



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



December 17, 2023

10:00 am

AN ASTERISK IN THE BULLETIN INDICATES THAT ALL FOR WHOM IT IS COMFORTABLE SHOULD RISE FOR THAT PART OF THE SERVICE

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moriah Park

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

'People Look East'

No. 142

^CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Rejoice, siblings in Christ, our sorrow and sadness will not last forever!

People: Amen! Glory to God!

Leader: Rejoice, siblings in Christ, God's mercies are new every morning!

People: Amen! Glory to God!

Leader: Rejoice, siblings in Christ, God is with us - even now!

People: Amen! Glory to God!

Leader: Let us worship together in joy and gladness!

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING¹

***MUSICAL RESPONSE**

'One Candle is Lit' (vs.3)

No. 128

***PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

People: *raise hands*

Leader: God you created everything that we know and love...

People: *hug self*

Leader: Then you came to love us up close by being a human like us.

People: *do "jazz hands" motion*

Leader: That gives us more joy than we could ever say with words.

People: *drop hands to sides and look at floor*

Leader: But we sometimes forget about that joy.

People: *hands in shrugging motion*

Leader: Life gets hard, we fight with people, and we feel like we can't do anything about it.

People: *arms out, palms up*

Leader: So, we turn our hands up to you asking for forgiveness.

Forgive us for losing the joy you give us.

People: *hug self*

Leader: Remind us to love ourselves, and all of your children, the way that you have always loved us.

People: *open arms wide and look around*

Leader: Remind us of our joy by showing yourself through the world around us.

People: *prayer hands*

Leader: We pray in Jesus' name, remembering he lived just like we do. Amen

***WORDS OF GRACE**

***MUSICAL RESPONSE**

'My Soul Gives Glory to My God' (vs. 1 & 4)

No. 130

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

Dani Kardisco

PICK UP PAGEANT 2023

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Alex Green

During this time, we invite you to embrace the transition from hearing the word to gathering ourselves in prayer by taking a moment for quiet reflection either in your pew, or by coming forward to light a candle to give light to the prayer(s) on your heart that have no words to be expressed.

Come and Light a Candle...



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PRAYER OF JESUS *(in unison)*

Our Creator (Father) who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kin-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

CALL FOR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

'Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming/The Rose'

By Craig Hella Johnson

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

'Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates' (vs 1)

No. 129

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION¹**

***RECESSIONAL HYMN**

'Once in Royal David's City'

No. 165

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Variations on Adeste Fideles

By Raynor Taylor

Participatinays Worship Service:
Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor
Alex Green, Music Director
Dani Kardisco, Christian Education Director
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

¹Meisenheimer, Amanda. "Now in Flesh Appearing: Advent Worship Liturgy Set." Illustrated Ministry LLC., 2022.

People, Look East

1. Peo - ple, look east, the time is near of the
 2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more
 3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more
 4. An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who

crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
 seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to
 light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y
 brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley

a - ble, trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.
 nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish.
 weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.
 hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

Peo - ple, look east and sing to - day:
 Peo - ple, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 Peo - ple, look east: Love, the Star, is on the way.
 Love, the Lord, is on the way.

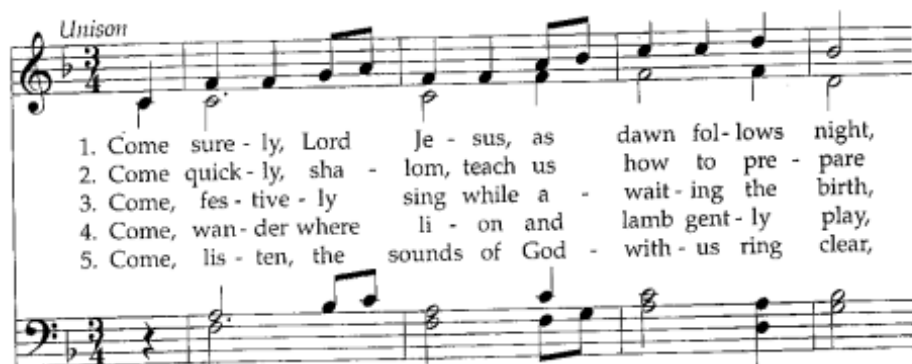
WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928
 MUSIC: Traditional French carol; harm. Martin Shaw, 1928

BESANÇON
 87.98.87

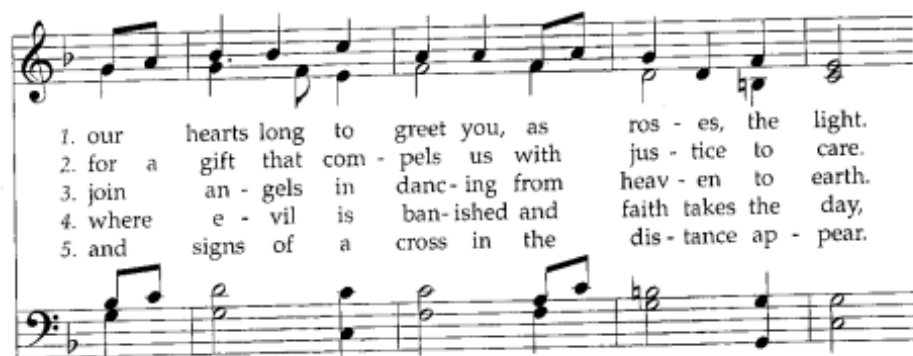
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♩=62-70

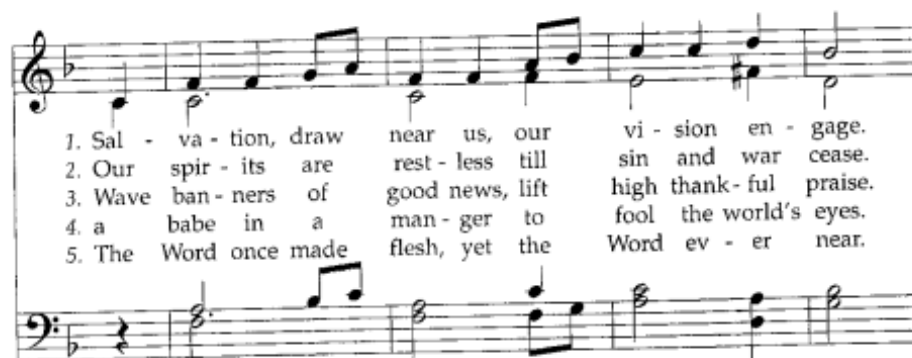
Unison



1. Come sure - ly, Lord Je - sus, as dawn fol - lows night,
 2. Come quick - ly, sha - lom, teach us how to pre - pare
 3. Come, fes - tive - ly sing while a - wait - ing the birth,
 4. Come, wan - der where li - on and lamb gent - ly play,
 5. Come, lis - ten, the sounds of God - with - us ring clear,



1. our hearts long to greet you, as ros - es, the light.
 2. for a gift that com - pels us with jus - tice to care.
 3. join an - gels in danc - ing from heav - en to earth.
 4. where e - vil is ban - ished and faith takes the day,
 5. and signs of a cross in the dis - tance ap - pear.



1. Sal - va - tion, draw near us, our vi - sion en - gage.
 2. Our spir - its are rest - less till sin and war cease.
 3. Wave ban - ners of good news, lift high thank - ful praise.
 4. a babe in a man - ger to fool the world's eyes.
 5. The Word once made flesh, yet the Word ev - er near.

WORDS: Mary Anne Parrott, 1988
 MUSIC: William J. Kirkpatrick, 1895

CRADLE SONG
 11 11.11 11

Words © 1995 Chalice Press



1. One can - dle is lit for the hope of the age.
 2. One can - dle is lit for the reign of God's peace.
 3. One can - dle is lit for the joy of these days.
 4. One can - dle is lit for God's lov - ing sur - prise.
 5. One can - dle is lit for the Christ - birth - day here.

130 My Soul Gives Glory to My God

Cm Fm E^b A^b D^b E^b Fm Cm Fm

1. My soul gives glo - ry to my God. My
 2. My God has done great things for me: yes,
 3. From age to age, to all who fear, such
 4. Love casts the might - y from their thrones, pro -
 5. Praise God, whose lov - ing cov - e - nant - sup -

D^b E^b7 A^b B^bm A^b A^b D^b E^b A^b

1. heart pours out its praise. God lift - ed up my
 2. ho - ly is her name. All peo - ple wil de -
 3. mer - cy love im - parts, dis - pens - ing jus - tice
 4. notes the in - se - cure, leaves hun - gry spir - its
 5. ports those in dis - tress, re - mem - ber - ing past

E^b7 B^bm A^b D^b E^b B^bm E^b Fm

1. low - li - ness in man - y mar - ve - lous ways.
 2. clare me blessed, and bless - ings they shall claim.
 3. far and near, dis - miss - ing self - ish hearts.
 4. sat - is - fied, the rich seem sud - den - ly poor.
 5. prom - is - es with pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

Guitar and keyboard should not sound together.

WORDS: Miriam Therese Winter, 1978, 1987
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813;
 harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

MORNING SONG
 CM

Words © 1978, 1987 Medical Mission Sisters; harm. © 1989 The United
 Methodist Publishing House

♩=88-96

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates 129

1. Lift up your heads, O might-y gates; be-hold the glo-rious
 2. Fling wide the por-tals of your heart; make it a tem-ple,
 3. Re-deem-er, come! We o-pen wide our hearts to you; here,
 4. So come, our Sov-ereign; en-ter in! Let new and no-ble

Rul-er waits! The Sov-ereign One is draw-ing
 set a-part from earth-ly use for heav-en's em-
 Christ, a-bide! Let us your in-ner pres-ence
 life be-gin; your Ho-ly Spir-it guide us

near; the Sav-ior of the world is here.
 ploy, a-dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 feel, your grace and love in us re-veal.
 on, un-til the glo-ri-ous crown be-won.

WORDS: Georg Weisell, 1642; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1855, alt.
 MUSIC: *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

TRURO
 LM

Text revisions courtesy of United Church Board for Homeland Ministries/The Pilgrim Press

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly
 2. Christ came down to earth from hea - ven, love in - car - nate
 3. Je - sus is our child-hood's pat - tern; day by day like
 4. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re -

cat - tle shed, where a mo - ther laid her ba - by
 for us all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble,
 us he grew, he was lit - tle, weak, and help - less,
 deem - ing love; for that child who seemed so help - less

in a man - ger for his bed: Ma - ry was that mo - ther
 and his cra - dle was a stall; with the poor, the scorned, the
 tears and smiles like us he knew. Thus he feels for all our
 lives and reigns in heaven a - bove; and he leads his chil - dren

mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
 low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.
 on to the place where he is gone.

WORDS: Cecil F. Alexander, 1848, alt.
 MUSIC: Henry John Gauntlett, 1849; harm. Arthur H. Mann, 1919

IRBY
 87.87.77