



This season is a
season of gratitude.



Advent PRAYER

November 27, 2022

Call to Prayer

Leader: Let us take a few moments to recall that we are, as always, in the presence of God ~ a God who calls us to “Yes!” (pause) Let your body, mind and spirit catch up with each other so that we might be together in this moment of common prayer. (pause)

Song Options:

"Gather Us, O God" by Monica Brown, a Meditative piece or "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Leader: Let us pray together.

All: Glory be to God whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. (Ephesians 3:21)

Reading: Luke 1:29-35 or Alternative Prayer

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, you who enjoy God's favor! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favor.'

Look! You are to conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High.

Leader: Let us pray together the Ancient Dominican Blessing.

All: May God the Father bless us.
May God the Son heal us.
May God the Holy Spirit enlighten us,
and give us eyes to see with, ears to hear with,
hands to do the work of God with, feet to walk with,
a mouth to preach the word of salvation with,
and the angel of peace to watch over us and lead us at last,
by our Lord's gift, to the Kingdom. Amen.

Closing Hymn: *O, Come, O Come Emmanuel* (or song of your choosing)

- Formal Choirs: [Carols from King's 2016 | #7 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" | The Choir of King's College, Cambridge - YouTube](#) or [O Come, O Come, Emmanuel - Mormon Tabernacle Choir - YouTube](#)
- Instrumental: [O Come, O Come Emmanuel O Come O Come Emmanuel - Cello Duet - YouTube](#)
- Choir version: [O Come, O Come Emmanuel - Traditional Choir - YouTube](#)
- Beautiful solo male voice and scenery: [O Come, Emmanuel - Epic Version! - YouTube](#)

Response:

"Taize: Veni Sancte Spiritus" (refrain only)

Advent Intercessions

O wisdom, O holy breath of God, guiding creation with power and love, come to show us the path of truth and understanding.

R. Come Lord Jesus, our hope and our peace.

O Adonai, O Leader, / come to your people and rule with justice.

R. Come Lord Jesus, our hope and our peace.

O Root or Jesse, flower of God's love, / come and refresh us with the fragrance of your glory.

R. Come Lord Jesus, our hope and our peace.

O Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal realm, / come and free the prisoners of darkness.

R. Come Lord Jesus, our hope and our peace.

O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice, come and shine on those who dwell in darkness, and brighten our hearts with your love,

R. Come Lord Jesus, our hope and our peace.

O Desire of all nations, and Keystone of the church, come O promised one and bring us Peace,

R. Come Lord Jesus, our hope and our peace.

O Emmanuel, God-with-us, come to stay with us and transform us in your loving kindness,

R. Come Lord Jesus, our hope and our peace.

The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.'

Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I have no knowledge of man?' The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God.'

Reading: Alternative Prayer

Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche said, "One must still have chaos in oneself, to be able to give birth to a dancing star." And from Luke the Evangelist, "Mary was deeply disturbed .. and said to the angel, 'but how can this come about?'.... "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." (Luke 1:29, 34, 38)

A reflection by Beatrice Eichten, OSF former President of LCWR Change is a constant in our lives. There is in us a deep desire to have things stay the same, a desire that conflicts with a desire for newness, and freshness. Both desires invite us to pay attention, trust, and balance the urges for exploration and for closure.

There are times when we are pushed into chaos, where all we can do is say "Yes" and let ourselves be led to a new place. In that moment, we trust that we will be gradually lured into a new place by what chaos theory calls the "strange attractor." Is it our fear? Our need to control? Or is our strange attractor God, the source of our life, the One who is always present, luring us into a closer relationship of love?

Like Mary, let us live in a world of yes.

Leader: Quietly reflect to let the Word of God wash over you and stir your heart. Mary was deeply disturbed...and said to the angel, 'but how can this come about?'...."I am the Lord's servant. May your word to me be fulfilled.". (Luke 1:29, 34, 38)

Response:

"Veni Sancte Spiritus" by Jacques Berthier (available on YouTube)

*Come, Holy Spirit,
from heaven shine forth with your glorious light.
Veni Sancte Spiritus*

*Come, Father of the poor, come, generous Spirit, come,
light of our hearts.
Veni Sancte Spiritus*

*Come from the four winds, O Spirit, come breath of God;
disperse the shadows over us, renew and
strengthen your people.
Veni Sancte Spiritus*

*Most kindly warming light!
Enter the inmost depths of our hearts,
for we are faithful to you.
Without your presence we have nothing worthy, nothing pure.
Veni Sancte Spiritus*

*You are only comforter, Peace of the soul.
In the heat you shade us; in our labour you refresh us,
and in trouble you are our strength.
Veni Sancte Spiritus*

*On all who put their trust in you and receive you in faith,
shower all your gifts.
Grant that they may grow in you and persevere to the end.
Give them lasting joy!
Veni Sancte Spiritus*

Group Sharing of scripture or passage

Leader: Let us respond together.

All: Listen!

*Something strains to be born
To shake itself free:
Something brand new trembles
At the far edge of our minds: the shape of the word to come
Conceived in our present labor and pain.*

Reader:

*There is time for living with the pastured past
There is a time for trusting new designs
There is a time for grappling with the growing
There is a time for living in new signs. (Eileen T. Kelly, SC)*

Leader: Take a moment to reflect upon these words and ask yourself what words speak to you at this time in your life, in our Advent?

Is there something straining to be born in you that makes you tremble? What new thing is being conceived in you?

**Share with the person next to you or in small groups.
(Optional)**