTHEMS

E = Easy, M = Moderate, MD = Moderately Difficult

Good Christians All, Rejoice - MD

IN DULCI JUBILO, Gilbert Martin, arr.
Hinshaw Music, HMC-561
SATB, Keyboard

Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light - M

J. S. Bach
E.C. Shirmer, 302 (and many other editions)
SATB, Organ

He Comes to Us as One Unknown - M

REPTON, John Ferguson, arr.
Augsburg Fortress, 08006566008
SATB, Organ

The Glory of the Father - M

Egil Hovland
Walton Music, W2973
SATB, a cappella

Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes - M

Hal Hopson
Harold Flammer, A 6009
SATB, Organ

Advent Alleluia - E

Pavel Tchesnokoff with *PICARDY*, French Carol
Keith Christopher, arr.
Hal Leonard Corp., 08747998
2-Part Mixed, Piano (also avail. in SATB, SAB)

A Waiting Carol - E

Helen Kemp
Choristers Guild, CGA-555
Unison, Piano

Child of My Heart - E

Trad. Scottish; Marty Haugen, arr.
GIA Publications, G-3804
Unison, keyboard, opt. C-instrument

ADVENT WREATH / CANDLELIGHTING

Week 3

(Matthew 1:21-23)

An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

O come, Immanuel, God-with-us.

Come Light. Come Love.

Shine in the shadows.

Brighten your world.

It is with LOVE that we light a candle,
because in love you came to us,
and in love, come to us still.
God with us: Emmanuel.

~ candle is lit ~

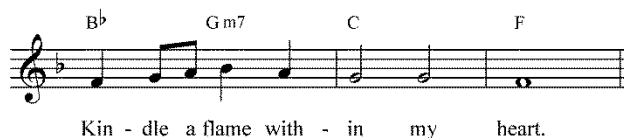
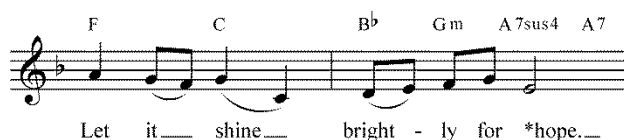
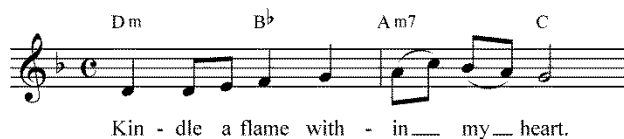
Sing:

Kindle a flame within my heart.

Let it shine brightly for love.

Come, Lord Jesus, come and ne'er depart.

Kindle a flame within my heart.



*peace, joy, love

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ADDITIONAL MATERIAL (Prayers, Poems, Quotes & Liturgies)

*Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Make thee a bed, soft, undefiled
Within my heart, that it may be
A quiet chamber kept for thee.*

-- MARTIN LUTHER (1483-1546)

CALL TO WORSHIP

O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!

-- PHILLIPS BROOKS (1835-1855)

COLLECTIVE PRAYER

O Promised One,
Give us patience
to wait for your coming,
Give us vision
to seek you already in our midst.
Give us courage
to recognize you in the stranger.
Give us compassion
to respond to your need.
Give us confidence
to accept your invitation to the table.
Give us joy
to share it.
Give us imagination
to hear angels' song.
Give us voice
to join it.

LITANY

Jesus, born a refugee,

O Come, Emmanuel.

Jesus, traveler on the road,

O Come, Emmanuel.

Jesus, friend of the outcast,

O Come, Emmanuel.

Jesus, friend of the poor,

O Come, Emmanuel.

Jesus, feeding the hungry,

O Come, Emmanuel.

Jesus, healing the sick,

O Come, Emmanuel.

Jesus, with the good news,

O Come, Emmanuel.

Jesus, hope of all the world,

O Come, Emmanuel:

"God with us."

(After David Adam, *The Rhythm of Life*)

CONFESSION

Your signs are around us,
you invite us to open our eyes;

**we come up with
explanations and hesitations.**

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You bring to our fears
the light of your love and joy;

**we wait and worry
and nurse our insecurities.**

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You came as a vulnerable child
to a desperate family once upon a time
**we read about the vulnerable children
of desperate families all the time.**

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

BEFORE SCRIPTURE

In the still of the night, the silence was broken by the
sound of a baby's cry and all creation stooped to
listen. Open our ears, Lord, to your word. Amen.

BENEDICTION

May the Lord of love
the God of heaven,
now on earth abiding,
give light to our opening eyes,
hope to our longing hearts,
courage to our uncertain steps,
and blessing now and forevermore. Amen.