

**Welcome & Call to Worship**

**Choir: We are a people of hope**

**Hymn 273 (CH4): O come, O come, Emmanuel**

1. 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.*
2. 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.*
3. 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.*
4. O come, thou 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 thee, O Israel.*
5. 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.*

**Prayers of Adoration and Confession and Lord's Prayer**  
(Ann Kurylak)

**Short talk on Advent**

**Hymn 277 (CH4): Hark the glad sound**

1. Hark, the glad sound! the Saviour comes,  
the Saviour promised long;  
let every heart exult with joy,  
and every voice with song!
2. He comes, the prisoners to relieve,  
In Satan's bondage held;  
the gates of brass before him burst,  
the iron fetters yield.
3. He comes the broken hearts to bind,  
the bleeding souls to cure;  
and with the treasures of his grace  
to enrich the humble poor.
4. The sacred year has now revolved,  
Accepted of the Lord,  
When heaven's high promise is fulfilled,  
And Israel is restored.

5. Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
thy welcome shall proclaim;  
and heaven's exalted arches ring  
with thy most honoured name.

**OT Reading: Isaiah 9: 2 and 6-10 (Corinne Davies)**

<sup>2</sup>The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. <sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this. <sup>8</sup>The Lord has sent a message against Jacob; it will fall on Israel. <sup>9</sup> All the people will know it—Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria—who say with pride and arrogance of heart, <sup>10</sup> "The bricks have fallen down, but we will rebuild with dressed stone; the fig trees have been felled, but we will replace them with cedars."

**NT Reading: John 1: 1-14 (Colin Stafford)**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. <sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— <sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. <sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**Hymn 279 (CH4): Make way, make way!**

1. 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!*
2. 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, make way,  
for the King of kings;  
make way, make way,  
and let His kingdom in!*

*(Continued overleaf)*

3. And those who mourn with heavy hearts,  
    who weep and sigh,  
    with laughter, joy and royal crown  
    He'll beautify.  
    *Make way, make way,  
    for the King of kings;  
    make way, make way,  
    and let His kingdom in!*

4. We call you now to worship Him  
    as Lord of all,  
    to have no gods before Him,  
    their thrones must fall!  
    *Make way, make way,  
    for the King of kings;  
    make way, make way,  
    and let His kingdom in!*

**Sermon** (Rev Peter Robertson)

**Hymn 553 (CH4): Just as I am**

1. Just as I am, without one plea,  
but that your blood was shed for me,  
and that you call us, 'Come to me',  
    O Lamb of God, I come.

2. Just as I am, though tossed about  
with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
fightings and fears within, without,  
    O Lamb of God, I come!

3. Just as I am you wilt receive,  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve:  
because your promise I believe,  
    O Lamb of God, I come!

4. Just as I am - your love unknown  
has broken every barrier down -  
now, to be yours, and yours alone,  
    O Lamb of God, I come!

5. Just as I am, of that free love  
The breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,  
Here for a season, then above –  
    O Lamb of God, I come!

**Prayer of Intercession** (Rev Sheila Munro)

**Hymn 286 (CH4): Tell out my soul**

1. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;  
tender to me the promise of His word;  
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His name!  
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;  
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
His holy name, the Lord, the mighty One.

3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might!  
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of His word!  
Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and forever more!

**Benediction**

**Celtic Blessing - Hymn 786 (CH4)**

May the God of peace go with us  
as we travel from this place;  
may the love of Jesus keep us  
firm in hope and full of grace.