The Season of Advent

These liturgical texts, based primarily on the Scriptures of the Revised Common Lectionary, Year A, are appropriate for use throughout the Season of Advent and may be repeated from week to week.

Confession and Pardon

At the baptismal font:
A voice is crying out in the wilderness:
Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.
Matthew 3:2-3

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Holy God, we confess that we do not walk in your light.
We hurt and destroy one another and neglect the poor and hungry.
We let evil grow among us and fail to bear good fruit.
Forgive us, God of grace.
Awaken us to your Word, so that we may be ready to welcome you with joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lifting water from the font:
The wilderness will rejoice;
the dry land will blossom.
The people of God will return with joy and singing.
Isaiah 35:1, 10

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

Prayer for Illumination

At the lectern or pulpit:
Creator of the stars, in the stillness of this moment we wait; in the stillness of this moment we listen.
As we hear the words of Scripture and sermon, we wait for your living Word; we listen for the cadence of your voice.
Break into our lives with your eternal light and teach us your ways that we may walk in your paths of truth. Amen.

Before the readings:
The Lord has promised us:
See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, to prepare the way.
Matthew 11:10

After the readings:
Go and tell everyone what you have seen and heard:
the broken are made whole, the dead are raised, and the poor receive good news.
Thanks be to God.
Matthew 11:4-5

Ascription of Praise

After the sermon:
Blessed be the name of the Lord forever; may the glory of God fill the earth. Amen.
Psalm 72:19
Affirmation of Faith

Season of Advent (and Christmas)
We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ. We believe that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. We believe that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker. We believe that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells. 

Adapted from the Confession of Belhar

Invitation to Offering

At the communion table:
Let us magnify the Lord, rejoicing in the one who scatters the proud, lifts up the lowly, and fills the hungry with good things.


Prayer of Dedication

At the communion table:
Eternal God, as we wait for the fulfillment of your reign, use these gifts and the gifts of our lives to bring justice to those who are oppressed, to set free those who are in prison, to lift up those who are bowed down, and to uphold those who are vulnerable. 

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

At the communion table:
Patient God, thank you for accompanying us in our waiting and feeding us on our journey. We have received the bread of life and the cup of blessing with joy. As we await the full reality of your realm, may this food and drink sustain us and give us courage to be your faithful people bearing witness to your great love. 

Amen.

Blessing and Charge

At the doors of the church:
May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. 

Romans 15:13

Prepare the way of the Lord! 

Amen. 

Matthew 3:3
The Season of Advent

These hymns and songs are appropriate for use throughout the Season of Advent and may be repeated from week to week.

Gathering

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel veni emmanuel; GTG 88 (PH 9)
Lift Up the Gates Eternal gilu hagalim; GTG 364 (PH 177)
Freedom Is Coming freedom is coming; GTG 359 (STF 2192)
Come, Come Emmanuel come, come emmanuel; GTG 91
While We Are Waiting, Come waiting (Cason); GTG 92
Prepare the Way of the Lord prepare the way; GTG 95

Candle Lighting

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah tif in veldele; GTG 85
He Came Down he came down; GTG 137 (STF 2085)
For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits my soul in stillness waits; GTG 89
Light the Advent Candle advent candle song; STF 2090
Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning keep your lamps; GTG 350
There’s a Song hanson; STF 2141

Call to Confession

Comfort, Comfort Now My People (stanza 1) genevan 42; GTG 87 (PH 3)
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (stanza 1) stuttgart; GTG 83 (PH 1)
Come Now, O Prince of Peace o-so-so; GTG 103 (STF 2232)
O Lord, How Shall I Meet You valet will ich dir geben; GTG 104 (PH 11)
Change My Heart, O God change my heart; GTG 695 (STF 2152)

Response to Forgiveness

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You (stanza 2 or 3) valet will ich dir geben; GTG 104 (PH 11)
Love Has Come (any stanza) bring a torch; GTG 110
Angels We Have Heard on High (refrain) gloria; GTG 113 (PH 23)
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less (stanza 4) solid rock; GTG 353 (PH 379)

Gloria

Angels We Have Heard on High (refrain) gloria; GTG 113 (PH 23)
My Soul Gives Glory to My God (stanza 1) morning song; GTG 99
Glory to God gloria (Taizé); GTG 583 (PH 576)
Glory to God machu-pichu; GTG 585 (STF 2033)
Gospel Acclamation

Creator of the Stars of Night (stanza 3) CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM; GTG 84 (PH 4)
To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary ANNUNCIATION; GTG 98 (PH 19)
My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN; GTG 100
Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn REJOICE, REJOICE; GTG 107

Baptism or Reaffirmation

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates TRURO; GTG 93 (PH 8)
On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry WINCHESTER NEW; GTG 96 (PH 10)
No Wind at the Window COLUMCILLE; GTG 101
Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory BATTLE HYMN; GTG 354
Thy Mercy and Thy Truth, O Lord TALLIS’ ORDINAL; GTG 477 (PH 186)

Prayers of the People

Wait for the Lord WAIT FOR THE LORD; GTG 90
O Day of Peace JERUSALEM; GTG 373 (PH 450)
O Hear Our Cry, O Lord VINEYARD HAVEN; GTG 355 (PH 206)
There Is a Longing in Our Hearts LONGING; GTG 470
For You, My God, I Wait SPRINGTIME; GTG 791

Offering

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness (stanza 5) CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT; GTG 314
Golden Breaks the Dawn (stanza 3) LE P'ING; GTG 668
We Fall Down WE FALL DOWN; GTG 368

Doxology

Creator of the Stars of Night (stanza 4) CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM; GTG 84 (PH 4)
Savior of the Nations, Come NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND; GTG 102 (PH 14)
Womb of Life and Source of Being (stanza 4) RAQUEL; GTG 3 (STF 2046)
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow PRAISE GOD (Hopson); GTG 608
O Lord, Our Lord HOW MAJESTIC; GTG 613 (STF 2023)

Communion Music

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence PICARDY; GTG 347 (PH 5)
We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom MERLE’S TUNE; GTG 378
The Rice of Life BÉ-NÍU; GTG 524
Let Us Break Bread Together LET US BREAK BREAD; GTG 525 (PH 513)

Sending

Soon and Very Soon SOON AND VERY SOON; GTG 384
Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending (stanza 3) HELMSLEY; GTG 348 (PH 6)
The People Who Walked in Darkness ISAIAH 9; GTG 86
Christ Is Coming! UNSER HERRSCHER; GTG 360
Steal Away STEAL AWAY; GTG 358
November 27, 2016

First Sunday of Advent
Color: Purple or Blue

Lectionary Readings
Isaiah 2:1–5
Psalm 122
Romans 13:11–14
Matthew 24:36–44

Turn swords into plowshares; walk in the light of the Lord.
I was glad when they said, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”
Salvation is near: wake up; live honorably; put on Jesus Christ.
The Lord is coming; keep awake; no one knows the day or hour.

Opening Sentences
Jesus says: I am coming soon.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Awake from your sleep: salvation is near!
The night is far gone; the day is at hand.
Let us worship God.

Prayer of the Day
Unexpected God,
your advent alarms us.
Wake us from drowsy worship,
from the sleep that neglects love,
and the sedative of misdirected frenzy.
Awaken us now to your coming,
and bend our angers into your peace. Amen.

Anthems for Larger Choirs
“Keep Your Lamps!” André Thomas, SATB, acap, cga, HIN HMC577
“Wake, Awake,” F. Melius Christiansen, SATB, acap, opt. keybd, AF 800645069
“Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes,” Mark G. Sirett, SATB, opt. keybd, AF 6000175962

Anthems for Smaller/Youth Choirs
“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers,” John Ferguson, SAB, org, AF 1451401684
“Advent Dialogue,” K. Lee Scott, 2 pt mx, org, LOR AM528
“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night,” 2 pt (antiphonally), GTG 97

Anthems for Children’s Choirs
“An Advent Carol,” Jody Lindh, CGA 648
“Come, Now, O Prince of Peace,” GTG 103
### Hymns for the Day

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<th>Gathering</th>
<th>GTG</th>
<th>PH/STF</th>
<th>LUYH</th>
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<tr>
<td>[OEG] Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn</td>
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<td>[OG] Savior of the Nations, Come NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>[EG] “Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us WACHT AUF</td>
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<td>[O] Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples KINGSFOLD</td>
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<td>[EG] Watchman, Tell Us of the Night ABERYSTWYTH</td>
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<td>[O] Come Now, O Prince of Peace O-SO-SO</td>
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<td>[EG] Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence PICARDY</td>
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<td>345</td>
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<td>[G] O Lord, How Shall I Meet You VAET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN</td>
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<tr>
<td>[O] The People Who Walked in Darkness ISAIAH 9</td>
<td>86</td>
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<td>[EG] Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning KEEP YOUR LAMPS</td>
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<td>[EG] Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers LLANGLOFFAN</td>
<td>362</td>
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### Handbell Music


**NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND**  “Advent Hope,” Derek K. Hakes, 2–3 oct, JWP 10275717, level 2; “Advent Suite for Handbells,” Sondra K. Tucker, 2–3 oct, opt perc, JWP 10367381, level 3

**Picardy**  “Advent Triptych,” Jason Krug, 2–3 oct, JWP 10281699, level 2+

### Organ Music

**Aberystwyth**  “Aberystwyth,” Organ Preludes on Folk Songs, Aaron David Miller, AF (M/D)

**Llangloffan**  “Llangloffan,” Organ Preludes on Folk Songs, Aaron David Miller, AF (M)

**NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND**  “Savior of the Nations, Come,” Road to Bethlehem, John A. Behnke, CON (E)

**Picardy**  “Prelude on Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence,” Albert L. Travis, MSM (M)

**Wachet auf**  “Sleepers Awake, A Voice Astounds Us,” J. S. Bach, various editions (M/D)
December 4, 2016

Second Sunday of Advent
Color: Purple or Blue

Lectionary Readings
Isaiah 11:1–10
Psalm 72:1–7, 18–19
Romans 15:4–13
Matthew 3:1–12
From Jesse's root, a child will come with the Spirit of the Lord.
May the king rule with righteousness and defend the poor.
Trust God's promises in Scripture; rejoice and live in hope.
John calls for repentance: prepare the way of the Lord.

Opening Sentences
Jesus says: I am coming soon.
*Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!*
A voice cries out in the wilderness: 
*Prepare the way of the Lord!*
Let us worship God.

Prayer of the Day
Laboring God, 
with axe and winnowing fork 
you clear a holy space 
where hurt and destruction have no place, 
and a little child holds sway. 
Clear our lives of hatred and despair, 
sow seeds of joy and peace, 
that shoots of hope may spring forth 
and we may live in harmony 
with one another. *Amen.*

Anthems for Larger Choirs
“Lo, How a Rose/The Rose,” Craig Hella Johnson, SATB, pno, HAL HL50486409
“On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry,” Michael Connolly, SATB, keybd, GIA G-5438
“The Earth is Full of the Knowledge of God,” Johann Fr. Peter, SSAB, keybd, HIN HMC1519

Anthems for Smaller/Youth Choirs
“A Song of Peace,” Charles Villiers Stanford, uni, org, GIA G-RA452
“He Shall Come Down,” Sam Batt Owens, SAB, org, MSM 50-0202

Anthems for Children’s Choirs
“Dream On, Dream On,” GTG 383
“The Savior Comes,” Hal Hopson, uni, CGA 995
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<td>[O] Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun</td>
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<td>PSALM 42</td>
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<td>[G] Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice</td>
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<td>[O] Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old</td>
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<td>SAMANTHA</td>
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<td>[OE] Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming</td>
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<td>[G] On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry</td>
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<td>[O] We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom</td>
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<td>[O] Soon and Very Soon</td>
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<td>[G] Come, Ye Thankful People, Come</td>
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<td>[O] O Day of Peace</td>
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<td>[O] Dream On, Dream On</td>
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<td>[E] May the God of Hope Go with Us</td>
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### Handbell Music

**ES IST EIN’ ROS’** “An Advent Celebration,” Bill Ingram, 3–5 oct, JWP 10366274, level 2+; “Advent Triptych,” Jason Krug, 2–3 oct, JWP 10281699, level 2+


### Organ Music

**ABERYSTWYTH** “Savior, When in Dust to You” *Improvisations for the Lenten Season*, Paul Manz, MSM (E)

**DUKE STREET** “Give to Our God Immortal Praise,” *Book III Interpretations Based on Hymn Tunes*, David Cherwien, SUM (E)

**JERUSALEM** “O Day of Peace,” *Many and Great: Hymn Settings for Organ*, Robert Buckley Farlee, AF (E/M)

**MERLE’S TUNE** “Blest be the God of Israel,” *Eight Improvisations on 20th Century Hymn Tunes*, Michael Burkhardt, MSM (E)
December 11, 2016

Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 35:1–10
Psalm 146:5–10
or Luke 1:46–55
James 5:7–10
Matthew 11:2–11

The desert will blossom; God’s people will return with joy.
The maker of heaven and earth gives justice and reigns forever.
Mary rejoices in God, who helps the poor and lifts up the lowly.
Be patient; have courage; the coming of the Lord is near.
Jesus praises John, the messenger who has prepared the way.

Opening Sentences

Jesus says: I am coming soon.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!
My soul magnifies the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.
Let us worship God.

Prayer of the Day

O God of Isaiah and John the Baptist, through all such faithful ones you proclaim the unfolding of future joy and renewed life.
Strengthen our hearts to believe your advent promise that one day we will walk in the holy way of Christ, where sorrow and sighing will be no more and the journey of God’s people will be joy. Amen.

Anthems for Larger Choirs

“The Joy of Mary,” Donald Neuen, SATB, keybd, opt orch, HIN HMC531
“Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord,” K. Lee Scott, SATB, org, fl, hb, opt ob, bsn, stngs, CON 98-3102
“The Desert Shall Rejoice,” Roger C. Wilson, SATB, org, LOR D27

Anthems for Smaller/Youth Choirs

“You Shall Go Out With Joy,” uni, gtr, GTG 80
“Waiting for a King,” Joseph Martin, uni/2 pt, keybd, opt c-instr, LOR 10-3889L
“Magnificat,” Lori True, 2 pt mx, cong, pno, gtr, GIA G-6714

Anthems for Children’s Choirs

“A Waiting Carol,” Helen Kemp, hd, opt rec or fl, CGA 555
“The Desert Shall Rejoice,” PH 18
### Hymns for the Day

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>GTG</th>
<th>PH/STF</th>
<th>LUYH</th>
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<td><strong>Gathering</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>[O] Prepare the Way, O Zion</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td>264</td>
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<tr>
<td>BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN</td>
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<td>[O] I'll Praise My Maker OLD 115TH</td>
<td>806</td>
<td>253</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>42</td>
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<td>184</td>
<td>493</td>
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<tr>
<td>[G] O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing AZMON</td>
<td>610</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>886</td>
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<td><strong>The Word</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>[OEG] The Desert Shall Rejoice STERLING</td>
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<td>18</td>
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<td>[O] My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>723</td>
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<tr>
<td>[E] Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus HYFRYDOL, STUTTGART</td>
<td>82, 83</td>
<td>1, 2</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>66</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Eucharist</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>[OEG] O Come, O Come, Emmanuel VENI EMMANUEL</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>56</td>
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<tr>
<td>[EG] While We Are Waiting, Come WAITING (CASON)</td>
<td>92</td>
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<td>[O] Light Dawns on a Weary World TEMPLE OF PEACE</td>
<td>79</td>
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<tr>
<td>[G] Prepare the Way of the Lord PREPARE THE WAY</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>58</td>
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</table>

### Handbell Music

- **BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN** “Advent Suite for Handbells,” Sondra K. Tucker, 2–3 oct, opt perc, JWP 10367381, level 3
- **HYFRYDOL** “Advent Bells,” Sharon Elery Rogers, 2 oct, MSM 30-001, level 2; “An Advent Processional,” Michael Burkhardt, 4 oct, cong, opt org, MSM 30-003, level 2
- **VENI EMMANUEL** “Come, Emmanuel,” Matthew Prins, 3 or 5 oct, MSM 30-755, level 4

### Organ Music

- **BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN** “Prepare the Royal Highway,” *Road to Bethlehem*, John A. Behnke, CON (E); “Prepare the Royal Highway,” *Three Advent Preludes*, Robert Hobby, MSM (M)
- **HYFRYDOL** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling,” *Hymns of Praise, Set 7*, Robert Hobby, MSM (M)
- **MORNING SONG** “The King Shall Come,” *Advent Postludes for Organ*, Michael Burkhardt, MSM (M)
- **STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN** “Star of County Down,” *Organ Preludes on Folk Songs*, Aaron David Miller, AF (M/D)
December 18, 2016

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Color: Purple or Blue

Lectionary Readings
Isaiah 7:10–16
Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19
Romans 1:1–7
Matthew 1:18–25
The young woman will bear a child and name him Immanuel.
Restore us, O God; let your face shine, and save us.
Paul greets the saints in Rome; Jesus is the promised Son of God.
Mary is with child; an angel visits Joseph; Jesus is “God with us.”

Opening Sentences
Jesus says: I am coming soon.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!
Look! The young woman is with child;
she will call him Emmanuel: God is with us.
Let us worship God.

Prayer of the Day
Shepherd of Israel,
may Jesus, Emmanuel and son of Mary,
be more than just a dream in our hearts.
With the apostles, prophets, and saints,
save us, restore us,
and lead us in the way of grace and peace,
that we may bear your promise
into the world. Amen.

Anthems for Larger Choirs
“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Alice Parker / Robert Shaw, SATB, acap, LAW LG00727
“Veni, Veni Emmanuel/Ero Cras,” Michael John Trotta, SATB, acap, perc, CF CM9418
“Free Us, Emmanuel!” Pepper Choplin, SATB, pno, LOR 10-4569L

Anthems for Smaller/Youth Choirs
“What Child Shall Come?” Patrick Liebergen, SAB, keybd, opt fl, ALF 16048
“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,” SATB or uni, cantor, GTG 91
“Mary Had a Baby,” Roger Emerson, SAB, keybd, gtr, HAL HL40313010

Anthems for Children’s Choirs
“That Boy-Child of Mary,” GTG 139
“Come, Come Emmanuel,” Lyn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slago Mayo, uni, pno, opt hb or hc, CGA 1031
## Hymns for the Day

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<td>211</td>
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<tr>
<td>[OG] O Little Town of Bethlehem</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>43, 44</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>204</td>
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<tr>
<td>[E] Of the Father’s Love Begotten</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>82</td>
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<tr>
<td>[G] To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>19</td>
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<td>[G] That Boy-Child of Mary</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>241</td>
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<tr>
<td>[OG] Come, Come Emmanuel</td>
<td>91</td>
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<tr>
<td>[OG] For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>63</td>
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<tr>
<td>[OG] Make Your Face to Shine</td>
<td>811</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[OEG] Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>31, 32</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>87</td>
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<td>[G] The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>265</td>
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<td>[G] Love Has Come</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>292</td>
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## Handbell Music

**ST. LOUIS** “O Little Town of Bethlehem,” Arnold B. Sherman, 3–5 oct, MSM 30-103, level 3; “O Little Town of Bethlehem,” Ron Mallory, 3–5 oct, opt hc, MSM 30-160, level 2


## Organ Music

**BRING A TORCH** “Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella,” *The Bethlehem Collection: Six Preludes and Postludes for Christmas*, David Cherwien, MSM (E/M)

**DIVINUM MYSTERIUM** “Divinum Mysterium,” *Joy to the World: Three Preludes for Christmas*, Craig Phillips, SEL (E/M)

**GABRIEL’S MESSAGE** “Basque Carol,” *Christmas Around the World: 7 Carol Settings*, Sondra K. Tucker, MSM (M)

**VENI EMMANUEL** “O Come, O Come Emmanuel,” *A Little Nativity Suite for Organ*, John Leavitt, AF (E); “O Come, O Come Emmanuel,” *Wondrous Love*, Craig Phillips, FB (M)