# O Come, O Come,

Emmanuel

SERVICE of WORSHIP Park Street Church | The Lord's Day, November 28, 2021 The First Sunday of Advent Instructions in this service booklet are indicated by the traditional symbol ¶, called a "pilcrow." The postures for prayer include kneeling, reflecting the many biblical invitations to kneel before God and even to fall upon our faces in his presence. Where hymns are listed, the name of the tune appears right-flush in small caps. Scripture lessons are taken from the English Standard Version.

Today begins the four-week season of Advent, a word derived from the Latin Adventus, which means "arrival" or "coming," and is considered the beginning of the Church year. During these four weeks, we highlight the fact that we are an expectant people awaiting the return (the coming, the arrival - the Advent) of our King, Jesus, to his world and his people. We look back upon his first Advent, Christ's coming in humility as a helpless baby, and we remember the anticipation and expectation of God's people awaiting the coming of the Messiah. The season of Advent is marked by hopeful waiting and renewed repentance.

Hopeful Waiting: In this beautiful but broken world, our central hope is that Jesus, the world's true King, is going to return to right all wrongs, remove all sin and evil, and redeem his world and his people. In other words-thanks be to God! -the present state of affairs is not the end. This hope is far too easily obscured by present sorrows and worldly distractions, so Advent is the season during which we seek to renew our posture of hopeful waiting. We remember that the cry of the people of God is "Come, Lord Jesus!" (Revelation 22:20).

Renewed Repentance: While we long for the return of Jesus, we acknowledge that we're not simply innocent bystanders in this broken world; we are also perpetrators of evil and sin against God and against our neighbor. So, as we rekindle our hope, we also renew our repentance in preparation for Jesus's return knowing that God, by his grace, "is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

Purple is the traditional color of preparation and penitence, and is used during Advent and Lent. Purple was historically the color of kings (the dye was extremely costly) so the color also emphasizes the royalty of Jesus (cf. John 19).

#### THE PRELUDE

¶ Music is played upon the organ or by the musicians, preparing us in body and mind to enter into the Lord's worship.

#### INTROIT (11 am)

Rejoice, O Jerusalem

The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

Behold, the Lord shall come and all his saints with him; and in that day the light shall be great.

Rejoice, O Jerusalem. Behold: thy King cometh. Alleluia.

Words: Romans 13:12 | Music: Healy Willan (1880-1968)

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

¶ After the candle is lit, the People stand.

#### CALL TO WORSHIP from I Peter I

Leader Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

People According to his great mercy, he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead!

- Leader He has promised us an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, and we are being guarded by God's power for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
- People Though we have not seen him, we love him.
  Though we do not now see him, we believe in him.
  We are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy,
  for we are receiving the goal of our faith, the salvation of our souls.
  Let us worship the Lord of Hope!

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HYMN

PSALM 42

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

1. Com - fort, com - fort peo ple, speak ye my ye peace, thus 2. Yea, her sins our God will par - don, blot - ting out each 3. Hark! her - ald's voice is cry - ing the des - ert the in 4. Make ye straight what long was crook - ed; make the rough - er saith our God; com - fort those who sit dark in ness, dark mis-deed; all that well de - serv'd his an ger far and near, call - ing sin - ners to re - pen tance, plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, mourn-ing 'neath their sor-rows' load; speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem will no more see nor heed. She has suf-fered man-y a day, he the king-dom now is here. O that warn-ing cry o - bey! since be-fits his ho-ly reign, for the glo-ry of the Lord as θ the peace that waits for them; of tell that her her her griefs have passed a - way, God now will change her Let Now pre - pare for God a way! the val - levs o'er earth shed and all flesh shall now is a - broad, sins I her war - fare now is cov - er, and 0 ver. pin-ing sad - ness in to ev er - spring-ing glad ness. rise to meet him, the hills bow down to and greet him. see the to - ken that his Word bro ken. is nev - er

Words: Johann Olearius (1611-1684) trans. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878) Music: Psalm 42 | Genevan Psalter, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois

The Genevan Psalter was created to support worship as led by John Calvin: the 150 psalms were sung in unison, without accompaniment. Most well-known is the tune for psalm 100 (our Doxology tune). -NS

# INVOCATION, CONFESSION OF SIN, & THE LORD'S PRAYER

#### ¶ Led by the Elder

Our Father who art in heaven; hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our coming day's bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into trial, but deliver us from the Evil One. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

#### THE PEACE

*Leader* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* And with your spirit.

¶ Greet one another in the peace of Christ, remaining mindful of those who prefer to refrain from handshaking or prefer to maintain physical distance. Following the Peace, the People sit.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS & LIFE OF THE CHURCH

#### ANTHEM (11 am)

Gabriel's Message

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; "All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady," *Gloria!* 

"For known a blessed Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor thee, thy Son shall be Immanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favored lady," *Gloria!*  Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head, "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said, "my soul shall laud and magnify his holy Name." Most highly favored lady, *Gloria!* 

Of her, Immanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say— "Most highly favored lady," *Gloria!* 

Words: based on Luke 1:26–38, 46 | Music: 2000 | Basque carol, arr. Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

# THE FIRST LESSON Ruth 1

pew Bible p. 222

In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. <sup>2</sup> The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. <sup>3</sup> But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup> These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, <sup>5</sup> and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

<sup>6</sup> Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the Lord had visited his people and given them food. <sup>7</sup> So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. <sup>8</sup> But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. <sup>9</sup> The Lord grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!"Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. <sup>10</sup> And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." <sup>11</sup> But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? <sup>12</sup> Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should

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have a husband this night and should bear sons, <sup>13</sup> would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the Lord has gone out against me." <sup>14</sup> Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

<sup>15</sup> And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." <sup>16</sup> But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. <sup>17</sup> Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you." <sup>18</sup> And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

<sup>19</sup> So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. And when they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them. And the women said, "Is this Naomi?" <sup>20</sup> She said to them, "Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. <sup>21</sup> I went away full, and the Lord has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi, when the Lord has testified against me and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?"

<sup>22</sup> So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabite her daughter-in-law with her, who returned from the country of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest.

ReaderThe Word of the Lord.PeopleThanks be to God.

#### HYMN

¶ A Minister prays for the Children. The People stand; Children are dismissed to Children's Church during the hymn.

Nº 660 O God Beyond All Praising

Thaxted

¶ The People sit.

#### THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 9:57-62

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

#### THE GLORIA PATRI

¶ The People stand. (Hymn № 734)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

¶ Following the prayer, the People sit.

#### SERMON

Uncommon Commitment

Mark Booker

#### HYMN

¶ The People stand.

Nº 241 Thou Dost Reign on High

¶ The People sit.

#### THE PRAYERS

¶ The People kneel or sit. A Minister leads the People in prayer for the world, the church, the sick, and the suffering.

#### OFFERTORY

¶ The People sit. The offering plates are passed. Music is offered to the Lord.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (hymn Nº 193)

pew Bible p.868

MARGARET

#### PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

¶ The People stand and sing as the offerings are brought forward by the ushers. A Minister then presents them to the Lord in prayer.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### HYMN

Nº 198 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Truro

#### BENEDICTION

#### THE POSTLUDE

¶ The People sit or may leave quietly as a joyous work is played upon the organ. Please be respectful of those listening to the postlude in the sanctuary or via the livestream.

Savior of the Nations, Come

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

To mark the occasion of a new Church year (see p. 2), three bells are rung at the conclusion of the service, constituting a "Gloria" peal (their specific pitches begin the traditional melody for the Gloria in Excelsis).

#### SERVICE LEADERS AND PARTICIPANTS

Mark Booker, *Senior Minister* Nathan Skinner, *Director of Music* 

Assisting Minister	Kimberley Morrison, Minister of City Engagement
Elders	8:30 John R. Knight 11:00 Lyford Beverage
Lay Readers	8:30 Stuart DeLorme 11:00 Jason Peter
Advent Wreath	8:30 Patrick Lynch 11:00 Freedman family
Musicians	Chamber Choir; Daniel Schmunk, Director of Choral Music Simon Chang, piano

A complete staff directory can be found at www.parkstreet.org/about-us/staff/

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

### IMPORTANT DATES

Sun, Nov. 28 | First day of Advent - Sermon Series: Uncommon: A Series on the Book of Ruth Mon, Dec. 6 | 7:30 pm - Blue Christmas Sun, Dec. 12 | 7:00 pm - A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols Fri, Dec. 24 | 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm & 7:00 pm - Christmas Eve Services

# **GLOBAL CITIZENS CHRISTIAN FORMATION SEMINAR**

Sun, Nov. 21, 28 & Dec. 5 | 9:45 am & 5:30 pm A seminar examining how we can cultivate a gospel-driven love for other cultures and peoples. In person and virtual options. Register in Realm for Zoom link.

## Advent Devotionals Available

Pick up your copy of Park Street Church's Advent Devotional after the service, or visit www.parkstreet.org/advent to view daily entries.

# **CHURCHES PRAYING TOGETHER**

*Fri, Dec.*  $_3 \mid_{7-9:00} pm$ Churches from the greater Boston area will gather at Park Street to worship and pray for the city. We would love for you to join us at this in-person event.

# **BLUE CHRISTMAS**

Mon, Dec. 6 | 7:30 pm

A Blue Christmas service acknowledges sadness and stress while offering comfort and hope. We welcome our seeking friends. Please join us for music, a reading of *The Ragman*, and prayer. Virtual event; possibly hybrid (TBD). Questions? Email: cmay@parkstreet.org

# A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

Sun, Dec. 12 | 7:00 pm A traditional service with music sung by the Sanctuary Choir and Congregation, and accompanied by the Park Street Orchestra. Seating limited to sanctuary; register for childcare.

# **CLOTHING PANTRY - ITEMS NEEDED URGENTLY**

We are in need of several items. Donations can be placed in the Clothing Pantry Donation box in the back, left corner of Ockenga Lobby. Please see the list below. Thank you!

> Newly Purchased - men's and women's socks, men's underwear (larger sizes), women's underwear, long underwear, undershirts Gently Used for Men & Women - winter coats or jackets, warm sweaters, long-sleeved t-shirts, heavier weight pants, jogging pants, hoodies Non-Clothing - Ziplock bags to hold toiletries, lip balms, nail

> **Non-Clothing** - Ziplock bags to hold toiletries, lip balms, nail clippers, small hand sanitizers, tissue packages, small toothpastes, toothbrushes, bandages

For more more in-depth announcements, visit: www.parkstreet.org/announcements