



# The Second Week of Advent

## The Savior Is Coming: Be Prepared to Receive Him

God sent John the Baptizer to prepare the people of Israel for the Savior's coming, and his words still encourage us to be prepared. Whether we celebrate Jesus' first coming at Christmas, his coming to us in Word and sacrament, or his final coming at the end of time, our preparation is the same: we turn away from sin and look to Jesus as Savior.

### THE GREAT O ANTIPHONS

The *Great O Antiphons* are seven brief prayers traditionally sung on the seven days before Christmas Eve and are the basis of the Advent hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." Each antiphon begins with the acclamation "O" and addresses Jesus by one of his messianic titles.

#### PRELUDE

*based on VENI EMMANUEL*

*Stand.*

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*O Emmanuel*, our King and Lord, the Anointed of the nations and their Savior:

**Come and save us, O Lord, our God.**

**Oh, come, Oh, come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*O Wisdom, breath of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation:*

**Come and make us friends of God.**

**Oh, come, O Wisdom from on high,  
Who ordered all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show  
And teach us in its ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*O Lord of lords and leader of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the burning bush and gave him the law on Sinai:*

**Come and save us with outstretched arms.**

**Oh, come, Oh, come, great Lord of might,  
Who to your tribes on Sinai's height  
In ancient times did give the law  
In cloud and majesty and awe.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*O Root of Jesse, standing as a signal to the nations, before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage:*

**Come and save us; delay no longer.**

**Oh, come, O Branch of Jesse's stem,  
Unto your own and rescue them!  
From depths of hell your people save,  
And give them victory o'er the grave.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*O Key of David and Ruler of the house of Israel, when you open, none can close, when you close, no one can open.*

**Come and proclaim liberty to the captives and set the down-trodden free.**

**Oh, come, O 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 you, O Israel.**

*O radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light and Sun of righteousness:*

**Come and give light to those who live in darkness and the shadow of death.**

**Oh, come, O Dayspring from on high,  
And cheer us by your drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*O King of the nations, the ruler they long for, the cornerstone binding all together:*

**Come and save the people you fashioned from the dust of the earth.**

**Oh, come, O King of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind.  
Bid all our sad divisions cease  
And be yourself our King of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **GOSPEL**

**Mark 1:1-8**

*Following the Gospel:*

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise be to you, O Christ.**

*Be seated.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry**  
**CW 16**

## **SERMON**

**Mark 1:1-8**

**We need John.**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Be seated.*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Stand.*

God of comfort and compassion, you create hope out of hopelessness, life out of death, and power from weakness.

**Empower us to live holy lives as we look forward to the day of your coming.**

With your Word, fill the world with your heavenly peace. As your kingdom comes to human hearts, cool the heat of hatred, calm the frenzy of anger. Give us your Spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel and power.

**Let the earth be full of your knowledge as the waters cover the sea.**

John the Baptist called out, "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is near." Fill the world with the sound of your gospel that more people may enjoy your forgiveness and peace.

**Make us ready to share Christ as the true peace and goodwill of this season.**

We pray for those who watch over us for your sake: our pastors and all other ministers who teach and lead us in your church, so that through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Fill their hearts with your Word that they take to heart what they teach.

**Bless them and give them strength and patience as they do your work among us.**

Bring your holy comfort to your people, especially those who suffer sickness and hardships of all kinds, [*especially...*] Remind them of your Son who came to bear our griefs and carry our sorrows, and that their sins have been paid for by his blood.

**Comfort them and lift them up with your powerful Word.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

O Lord, move our hearts to constant repentance, and turn our hearts from every temptation and evil, that at the coming of your Son our Lord, we may be ready to receive what he has promised; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**C:** **Amen.**

## **POSTLUDE**

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**The Chorus does not rehearse today. 4<sup>th</sup> hour classes begin at 10:45 a.m.**

