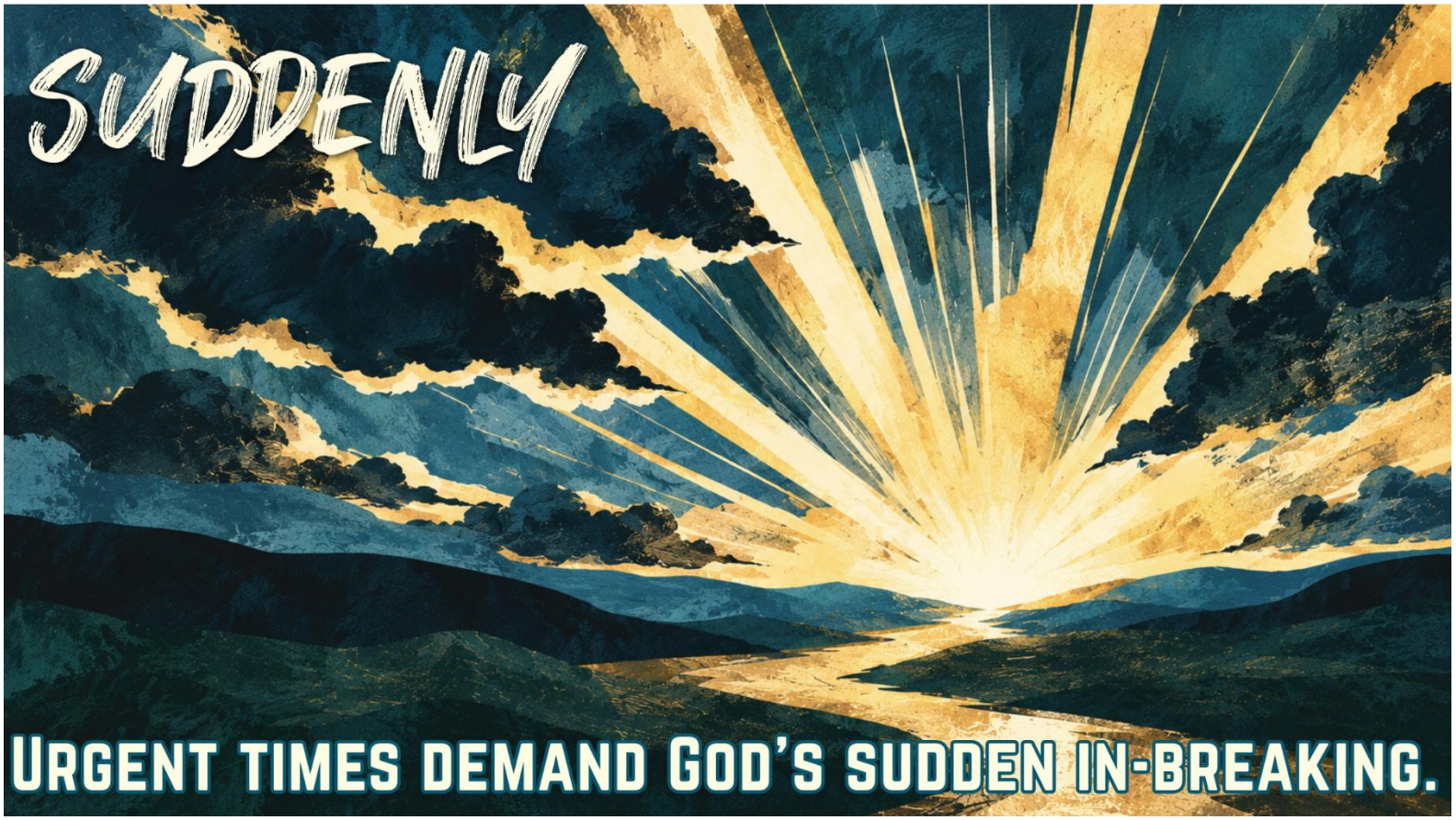


NOVEMBER 29, 2026

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

JOIN US ON THE CORNER OF FILLMORE & JACKSON
Click here to watch on our website
Click here to watch on YouTube

WELCOME

OUR VISION IS TO AMPLIFY A MESSAGE OF LOVE AND JUSTICE THROUGH A GROWING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FULLY ALIVE TO ITS CALLING — TRANSFORMING SAN FRANCISCO AND THE WORLD.

DEEPER CONNECTION, ROOTED IN COMMUNITY

Thank you for joining us in worship at Calvary. We recognize that our community and the world suffer from disconnection, division, and a loss of meaning. We seek to respond to those challenges by cultivating a spiritual home where people grow in faith, find belonging, and engage in Christ-centered transformation that reaches beyond our walls, out into the world.



We envision a church where people

- Seek to know God and be on the lookout for awe and wonder
- Speak and live the values God has given us
- Serve and enrich the community around us
- Invite others to walk with us as we follow Jesus

It matters that you are here. Our witness to the world is strengthened when we can build community across our differences and with the unique gifts each person offers. Worship, at its root, is participatory. Your voice, in prayer and song, joins with the voices of others, as an offering to God. "Liturgy"—the words we say together in worship—means "the work of the people." Thankful for the privilege of doing the work together, building deeper connections, rooted in community.

Rev. Marcella Auld Glass Rev. Joann H. Lee

Rev. Victor H. Floyd Michael Conley

For early and non-readers, icons are included in the left margin throughout the bulletin.



***The asterisk indicates rising in body or spirit.**

Assisted listening devices are available at the Front Desk, and **large print hymnals** are located in the Narthex (Sanctuary entry).



PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer boxes are located in the Narthex (Sanctuary entry) and at the Front Desk. The Deacons and Pastors honor confidentiality and pray for each request.

Calvary Deacons
Prayer, Essential Errands, Spiritual Support

Terry Milby, Deacon Co-Moderator

Jared Waterman, Deacon Co-Moderator

Rev. Victor Floyd, Minister of Spiritual Care

DAILY LECTIONARY
NOVEMBER 29—DECEMBER 5

Sunday: Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:[3b-6] 17-19; *Waiting and Watching*
Monday: Psalm 137:1-6; *In a Foreign Land*
Tuesday: Esther 1:1-9; *The Glory of a Foreign King*
Wednesday: Esther 1:10-22; *Vashti's Refusal*
Thursday: Esther 2:1-11; *Esther and Mordecai*
Friday: Esther 2:12-23; *Savvy Esther's Success*
Saturday: Esther 3:1-15; *The Anger of Haman*

If you could use a new study Bible, we have some for sale. This is the updated version of the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) that we have in the pews. Please inquire at the Front Desk.

Notice of Filming: Most of Calvary's worship services are livestreamed on our YouTube channel and Facebook page. While most of the footage will feature worship leaders, video of the congregation may also appear. If you have concerns, please contact the church office.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY EBLAST!

Are you receiving Calvary's weekly worship and events e-newsletter? Every Friday afternoon, our email reaches nearly 1,300 inboxes…is yours one of them? Each week, we offer members and friends a preview of what's ahead in worship, upcoming events, and ways to serve. We also include stories about ways Calvary is making a difference within our walls, around the city, and beyond. It's an easy way to stay connected, even in busy weeks. **SUBSCRIBE AT CALPRES.ORG.** Questions? Contact Rachel Wolf at rachelwolf@calpres.org.

November 29, 2026: First Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE "Introit on 'Veni Emmanuel' " (1943) — Pietro Yon (1886–1943)
"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (1977) — Raymond H. Haan (b. 1938)

INTROIT "Advent Introit" — David W. Music

Christ is coming through the night, Christ, the true, the only light.
Now the darkness turns to dawn, shadows flee, the night is gone.
Alleluia! Now sing glory to the coming King.

Christ is coming, as of old prophet voices have foretold.
Bethlehem awaits the sign of the branch from Jesse's line.
Alleluia! Now we sing glory to the coming King.

Christ is coming, as he came long ago in Bethlehem.
Let our hearts a room prepare, let the Lord find welcome there.
Alleluia! Now we sing glory to the coming King.

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We light this candle, the candle of hope, anticipating that Christ will break into our lives with sudden hope.

The prophet Isaiah writes, "When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down and the mountains quaked at your presence."

The season of Advent is a time of preparation for Christ's coming, but "preparation" often assumes that we know what is coming.

How do we prepare for the unexpected? A sudden arrival? An unfamiliar guest?

Even as we prepare for you, O Christ, please prepare us for the unplanned. Prepare our spirits to be suddenly overwhelmed, startled, surprised, and awed. Do not let us be so organized for your arrival that we neglect to receive your mystery.

***HYMN 88** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" *(verses 1–4)* — VENI EMMANUEL

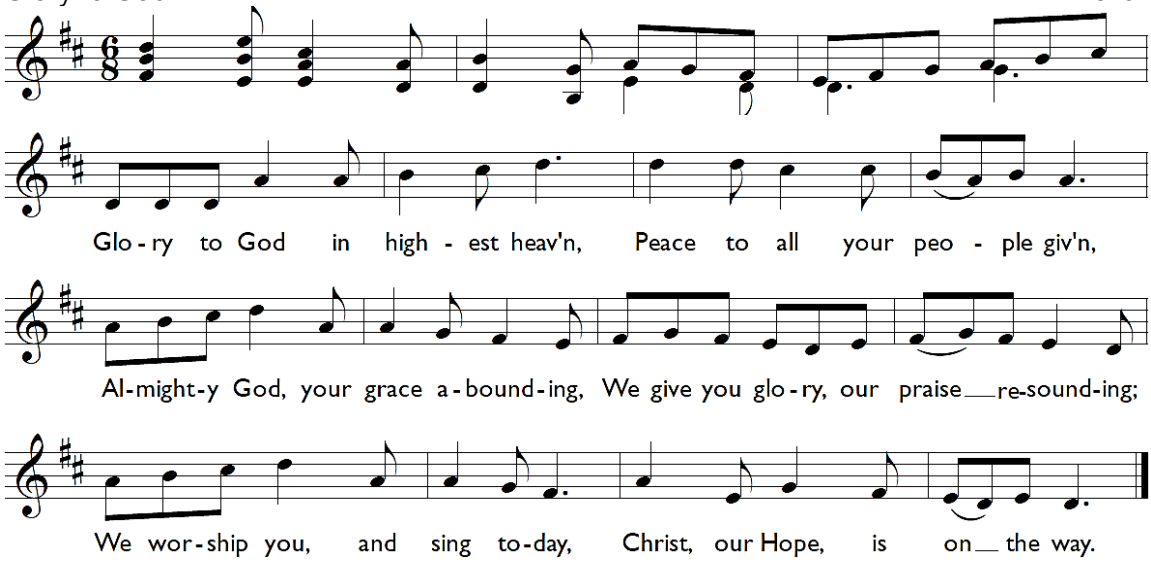
***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Faithful God, we confess that we have grown drowsy. We have stopped watching for you. We fill the dark with noise and distraction and call it rest. Our failures and shortcomings have blown us around like the wind. Forgive us. Wake us up. Take us in your hands again and make us new. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***GLORIA** "Glory to God" — Richard Shephard



***THE PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!
The congregation is invited to share a sign of peace.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Holy God, heaven and earth will pass away, but your words will not pass away.
Open our ears in this season of waiting, and let your Word keep us awake,
knowing that your in-breaking will come suddenly. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE Mark 13:24–37 *(page 826)*
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MEDITATION

Following the Children's Meditation, children aged infant to 5th grade are invited to walk with their parents down to the Lower Level Sunday Studio and Childcare space. Children may also remain in worship with their families.

ANTHEM "Zion hört die Wächter singen" from Cantata 140 "Sleepers, Wake!" J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

Zion hears the watchmen sing,
her heart leaps for joy within her,
she wakens and hastily arises.
Her glorious beloved comes from heaven,
strong in mercy, powerful in truth,
her light becomes bright, her star rises.
Now come, precious crown,
Lord Jesus, the Son of God!
Hosannah!
We all follow to the hall of joy
and hold the evening meal together.

SERMON "Urgent times demand God's sudden in-breaking."

Following the sermon, Youth (grades 6th–12th) may meet in the 2nd floor lounge area, called The S.P.O.T. (Spiritual, Passionate, Open-minded, Transformative).

***HYMN 83** "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" STUTTGART

OFFERING

The ushers will be walking down the aisles with offering plates if you'd like to pass your contribution toward either aisle as they walk by. You may also place your offering in the boxes at the back of the sanctuary.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come" Paul Manz (1919–2009)

Peace be to you and grace from him
Who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood
That we might saved be.

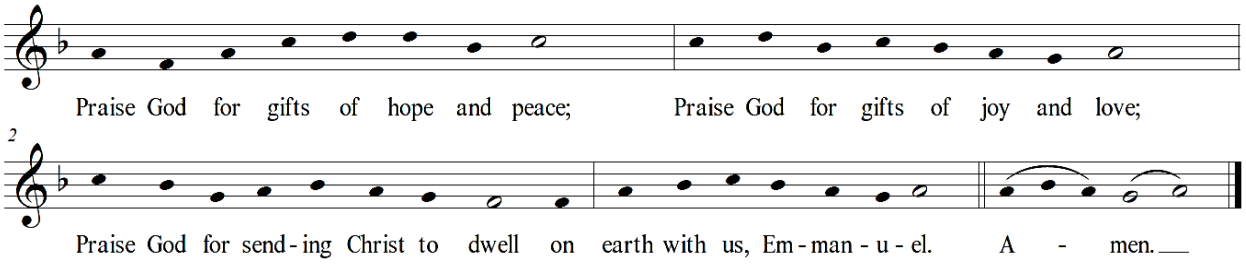
Sing holy, holy to our Lord,
The Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come;
Sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon,
For Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
And night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
For Christ will be their All!

(Revelation 22, adapt. Ruth Manz)

***DOXOLOGY** CREATOR OF THE STARS



***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

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 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, forever. Amen.

***Hymn 800** "Sometimes a Light Surprises" — Salley Gardens

***Benediction**

***Choral Blessing** "Walk in the Hope of Jesus" — Susan & Lee Dengler

Walk in the hope of Jesus, God's promised Son will come to earth.
Watch for the Bright and Morning Star. Behold redemption's birth.
Walk in hope. Amen.

Postlude "20 Preludes and Postludes, Opus 78, No. 18 - *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme*" (1912) Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)

Leading Worship This Morning

Kei Fujimura, Ed & Simon Kraay	*Advent Candle Lighters*
Rev. Joann H. Lee	*Preaching*
Rev. Marcella Auld Glass	*Assisting*
Alison Faison	*Children's Meditation*
Michael Conley	*Conductor*
John Walko	*Organist/Pianist*
Natalie Ter Agapova	*Soloist*
Victoria Belova	*Soloist*
Daniel Brakefield	*Soloist*
Gabrielle Goozée-Nichols	*Soloist*
Joachim Luis	*Soloist*
Jefferson Packer	*Soloist*
Ben Pattison	*Soloist*
Calvary Chancel Choir	

Pastor Victor is on vacation, returning December 2.

Next Week in Worship: December 6 at 10am
Second Sunday of Advent

Rev. Marcella Auld Glass: *Tender*

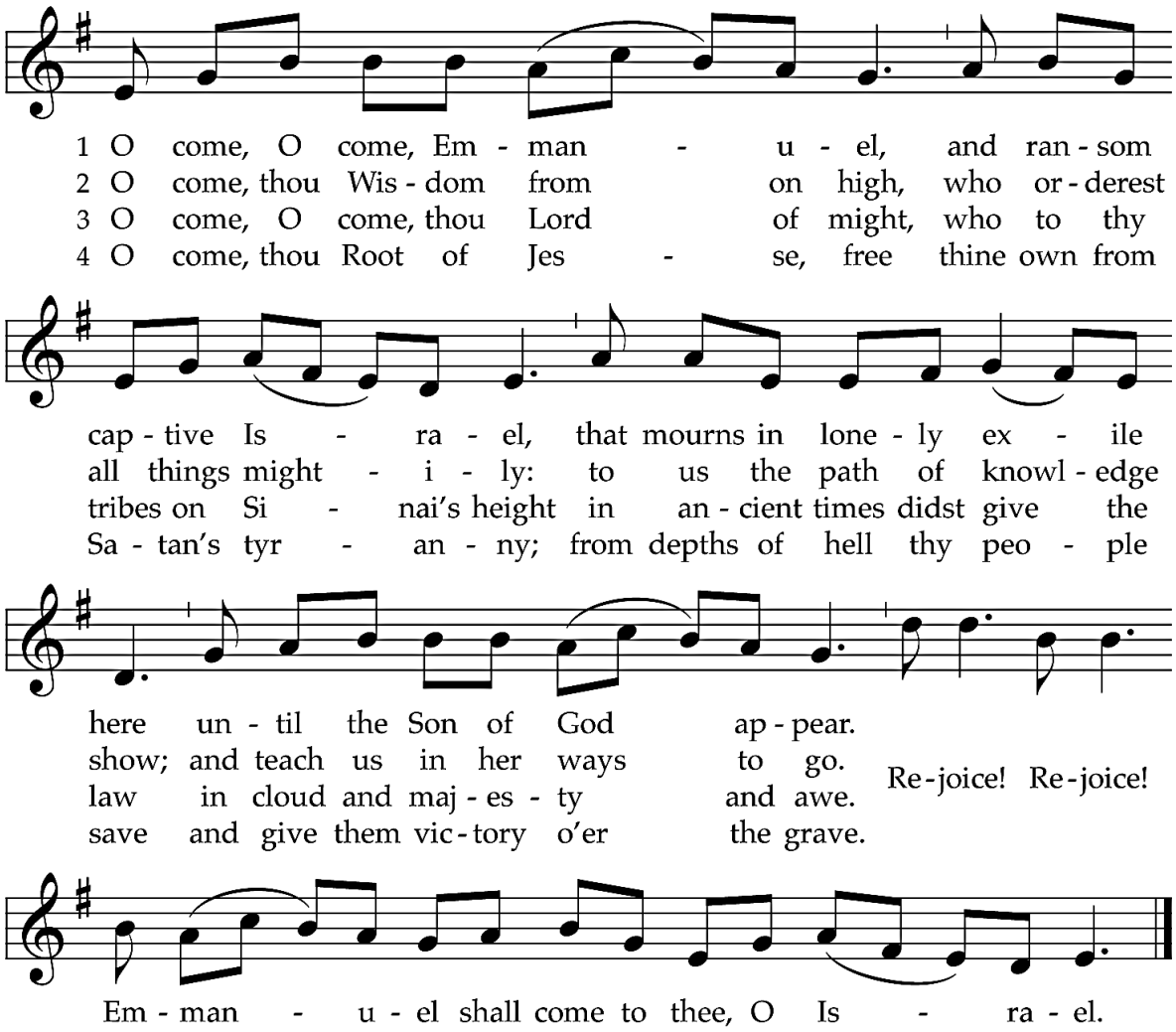
Isaiah 40:1–11; Mark 1:1–8 The prophet Isaiah preaches a message of "comfort, o comfort my people" to people who knew exile and loss. What is the comfort you need in this season of Advent? What is the comfort you need in this mad dash to Christmas? This week's Advent theme is Tender. In a harsh world, how can we keep tender hearts ready to welcome the Messiah?

Congregational Meeting: December 6

Following worship on December 6, Calvary members are requested to remain in the Sanctuary for a brief congregational meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to elect Elders, Deacons, Foundation Trustees, and Nominating Committee members for 2027 and to approve terms of call for pastors Marcella Glass and Joann Lee.

Celebrating Rev. Victor H. Floyd

As shared earlier this month, Pastor Victor will conclude his ministry at Calvary on Sunday, December 13. He will preach on his last Sunday and, following worship, we will celebrate and give thanks for his 13 years of dedicated ministry and service with a reception in Calvin Hall. In addition to joining us for cake, if you wish to express your appreciation in a tangible way, we encourage you to make a financial contribution at calpres.org/donate (select "Rev. Floyd Gift" in the dropdown menu) or via check noting "Rev. Floyd Gift". If mailing a check, please send this week. –Personnel Mission Team



5 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! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

6 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.

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:

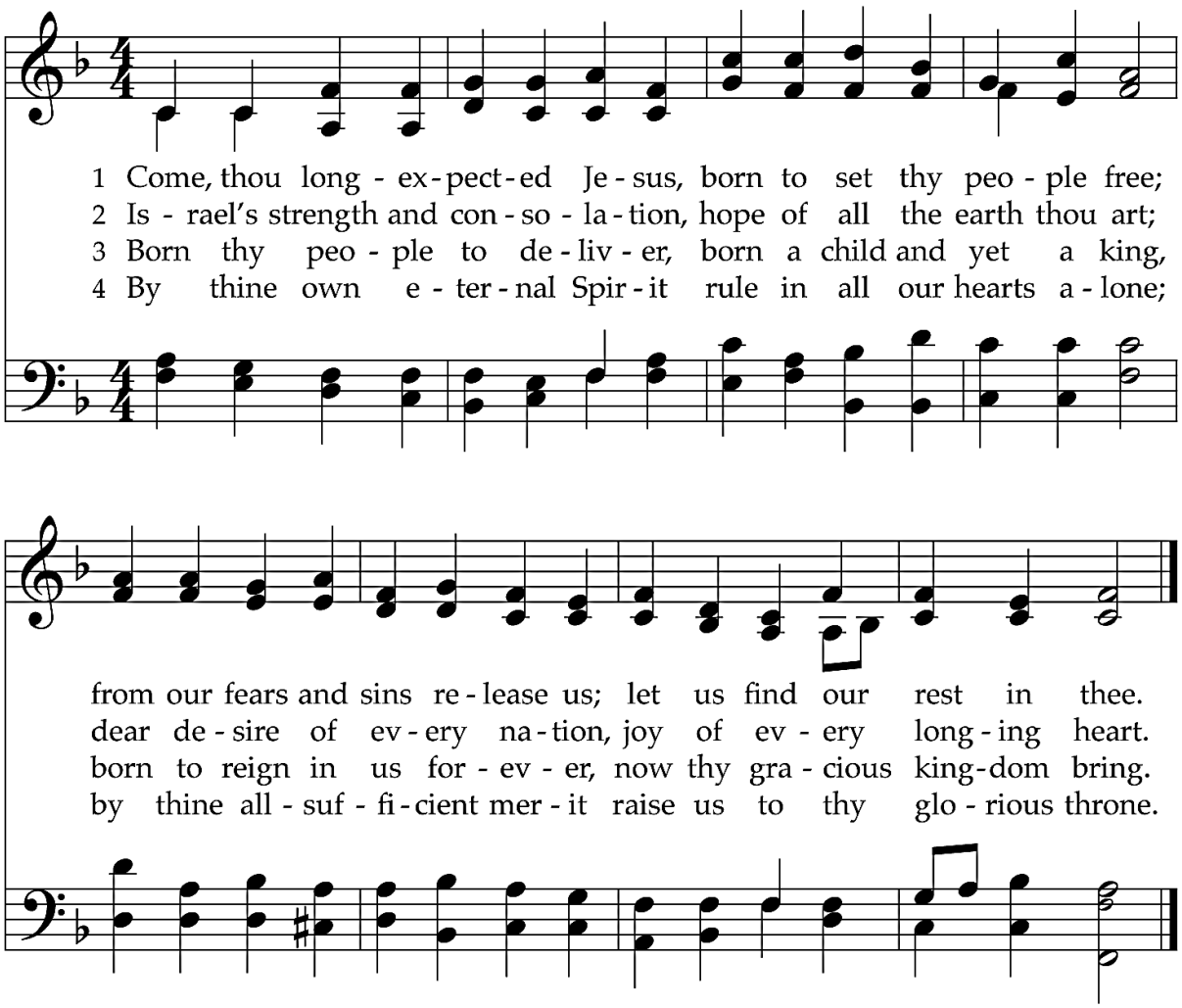
Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)
Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3)
Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4)
Dec. 20: O Key of David (5)
Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)
Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7)
Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1)

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

TEXT: Latin prose, pre-9th cent.; trans. composite
MUSIC: Plainsong; adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1852; arr. John Weaver, 1988
Music Arr. © 1990 John Weaver

VENI EMMANUEL
LM with refrain

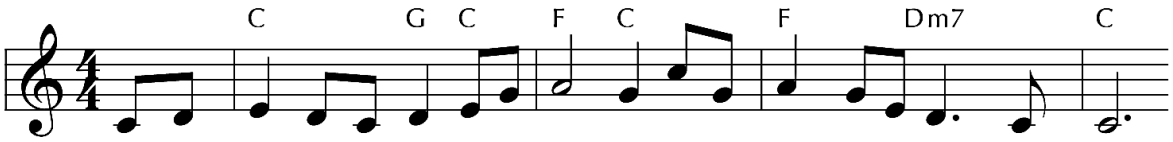
***Hymn 83** "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" STUTTGART



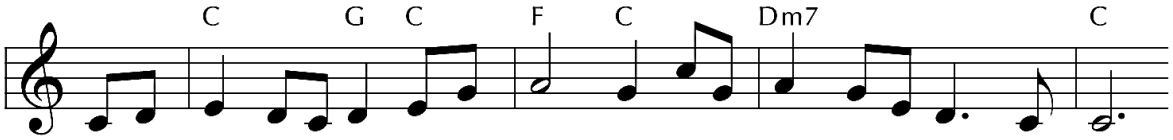
With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744
MUSIC: Witt's *Psalmodia Sacra*, 1715, alt.

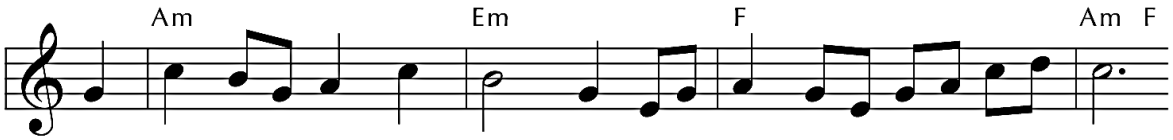
STUTTGART
8.7.8.7
(alternate tune: HYFRYDOL, 82)



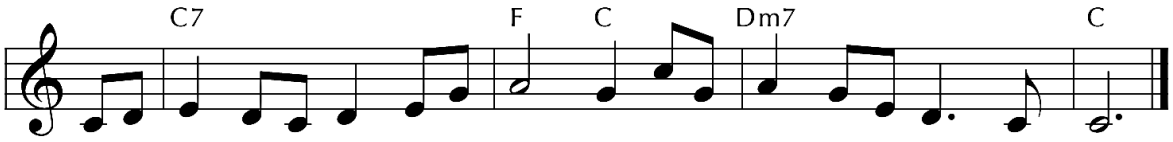
1 Some - times a light sur - pris - es the child of God who sings;
2 In ho - ly con - tem - pla - tion we sweet - ly then pur - sue
3 It can bring with it noth - ing but he will bear us through;
4 Though vine nor fig tree nei - ther their longed - for fruit should bear,



it is the Lord who ris - es with heal - ing in his wings;
the theme of God's sal - va - tion and find it ev - er new;
who gives the lil - ies cloth - ing will clothe his peo - ple, too;
though all the fields should with - er, nor flocks nor herds be there,



when com - forts are de - clin - ing, he grants the soul a - gain
set free from pres - ent sor - row, we cheer - ful - ly can say,
be - neath the spread - ing heav - ens no crea - ture but is fed;
yet God the same a - bid - ing, his praise shall tune my voice;



a sea - son of clear shin - ing to cheer it af - ter rain.
"Let the un - known to - mor - row bring with it what it may."
and he who feeds the ra - vens will give his chil - dren bread.
for while in him con - fid - ing, I can - not but re - joice.

This is one of the few hymns rooted in what can happen during worship, and that experience—gaining a spiritual insight while singing—is no less possible now than when this text was written in the 18th century. It is set here to a folk song variously labeled Irish or English.

TEXT: William Cowper, 1779, alt.
MUSIC: Irish folk melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011
Music Arr. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

SALLEY GARDENS
7.6.7.6.D



No cozy nativity story in sight. No Mary, no Joseph, no Elizabeth or Gabriel. No Bethlehem, neither star nor shepherds. Not a single wise one to put the birth of Jesus on the map. Because we are inhabiting Mark's Gospel this Advent: the stories are short, declarative and urgent. Mark will use the word "suddenly" more than 40 times. We are living in urgent times that demand God's sudden inbreaking. A suddenly is most welcome when climate chaos is wrecking the earth, when democracy is hanging by a thread, when you feel like you are at the end of your patience, your rope, your life. Of course, the Creator who dwells in the eternal might have a different idea of suddenly than we do. But only when God suddenly interrupted human history as Jesus—God enfleshed—could we finally spy the divine energy so heaven-bent on loving, healing, and freeing us.

Christmas at Calvary

FILLMORE CHOIR & ORCHESTRA CONCERT
TRUMAN CAPOTE'S "A CHRISTMAS MEMORY"
FRI, DEC 11 • 7PM & SAT, DEC 12 • 2PM
SUGGESTED DONATION $30 • TICKETS ONLINE

A "CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS" SERVICE
SUN, DEC 13 • 5PM • FAMILY FRIENDLY • FREE

LONGEST NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE
MON, DEC 21 • 5PM • OBSERVING WINTER SOLSTICE

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
THURS, DEC 24
CHANCEL CHOIR & ORCHESTRA • 5PM
ORCHESTRA PRELUDE AT 4:30PM • CHILDCARE AVAILABLE
LESSONS & CAROLS • 8PM

EPIPHANY
SUN, JAN 3 • 10AM • COME GET YOUR 2027 STAR WORDS!

CALVARY WORSHIP, MUSIC, AND PROGRAM STAFF

The Rev. Marcella Auld Glass, Pastor & Head of Staff
The Rev. Joann H. Lee, Associate Pastor for Community Formation
The Rev. Victor H. Floyd, Minister of Spiritual Care
Michael Conley, Director of Music Ministries
John Walko, Organist
Alison Faison, Director of Children & Family Ministries
Robin Morjikian, Director of Development & Volunteer Ministries
Jeff Smith, Director of Youth Ministries

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