

*An Open & Affirming, A2A-Accessible to All
Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

14 December 2025 – 10:30 AM
Third Sunday of Advent

***indicates the congregation is invited to stand.
Please feel free to remain seated if you prefer.**

PRELUDE

“Es ist Ros’ entsprungen”
Vlada Volkova-Moran, organist

Johannes Brahms

WELCOME

the Rev. David Pattee, pastor

INTROIT 121 (seated)

TAULE

**All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,
and open furrows, the sowing of our God.
All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty;
it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.**

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE

Grant Erickson & Roger Erickson

*HYMN 122 [hymn sheet]

Come, O Long-Expected Jesus

STUTTGART

*PRAYER IN THE SPIRIT OF JESUS

**Earth-Maker, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Source of all that is and all that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all, Loving God in whom is Heaven:
May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe.
May your Heavenly will be done by all creatures great and small.
And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need this day, feed us. For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us.
Through times of temptation, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love.**

*GLORIA

**Glo---ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De-o,
Glo----ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De-o.**

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

*GREETING OF PEACE

SCRIPTURE

James 5:7-10

Susie Land

Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

ANTHEM

*“And the Glory of the Lord” from *Messiah**
CHANCEL CHOIR • Cheryl Anderson, director

G. F. Handel

GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

SERMON

Are you the one?

Pastor Dave

RESPONSE

**O come, O Day-spring, come and cheer our spirits by your advent here;
Love stir within the womb of night, and death's own shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

OFFERTORY

Invitation
Offertory Music

www.PeaceUnited.org/Giving
Still, Still, Still



arr, Norman Luboff

*COVENANT

**We covenant with God and with each other:
to walk together in all God's ways as the Holy is revealed to us;
to give ourselves freely and without reserve to Jesus' ministry in this church;
to celebrate through worship God's amazing gifts of unity and diversity;
to take up Christ's mission around the world, striving for justice and peace;
to care for the earth and all her creatures, reconciling ourselves to them in love;
for God gives immeasurable grace into all life and every life.**

*HYMN 118 [hymn sheet] *Of the Parent's Heart Begotten* [stanzas 1-3] DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Good Christian Men, Rejoice (IN DULCI JUBILO)

Wilbur Held

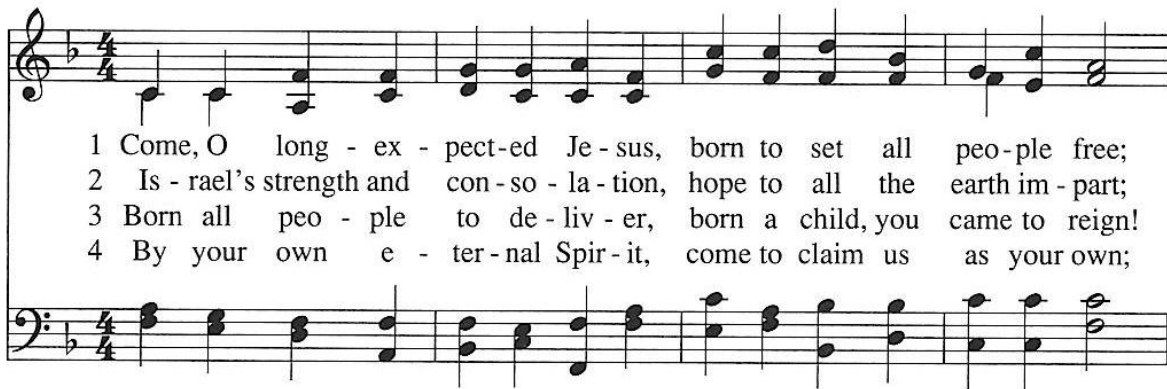
Sing-along *Messiah*, Tuesday 16 December, 7pm, in the sanctuary. Join in the chorus singing this beloved work with our much-admired Chancel Choir and chamber orchestra, under the direction of Cheryl Anderson, with guest conductors. This is a fundraising event supporting the church's ministries in the arts. You may purchase tickets in advance at www.PeaceUnited.org, \$30 general, \$25 for seniors and students, or at the door.

Caroling Party, Friday 19 December, beginning at 4pm in the Fellowship Hall. Fun for the whole family with spiced cider, seasonal treats, and singing led by Ingrid Parker and Luke Shepherd. Come for the party at 4pm, and continue as you are able, caroling at the homes of some of our older members and friends.

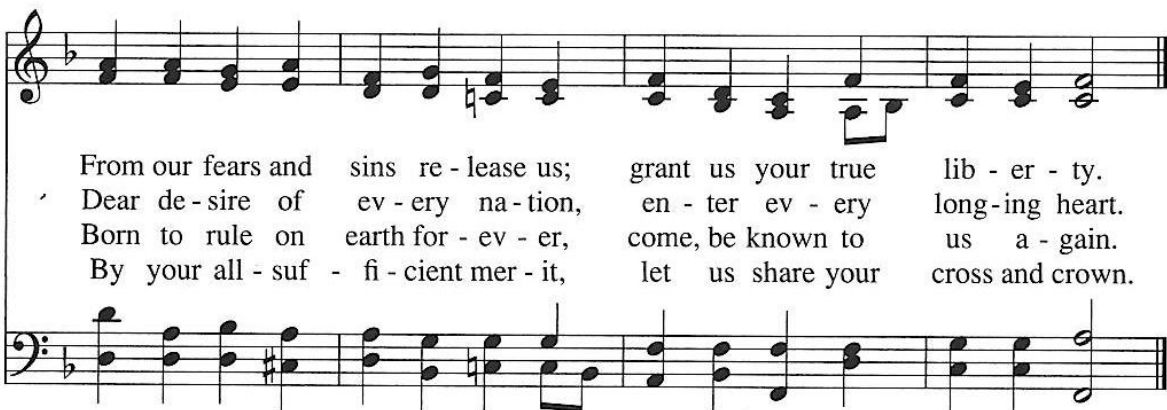
Come, O Long-Expected Jesus

122

Charles Wesley, 1744; alt.



1 Come, O long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set all peo-ple free;
 2 Is - rael's strength and con-so - la - tion, hope to all the earth im - part;
 3 Born all peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, you came to reign!
 4 By your own e - ter - nal Spir - it, come to claim us as your own;



From our fears and sins re - lease us; grant us your true lib - er - ty.
 Dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, en - ter ev - ery long - ing heart.
 Born to rule on earth for - ev - er, come, be known to us a - gain.
 By your all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, let us share your cross and crown.

Charles Wesley, the brother of John, was one of the students known as "Methodists" at Oxford University. He wrote hymns for every occasion. This is from his small collection Hymns for the Nativity.

Tune: STUTTGART 8.7.8.7.
 Melody attrib. to Christian F. Witt (1660-1716)
 from Psalmodia Sacra, Gotha, 1715
 Alternate tune: IN BABILONE

Of the Parent's Heart Begotten

Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348–413)

Transl. The New Century Hymnal, 1993

Col. 1:15–17; John 1:1–5, 14

1 Of the Par - ent's heart be - got - ten when the worlds were yet to be,
 2 By this Word was all cre - a - ted, by this Word were all things done:
 3 Bless - ed dawn - ing of sal - va - tion as the Word is breathed in grace

One there was with no be - gin - ning, One who is e - ter - nal - ly—
 Land and air and deep - est o - cean, har - mo - ny of three in one,
 In - to earth - ly flesh re - ceiv - ing— God in - car - nate tak - ing place;

Source and End - ing of all things that have been,
 And all grow - ing in the lu - - - mi - nance
 Now the light of God re - vealed

and all things that are to be, for - ev - er and for - ev - er.
 shed forth from the moon and sun, for - ev - er and for - ev - er.
 through the Child of hu - man face, for - ev - er and for - ev - er.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It features a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The piano part includes a variety of chords and melodic lines, with some passages featuring a more active bass line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines, with some words hyphenated across lines. The score concludes with a final chord in the piano part.