



Kensington Presbyterian Church
Growing in faith and sharing God's love
since 1786

Symbols of Christmas

December 22, 2024

WELCOME, we come to you from the un-ceded lands of the Kanien'kehá:ka Nation.

We are offering a variety of ways for people to gather. We are welcoming people to worship in person, as well as through Zoom, YouTube, and this printable PDF.¹ If this is how you are worshipping, know that you are not alone... and if you like, you can invite others to join you. Clicking on or tapping blue text will take you to a web-site.

If you have any prayer requests, ideas, or just want to talk, please reach out to your elder or Rev. Peter (Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca).



Announcements

Blue Christmas: Sunday Dec 22 at 7 pm

A quiet worship service for those with struggles.

Christmas Eve: Tuesday Dec 24 at 7 pm

Christmas Day: Wednesday 9:30 am

Pot-Luck breakfast and Carol Sing

Tax receipts: A reminder that any offerings that you wish to be included in your tax receipts for 2024 should be made online or forwarded to the church office by December 31st. Thank you for your generosity.

Drop Box: Food donations are welcome for the local Food Pantry, diapers for young mothers through Head & Hands.

¹ note: that the footnotes are not as thorough as an academic paper.



Activities returning in January

Prayer Groups:

Wednesday 6:30 am over zoom

Thursday afternoon in person (ask for details)

Bible Study: Wednesday 7-8 pm over zoom and in person

Jesus & Java: Thursday, 3:30 pm at Beetz, 5914 Sherbrooke @ Clifton
 A casual discussion about life and God Jan 9

Friday pizza & movies: 6:30 pizza followed by movie

RSVP with Peter appreciated Jan 10: Cool Running

Workshop with Rev. Dr. Pat Durrer-Walls

Biblical Foundations for Narratives of Hope

online - Sat., Jan. 11th from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m

register here: presbyterian.ca/2024/11/25/online-workshop-biblical-foundations-for-narratives-of-hope

Contacts

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Rose Ngo Mbenoun (Clerk of Session).....admin@Kensingtonchurch.ca



Approaching God

Call to worship

As we prepare for Christ's coming, we remember that Christ modelled love by seeking justice for those on the margins.

We come with a desire to love everyone, even when it's hard.

We light the fourth candle of Advent, a symbol of God's love, which knows no boundaries.



(Light the candle of peace)

♪ Advent Song Chorus.....pg 12

May the light of this candle inspire us to act towards our neighbours near and far in loving and justice-seeking ways.

Holy One, we love because You first loved us. By the power of your Spirit, commit us to love in action in service of our neighbours. Affirm within us a dedication to show your love to the world, in both word and deed.

**In Jesus' name we pray,
Amen.**

♪ Hymn: Get ready! Get ready!.....pg 12



Prayer of Approach

Dear God,

You are amazing.

You were before anything in the universe,
and will live past the end of this world.

You created it all,
from atoms and molecules
to plants and stars.

You give so many blessings
thank you God

And you created each of us.

People.

All different.

tall and short

active and quiet

and because you created us
we are all family.



You give so many blessings
thank you God

We celebrate that you are the best Papa and Mama ever,
loving us always and forever
even when we don't listen to you...
or hurt your feelings...
or hurt others...
Please forgive us.

You give so many blessings
thank you God

and we thank you that you forgive
us,
and are always trying to show
us the good way to live.


You give so many blessings
thank you God

Amen.



Comfort - Charlotte Smith

As your Spirit helps us to live into your forgiveness,
may the prayer you give us help shape us.

 The Lord's Prayer (please use a version you are comfortable with)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
Amen.



Listening to God

♪ Hymn: Come thou font of every blessing.....pg 13

www.youtube.com/watch?v=XKOoeTbjSel (celtic)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFu-MgXTDcM (Tabernacle choir)

 Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds
through the power of your Holy Spirit,
that we may see you all around us.

Amen.

✦ Intro to the readings

At Christmastime there are many things we do to decorate and get in the spirit. The children have been exploring these, and the idea that they mean something more. In a variety of beautiful (and sometimes delicious) ways, they can remind us of God.

There will be 12 sections, like the 12 days of Christmas, in which we'll see a video of the children asking about something, hear Cathy & Dean explain it and share a scripture passage, and sing a refrain.

✦ Children's Message: Symbols of Christmas

*Dear Lord, please bless these words
and the meditations of our hearts. Amen.*

(Children & Ines are decorating their house for Christmas. As they add different items to their home, they discuss the meaning behind each item and how they all lead to Jesus.)

1. evergreen tree

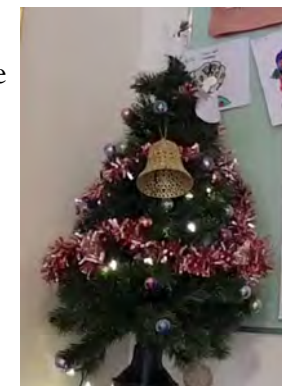
Animator: OK Kids! Are you ready to get the house ready for Christmas?

Helper A: I love getting ready for Christmas!

Helper B: It's my favourite time of the year!

Helper C: It makes me get in the mood for Christmas.

Helper D: This stuff just fills up the house and gets in my way.



Animator: Boys, I'm so glad you are excited about it. But you have to remember that this "stuff", as Helper D put it, means something as well.

Helper A: What do you mean?

Animator: Why do we celebrate Christmas?

Helper C: It's Jesus' birthday! It's when we remember that Jesus came into this world as a baby.


Animator: That's right.

Helper A: Why do we have to decorate then?

Helper D: Yeah, why do we have to fill up our house with all this stuff?

Animator: Well, let's talk about some of this "stuff" and what it all means. Let's start with the evergreen tree that we are decorating.

Reader: An evergreen tree has a very appropriate name. It is ever green – always green. It does not become dormant in the winter as other trees do. The colour green represents new life and the needles of the evergreen always point up – heavenward. It symbolizes our everlasting life with Jesus Christ. We should be as the evergreen tree – always full of life, never becoming dormant in our life with Christ as our arms are lifted heavenward.

 *"The bread of God is the One who comes down from heaven. He gives life to the world."* John 6:33

♪ Refrain: O Come all ye faithful (chorus).....pg 14 (159)
youtu.be/7aH9XnLwNws?t=263

2. Ornaments

Helper A: I didn't realize.

Helper B: I didn't know it had a meaning.

Helper C: I just thought it was a tree.

Helper D: What does this other stuff mean?

Animator: How about the ornaments?

Reader: Ornaments are used to decorate

Christmas trees each and every year.

People look for the perfect ones to fit on their tree. Our Christmas tree just would seem complete without our ornaments.

Ornaments can symbolize the blessings in our lives. Our lives just wouldn't be complete without God's blessings.

Everything that we have is due to God loving us so much that He wants to shower us with His blessings. Just as ornaments are all different shapes and sizes, blessings are all different as well. God picks and chooses each blessing for us so that it will be just right. The next time you decorate your tree, and as you put up each ornament, think of a blessing that God has given you. I think you'll find that you'll run out of ornaments before you can run out of blessings!



"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that He has given you." Deuteronomy 16:17

♪ Refrain: O Come all ye faithful (chorus)

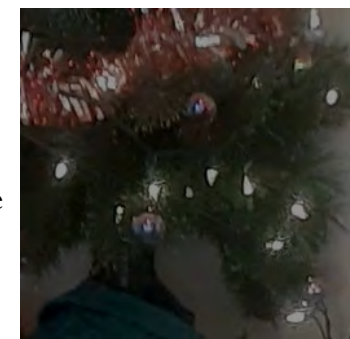
3. Lights and candles

Helper A: We have so many blessings.

Helper B: We have our home and our family.

Helper C: It's hard to think of all of the blessings that God has given us.

Helper D: Ok, so I guess that's not so bad. And it does look nice.



Animator: Oh, there's so much more. How about we talk about the lights and candles.

Reader: Lights and candles are used to give light. When a room is full of darkness, it is dark. But, if you light a single match in a dark room, the room is light. There may be more darkness, but the light overpowers it. We are that light. We can be the single light in a world of darkness. We must share our light with the world so that the light increases.



"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house." Matthew 5:14-15

♪ Refrain: O Come all ye faithful (chorus)

4. Bells

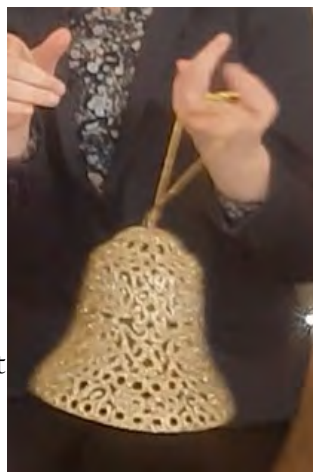
Helper A: I love the lights!

Helper B: I didn't know it had a meaning.

Helper C: Let's put more lights on.

Helper D: I guess I never looked at it that we are the lights for God.

Animator: Exactly. Let's put these bells on the tree next.



Reader: The bell rings out to guide the lost sheep back to the fold, signifying that all are precious in the eyes of the Lord. Jesus is our shepherd, and He laid down His life for us so that we may spend eternity with Him in heaven. He is calling us to follow Him through His Word. Are you going to listen?



"If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in

search of the one that went astray?" Matthew 18:12

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." John 10:11

♪ Refrain: O Come all ye faithful (chorus)

5. Candy Canes

Helper A: The bells sound so beautiful.

Helper B: I didn't know it had a meaning.

Helper C: Jesus is our shepherd. We are His sheep.

Helper D: He would go looking for me.

Animator: Who likes candy canes?

All Children: ME!

Animator: Let's put these on next.



Reader: The Candy Cane symbolizes

multiple things. If you hold it upright...it looks like a shepherd's crook. The shepherds were some of the few people who were able to see the baby Jesus in Bethlehem.

If you turn the candy cane upside down...it looks like a "J". Jesus starts with the letter "J".

The colours of the candy cane are also symbolic. The red represents the blood that Jesus shed for us on the cross and the white represents the purity of Jesus. There are candy canes with three small red stripes running around it. These stripes symbolize the Trinity – God the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. Who knew that this delicious simple candy was so profoundly symbolic of our Lord Jesus Christ and His simple birth?



"And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."

Matthew 1:21

♪ Refrain: O Come all ye faithful (chorus)

6. Star

Helper A: These are delicious!

Helper C: There seems to be a reason why we do everything that we do.

Helper B: I didn't know it had a meaning.

Helper D: I can see now how this "stuff" has meaning.

Animator: I'm so glad that you are changing your mind about some of these things. I have some stars to put on the tree next.



Reader: The star is a heavenly sign of prophecy fulfilled ages ago, the shining hope for all mankind. The star led the wise men to find the baby Jesus. These wise men travelled many miles following a star in the sky. The star was their "guiding light" to the Savior. God was the wise men's travel agent, of sorts, leading them to the greatest destination known to man – the Savior. We now have His Word as our "guiding light" to lead us to be with Him in heaven. Are you going to follow Him?



"And behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was.

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy."

Matthew 2:9b-10

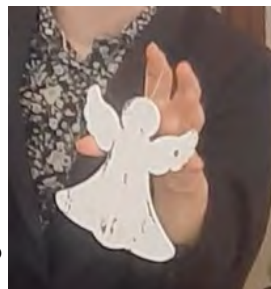
♪ Refrain: O Come all ye faithful (chorus)

7. Angel

Helper A: I like that the star was their "guiding light".

Helper B: I didn't know it had a meaning.

Helper C: They were able to follow the star to



Jesus.

Helper D: God's Word will lead us to Jesus.

Animator: Well, I think our tree is almost finished. We just have to put the angel on top.

Reader: Imagine...you are a lowly shepherd, watching over your sheep. This night seems no different than any other. Then all of a sudden, an angel of the Lord is in the sky above you...telling you of the Savior's birth. You, a shepherd? Why did God send an angel to tell shepherds? Because the message that God had about the birth of Jesus was for all people! Not just for the right, not just for the Jew...EVERYONE! God chose His #1 messenger to tell the lowest of people (in the world's eyes) of His Son's birth! God looks at the heart – not what the world looks at – thank goodness!



"And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone 'round about them: and they were so afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:9-11

♪ Refrain: O Come all ye faithful (chorus)

8. Holly

Helper A: Our tree looks beautiful!

Helper C: The angel was like a messenger of God.

Helper B: I didn't know it had a meaning.

Helper D: But what about all the other "stuff" that we put around the house.


Animator: Well, Helper D. Let's talk about this holly that we're going to put on the table.



Reader: We see holly as decorations during the Christmas season.
But do we really understand what holly stands for?

The leaves represent the crown of thorns that were placed upon Jesus' head as He was being crucified. The berries symbolize the blood that He shed for us. He endured criticism, excruciating pain, and embarrassment... all for you and me.

The next time you see a decoration with holly on it, remember what was done for you so that He could spend eternity with you. I know that I will. "And twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head and put a reed in His right hand. And kneeling before Him, they mocked Him, saying,

 "Hail, King of the Jews!" Matthew 27:29

♪ Refrain: O Come all ye faithful (chorus)

9. Wreath

Helper A: That's amazing what He did for us.

Helper C: He went through all of that for me!

Helper B: I didn't know it had a meaning.

Helper D: That's quite an amazing thing to think about during this Christmas season.

Animator: That leads us to this wreath that we'll hang on the door.



Reader: The wreath has its evergreen branches bent in a circle so that the ends touch, having no beginning or end, just as there is no beginning or end of Jesus' eternal love for us. Just as the wreath looks the same throughout and seems to not change, so He will always be the same.



"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

Hebrews 13:8

♪ Refrain: O Come all ye faithful (chorus)

10. presents

Helper A: I just love how it looks on our door.

Helper C: It's nice to know that He will never change.

Helper B: I didn't know it had a meaning.

Helper D: That's a great reminder that even though we change and grow, He'll always be right there. Now what about the presents? Those can't have a meaning.

Animator: Well, you will be surprised then.



Reader: These days, the world has forgotten the reason for Christmas. Most people seem to think that getting presents is the greatest thing about Christmas. Other people seem to think that presents have nothing to do with Christmas. Well, they are both wrong.

The wise men came to visit Jesus as a young child and gave Him presents. They have His gold, frankincense, and myrrh. They offered Him hold, as a king, paying Him tribute; frankincense, as God, for they honoured God with the smoke of incense; and myrrh, as a man that should die, for myrrh was used in embalming dead bodies. These men...these wise men...saw this child and knew that He is a king, is God, and that He would die for the sins of the world. How can anyone, with the knowledge that we have now, not believe?



“The wise Men went to the house. There they saw the child with His mother Mary. They bowed down and worshipped Him. Then they opened their treasures. They gave Him gold, incense, and myrrh.”
Matthew 2:11

♪ Refrain: O Come all ye faithful (chorus)

11. wrappings

Helper A : I love to get presents!

Helper B: I didn't know it had a meaning.

Helper C: But Jesus is really the greatest gift to us all.

Helper D: I never knew that the wise men's gifts had meanings. What about the wrapping? That's just something that we came up with, right?

Animator: Yes, and no. The bows and ribbons do have a special meaning that would be good for us to remember.



Reader: Many people spend hours wrapping all their presents during Christmas time. They use ribbons, garland, and bows to make sure that their presents are as beautiful as possible. What they don't realize is that the items that they use to complete the outside of the gift have more meaning than the actual gift inside.

The bow ties our present with a beautiful ribbon, just as Jesus ties us as Christians together in His love. We may not be in the same family, but we are all in the family of God. Jesus is the ribbon that binds us together.



“And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.” Colossians 3:14

♪ Refrain: O Come all ye faithful (chorus)

12. cookies

Helper A: I just thought the wrappings were to hide the present inside.

Helper B: I didn't know it had a meaning.

Helper C: There's really a lot to think about.

Helper D: That's for sure. I never knew that all of this “stuff” had meaning.

Animator: People do get a little crazy with the “stuff” of Christmas. The parties, the gift-giving, the “busy-ness” of the Christmas season. What we need to do is slow down and enjoy every moment by remembering the true meaning of Christmas. Who wants a cookie?

Helper D: I know there's not a meaning in the cookie.

Animator: Oh, you'd be surprised.



Reader: Making cookies is a favourite pastime for most families during the Christmas season. Cookie cutters are used to turn ordinary dough into edible masterpieces.

God doesn't use cookie cutters when He creates each one of us. He makes every one of us so special and unique that He would have to break the mold after just one use. He is the potter, and we are His clay. He wants to mold us into His masterpieces. We only need to be moldable and willing to follow His lead.



“Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.” Jeremiah 18:6

♪ Refrain: O Come all ye faithful (chorus)



and to God be all the glory!
Amen.



Responding to God

♪ Hymn: O Come all ye faithful.....pg 14 (159)
<https://youtu.be/7aH9XnLwNws?t=2>

💬 FaithTalk: These are some questions for you to discuss with somebody... or many somebodies.
Do what you feel safe (and practice stretching a little).

Memories: How did your family get ready for Christmas?

Values: What is important to you in getting ready for Christmas?
Describe why? Perhaps feelings, or meanings...

Actions: Share what some of these symbols can mean with somebody who may not know.

Wonder: Can anything we do remind us of God? Try it and see.

What if we trained ourselves to see God in everything?

Prayer: ...that we will see God in what we do.

✦ Spirit Sightings

This week we saw the Spirit at work connecting some of our regular Friday night group with some of our new-commers, and new people - and making connections with our physical neighbours. The Spirit helped make connections across backgrounds, age, income levels, and geography. There are no differences too big.

We are also grateful for people from the Montreal Children's Theatre for helping with children's activities and snacks. Despite technology letting down publicity to their community, they still came and helped.

✦ Offering

Financially, we have set up a donation option on our **website**: kensingtonchurch.ca. Just click the 'Donate Now' button, and then the pretty button. It gives you various options that are easy to follow.

You can also donate through **interac e-transfer**. Our name is Kensington Presbyterian Church and the e-mail address is info@kensingtonchurch.ca.

Mailing a cheque or signing up for Pre-Authorized Remittance (**PAR**) are also good options.

🧎 Prayers of the people

While in worship we'll be passing around the prayer diary to form our prayers of the people, you may choose to use the following. It is based on the "O" Antiphons, a traditional Advent prayer that is probably most familiar through the hymn "O Come, O Come, Immanuel."

O Wisdom,
coming forth from the mouth of the Most High,
pervading and permeating all creation,
you order all things with strength and gentleness:

Come now and teach us the way to salvation.

Come, Lord Jesus.

O Adonai,
ruler of the house of Israel,
you appeared in the burning bush to Moses
and gave him the law on Sinai:
Come with outstretched arm to save us.

Come, Lord Jesus.

O Root of Jesse,
rising as a sign for all the peoples,
before you earthly rulers will keep silent
and nations give you honour:
Come quickly to deliver us.

Come, Lord Jesus.

O Key of David,
scepter over the house of Israel,
you open and no one can close,
you close and no one can open:
Come to set free the prisoners
who live in darkness and the shadow of death.

Come, Lord Jesus.

O Radiant Dawn,
splendor of eternal light,
sun of justice:
Come, shine on those who live in darkness
and in the shadow of death.

Come, Lord Jesus.

O Ruler of the nations,
monarch for whom the people long,
you are the cornerstone uniting all humanity:
Come, save us all,
whom you formed out of clay.

Come, Lord Jesus.

O Immanuel,
our sovereign and lawgiver,
desire of the nations and Savior of all:
Come and save us, O Lord our God.

Come, Lord Jesus.

God of grace,
ever faithful to your promises,
the earth rejoices in hope of our Savior's coming
and looks forward with longing
to his return at the end of time.
Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes,
for he is Lord forever and ever.

Amen.²

² Worship Sourcebook D.4.7



Road to Bethlehem Michael Torevell

♪ Hymn: O Come, divine Messiah.....pg 14 (530)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=dzNiBdW4Le4

✦ Sending & Benediction

As you wrap presents, eat cookies, and do all the things associated with Christmas, may these activities also remind you of the love and care God offers us through Jesus.

*Now to him who by the power at work within us
 is able to accomplish abundantly far more
 than all we can ask or imagine,
 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus
 to all generations, forever and ever.³
 Amen.*



³ Ephesians 3:20-21

MISSION MOMENT Sunday, December 22

Somalia has been devastated by drought for the last six years. Among the many pushed to the brink of starvation is Hawa Ahmed, a resilient mother of eight. When the lack of water and food made the situation increasingly dire, Hawa made the courageous decision to relocate her family for the chance at a better life. Her new surroundings came with a harsh reality: as a displaced person, she was stripped of her possessions and support system, leaving her feeling alone and anxious for a solution. Things changed when Hawa joined a program supported by PWS&D that provided families with emergency cash. With this financial support, Hawa was able to purchase food and ensure access to clean drinking water for her children.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, December 22 (4th Sunday of Advent) As we celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ into the world, we pray for the staff at Crieff Hills Retreat Centre as they offer generous hospitality to all who come seeking rest and renewal.

Monday, December 23 We give thanks for ministries that demonstrate Christ's love and compassion by offering nourishment and fellowship through Christmas day dinners.

Tuesday, December 24 (Christmas Eve) We pray that our lives may echo the refrain of the angels, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will to all people."

Wednesday, December 25 (Christmas Day) Loving God, we thank you for the gift of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ who brings reconciliation. May we know you more clearly and serve you more faithfully as we receive the Christ Child again.

Thursday, December 26 We pray for the safety of all who are travelling today.

Friday, December 27 We pray for military chaplains who bring guidance and support to our troops and their families. May their presence be a constant reminder of God's presence, especially at those times when people feel estranged from home and family.

Saturday, December 28 We pray for those recovering from illness or injury, that they will experience God's love and healing touch through the love of family and friends.

Advent Song

(Light the Advent Candle)

2090

C C/E G7 G7 G7 G7 G7 C

1. Light the Ad - vent can - dle, one: Now the wait - ing has be - gun;
 2. Light the Ad - vent can - dle, two: Think of hum - ble shep - herds, who
 3. Light the Ad - vent can - dle, three: Think of heaven - ly har - mo - ny;
 4. Light the Ad - vent can - dle, four: Think of joy for - ev - er - more;
 5. Light the Christ - mas can - dles, now: Sing of don - key, sheep, and cow;

E E7 Am F C/E C G7 G7

we have start - ed on our way, time to think of Christ - mas day.
 filled with won - der at the sight of the child of Christ - mas night.
 an - gels sing - ing "Peace on earth" at the bless - ed Sav - ior's birth.
 Christ Child in a sta - ble born, gift of love that Christ - mas morn.
 birth - day can - dles for the King, let the al - le - lu - ias ring.

Refrain C C/E G7 G7 G7 G7 G7 C

Can - dle, can - dle, burn - ing bright, shin - ing in the cold win - ter night;

E E7 Am F C/E C G7 C

can - dle, can - dle, burn - ing bright, fill our hearts with Christ - mas light.

Congregation: Unison

WORDS: Mary Lu Walker (Luke 2:1-20)
 MUSIC: Mary Lu Walker
 © 1975 Mary Lu Walker

ADVENT CANDLE SONG
 77.77 with Refrain

171

Get Ready!

Lively, excited

Refrain

Get read - y! Get read - y! A Sav - ior is com - ing. Get

3 read - y! Get read - y! No time to de - lay. — Get

5 read - y! Get read - y! A Sav - ior is com - ing. Em - man - u - el is

8 (f) Fine on the way. —

1. A child will soon be born to us — to
 2. A shoot will spring from Jes - se's stem — and
 3. The wolf will live be - side the lamb, — the
 4. The moun - tains all will be made low, — the

11 rule in power and might. He'll chase the storm - y
 bear the gift of love. He'll be the Sav - ior
 calf be - side the bear. A lit - tle child will
 val - leys will be raised. The crook - ed paths will

14 D.S. clouds a - way — and make our dark - ness bright. —
 of the world, — the Son of God a - bove. — Get
 lead them all. — Now let us all pre - pare. —
 be made straight, — O let the Lord be praised. —

WORDS: Isaiah 9:2; 11:1, 6; 40:4 © 2002 Abingdon Press, admin. by The Copyright Co., Nashville, TN 37212
 MUSIC: Mark Burrows CCLI #4440603 CCLI #4440603 One License #A-719461 One License #A-719461

15 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1. Come, Thou Fount of ev-'ry bless-ing, Tune my
 2. Here I raise mine Eb-en-e-zer; Hith-er
 3. O to grace how great a debt-or Dai-ly

heart to sing Thy grace; Streams of mer-cy, nev-er
 by Thy help I'm come; And I hope, by Thy good
 I'm con-strained to be! Let Thy grace, Lord, like a

ceas-ing, Call for songs of loud-est praise:
 plea-sure, Safe-ly to ar-rive at home:
 fet-ter, Bind my wan-d'ring heart to Thee:

Baptist Hymnal 1991 15
 WORDS: Robert Robinson, 1730-1790
 MUSIC (NETTLETON 8.7.8.7.D): Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1843

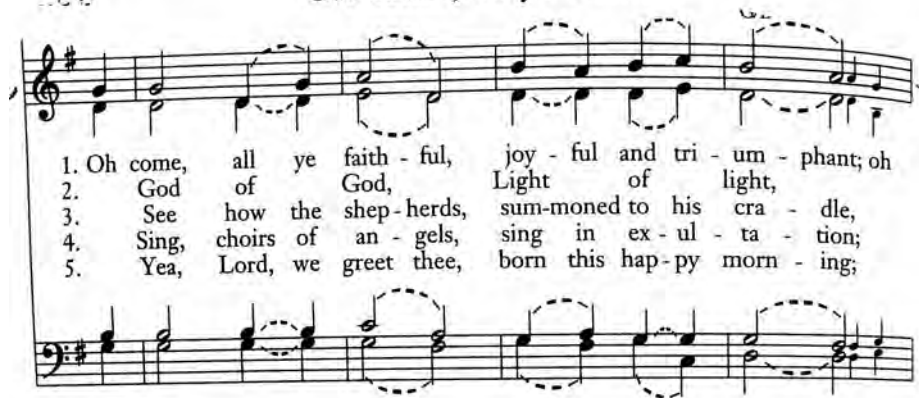
15 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Teach me some me-lo-dious son-net, Sung by
 Je-sus sought me when a stran-ger, Wan-d'ring
 Prone to wan-der, Lord, I feel it, Prone to

flam-ing tongues a-bove; Praise the mount! I'm fixed up-
 from the fold of God; He, to res-cue me from
 leave the God I love; Here's my heart, Lord, take and

on it, Mount of Thy re-deem-ing love.
 dan-ger, In-ter-posed His pre-cious blood.
 seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a-bove.

Oh come, all ye faithful



1. Oh come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; oh
 2. God of God, Light of light,
 3. See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
 4. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion;
 5. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, oh come ye to Beth - le - hem.
 born un - to Ma - ry, the vir - gin blest,
 leav - ing their flocks draw nigh with ho - ly fear;
 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove:
 Je - sus, to thee be glo - ry given;



Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels:
 ve - ry God, be - got - ten, not cre - at - ed:
 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps:
 "Glo - ry to God in the high - est!"
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

367 O Come, Divine Messiah



1. O come, Di - vine Mes - si - ah, The world in si - lence waits the day
2. O come, De - sired of na - tions, Whom priest and proph - et long fore - told,
3. O come, in peace and meek - ness, For low - ly will your cra - dle be:



When hope shall sing its tri - umph, And sad - ness flee a - way.
 Will break the cap - tive fet - ters, Re - deem the long - lost fold.
 Though clothed in hu - man weak - ness We shall your God - head see.



Dear Sav - ior, haste! Come, come to earth. Dis - pel the night and show your



face, And bid us hail the dawn of grace. O



come, Di - vine Mes - si - ah, The world in si - lence waits the day When



hope shall sing its tri - umph, And sad - ness flee a - way.

Text: *Venez, divin Messie*, Abbe Simon-Joseph Pellegrin, 1663-1745; Tr. by S. Mary of St. Philip, 1877
 Tune: VENEZ, DIVIN MESSIE, 7 8 7 6 with refrain, French Noel, 16th C.; Harm. by Healey Willan, 1880-1968, © 1958, Ralph Juskos Publications, Inc.