

Livingstone Parish Church
Sunday 10th December 2023
Rev. John Carrick
2nd Sunday of Advent

Hymn 1 MP 503

O little town of Bethlehem,

how still we see Thee lie!
Above Thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by:
yet in Thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in Thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)

Hymn 2 JP 427

Make way, make way,

for Christ the King in splendour arrives;
fling wide the gates
and welcome Him into your lives.

*Make way, make way,
for the King of kings;
make way, make way,
and let His kingdom in!*

He comes the broken hearts to heal,
the prisoners to free;
the deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,
the blind shall see.

Make way...

And those who mourn with heavy hearts,
who weep and sigh,
with laughter, joy and royal crown
He'll beautify.

Make way...

We call you now to worship Him
as Lord of all;
to have no gods before Him,
their thrones must fall!

Make way...

Graham Kendrick
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Hymn 3 MP 493

O come, O come, Emmanuel,

and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.

*Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell Thy people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.

*Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by Thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

*Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the paths to misery.

*Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

From the Latin (12th century)
tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866)

Hymn 4 CH4 291

When out of poverty is born

a dream that will not die,
and landless, weary folk find strength
to stand with heads held high,
it's when we learn from those who wait
to greet the promised day,
'The Lord is coming; don't lose heart.
Be blest; prepare the way!'

When people wander far from God,
forget to share their bread,
they find their wealth an empty thing,
their spirits are not fed.
For only just and tender love
the hungry soul will stay.
And so God's prophets echo still
'Be blest; prepare the way!'

When God took flesh and came to earth,
the world turned upside down,
and in the strength of woman's faith
the Word of Life was born.
She knew that God would raise the low,
it pleased her to obey.
Rejoice with Mary in the call,
'Be blest; prepare the way!'

Kathryn Galloway (b. 1952)

Hymn 5 MP 35

Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight through all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth!

Come and worship
Christ, the new-born King;
Come and worship,
worship Christ, the new-born King.

Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing:
yonder shines the infant light!

Come and worship...

Sages leave your contemplations!
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations,
ye have seen His natal star:

Come and worship...

Saints before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord descending
in His temple shall appear.

Come and worship...

James Montgomery (1771-1854)

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Stevenston Livingstone
Church of Scotland



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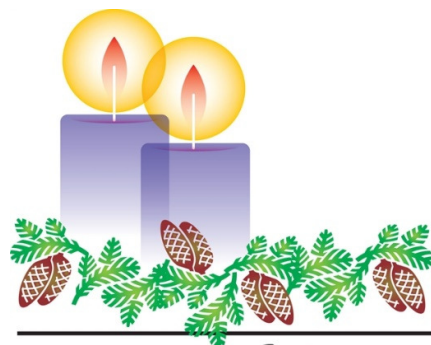
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Exeunt *(Sing Twice)*

**May the peace of the Lord Christ go
with you,**

wherever He may send you.
May He guide you through the wilderness,
protect you through the storm.
May He bring you home rejoicing
at the wonders He has shown you.
May He bring you home rejoicing
once again into our doors.

(Celtic Daily Prayer)



SECOND SUNDAY OF *Advent*