

*Welcome
to Calvary*

Worship Guide for the week of

December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent

**GOD CALLS US TO
WORSHIP HIM**

Call to Worship

Worship Leader: And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler Who will shepherd my people Israel.

Congregation: Proclaim it among the nations. Great indeed, is the mystery of godliness: Christ was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, believed on in the world, taken up in glory.

[*Matthew 2:6; 1 Timothy 3:16*]

**“Come Thou Long-Expected
Jesus”**

[*Hymn of Adoration*]

Hymn 77

Verse 1:

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

Verse 2:

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

**GOD GRACIOUSLY
RENEWS US IN CHRIST**

Confession of Sin

Worship Leader: Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

[*Ephesians 5:15–17*]

Forgiveness of Sin

Worship Leader: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit the Lord and Giver of

Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

[*Nicene Creed*]

**“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep
Silence”**

[*Hymn of Assurance*]

Hymn 80

Verse 1:

Let all mortal flesh keep silence
And with fear and trembling stand
Ponder nothing earthly minded
For with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth
Our full homage to demand

Verse 2:

King of kings yet born of Mary
As of old on earth He stood
Lord of lords in human vesture
In the body and the blood
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav’nly food

Verse 3:

Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of light descendeth
From the realms of endless day
That the pow’rs of hell may vanish
As the darkness clears away

Verse 4:

At His feet the six winged seraph
Cherubim with sleepless eye
Veil their faces to the Presence
As with ceaseless voice they cry
Alleluia alleluia alleluia
Lord Most High

**THANKING GOD FOR WHAT
HE HAS DONE**

Worship Leader: I am the Alpha
and Omega the One who is, who
was, and who is coming, the
Almighty.

Congregation: Great and awe-
inspiring are Your works, Lord
God, the Almighty; righteous and
true are Your ways, King of the
Nations.

Worship Leader: Lord, who will
not fear and glorify Your name?
Because You alone are holy,
because all the nations will come
and worship before You, because
Your righteous acts have been
revealed.

Congregation: The Mighty One
has done great things for me, and
His name is holy.

[*Luke 1:49; Revelation 1:8; 15:3-4*]

**“Come Lord Jesus (Even So
Come)”**

[*Hymn of Affirmation*]

Verse 1:

All of creation all of the earth
Make straight a highway
A path for the Lord
Jesus is coming soon

Verse 2:

Call back the sinner
Wake up the saint
Let ev'ry nation
Shout of Your fame
Jesus is coming soon

Chorus:

Like a bride
Waiting for her groom
We'll be a Church
Ready for You
Ev'ry heart longing
For our King
We sing even so come
Lord Jesus come

Verse 3:

There will be justice
All will be new
Your name forever
Faithful and true
Jesus is coming soon

Bridge:

So we wait we wait for You
God we wait
You're coming soon

**Giving Our Tithes
and Offerings**

Private and Family Worship

For use during the week of December 1

Read: Matthew 1:18–26

Reflect on these questions and discuss them with your family:

Understanding the passage

- How would you describe the basic message of this passage to someone else?
- Why do you think this passage was written? What did the author hope to accomplish in the minds and hearts of the readers?

Sing this Hymn: “Come Lord Jesus (Even So Come)”

You can find the music here: bit.ly/cljesclyrics

Pray

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which Your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when He shall come again in His glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through Him who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

[from *The Book of Common Prayer*]

GOD FEEDS US THROUGH HIS SUPPER

Breaking the Bread

Worship Leader: We unite in teaching all men to confess the one and only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. This selfsame one is perfect both in deity and in humanness; this selfsame one is also actually God and actually man, with a rational soul and a body. He is of the same reality as God as far as His deity is concerned and of the same reality as we ourselves as far as His humanness is concerned; thus like us in all respects, sin only excepted. Before time began He was begotten of the Father, in respect of His deity, and now in these “last days,” for us and behalf of our salvation, this selfsame one was born of Mary the virgin, who is God-bearer in respect of His humanness.

Taking the Cup

Worship Leader: We also teach that we apprehend this one and only Christ-Son, Lord, only-begotten—in two natures; and we do this without confusing the two natures, without transmuting one nature into the other, without dividing them into two separate categories, without contrasting them according to area

or function. The distinctiveness of each nature is not nullified by the union. Instead, the “properties” of each nature are conserved and both natures concur in one “person” and in one reality. They are not divided or cut into two persons, but are together the one and only and only-begotten Word of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. Thus have the prophets of old testified; thus the Lord Jesus Christ himself taught us; thus the Symbol of Fathers has handed down to us.

[excerpt from the *Chalcedonian Creed*]

GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US OUT

“Doxology”

Verse 1:

O risen Christ ascended Lord
All praise to Thee
Let earth accord
Who art while endless ages run
With Father and the Spirit one
Amen

Presentation of Prospective Church Members

Why We Do What We Do in Worship

Call to Worship – Throughout the Scriptures we are called to worship God as the holy and good Creator of all things. Our worship service begins with a call to worship, which turns our attention from our everyday cares and concerns to the glory, love, and mercy of our God.

Confession of Sin – When we acknowledge the goodness, glory, and holiness of God, we are immediately confronted by our own sin and rebellion, which has separated us from Him. Confession should reflect our sorrow over our sins and our desire to be reconciled to God. We confess our sins to God trusting in his faithfulness to forgive us and cleanse us.

Forgiveness of Sin – When we trust in Jesus' death for us and we come to God with genuine sorrow for our sin, God graciously and lovingly forgives us for all our sin. And so we announce God's forgiveness to all who repent of their sin and trust in Jesus.

Thanking God for What He Has Done – Our natural response to the grace and kindness that God shows us in forgiving us is to thank Him. We thank God for forgiving us, blessing us, protecting us, and providing for us, and we express our thankfulness to God through prayers, singing, and giving.

God Instructs Us through His Word – God speaks to His people through the Scriptures. God's Word reveals to us who God is, what God is like, and what His will for us is. Each component of Calvary's worship service is guided by Scripture. We read Scripture, pray Scripture, and sing Scripture, but we also set aside time during the service to be taught how Scripture personally applies to our own lives.

God Feeds Us through His Supper – Each week we celebrate the Lord's Supper as the capstone of our worship service. The Lord's Supper is a tangible reminder of the Gospel and of the promise that God has made to us—the promise that He has forgiven us and cleansed us and put His Spirit within us. The bread and the cup remind us of Jesus' life and death presented as an offering to God for our sakes. When we all share this Supper together, we remember that we are all part of one family—children of God and brothers and sisters of one another.

God Blesses Us and Sends Us Out – Our worship service closes with a blessing from God through which He sends us out into the world to share His love and mercy with others and to live out the truths that we have learned and celebrated during the worship service.

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