

Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee (Ode To Joy)

1 Joyful joyful we adore Thee
God of glory Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee
Opening to the sun above
*Melt the clouds of sin and sadness
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day*

2 All Thy works with joy surround Thee
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays
Stars and angels sing around Thee
Center of unbroken praise

*Field and forest vale and mountain
Flowery meadow flashing sea
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee*

3 Thou art giving and forgiving
Ever blessing ever blest
Wellspring of the joy of living
Ocean depth of happy rest
*Thou our Father Christ our Brother
All who live in love are Thine
Teach us how to love each other
Lift us to the joy divine*

Edward Hodges | Henry Van Dyke | Ludwig van Beethoven
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ACCLAMATION & OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Blessed be God, who forgives all our sins.

People: His mercy endures forever.

All: Almighty God, who sent your only Son, Jesus, the light of the world to shine in the darkness, and make you known: Open our hearts to receive you, believe in your name, and to live as children of God awaiting the triumphant return of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Holy God

1 Creating, commanding, transcendent Adonai
Defending love, destroying sin, the Warrior Divine

*Holy, holy, holy God
Holy, holy, holy God*

2 Forgiving, redeeming, from every tribe and tongue
Arising first, the nail scarred Lamb, Salvation's Champion

3 Romancing, pursuing, reclaiming to restore
Releasing hearts, transforming lives, the Lion's mighty roar

Brian Doerksen
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LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

On this second week of Advent, we light the candle of love to remind us of God's love for us.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

*I will listen to what God the Lord says;
he promises peace to his people, his faithful
servants, but let them not turn to folly.
Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.*

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

*Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness!
May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the children of the needy,
and crush the oppressor!*

2 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*

*Love and faithfulness meet together;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.
Faithfulness springs forth from the earth,
and righteousness looks down from heaven.*

3 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*

Carol: © Public Domain Henry Sloane Coffin/John Mason Neale/Thomas Helmore
Scripture: PSALM 85:8-13 (NIV)

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL

People: May the Lord be with you.

Children: And also with you.

People: May the Word of the Lord grow in your hearts.

Children: Thanks be to God!

People: Go in the peace of the Lord.

At this time, children 4k-2nd grade are invited to go to Kids Time. Kids Time is a dynamic worship service that caters to younger children and prepares them to participate in the main worship service. The children will return prior to Communion.

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Peter 3:8-18 (p. 985)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Matthew 24:36-46 (p. 806)

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, Lord Christ.

MESSAGE

Sermon Series: Expectation & Restoration

Forward Looking People

Rev. Patrick Dominguez

THE NICENE CREED (said together)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**The phrase "holy catholic Church" means the Church worldwide.*

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Leader: In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid, we pray to Jesus: Come to your Church as Lord and judge, and lead us to live in readiness for our redemption.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: Come to your world as King of the nations; guide those in power to lead with righteousness and truth, and rebuke those whose leadership is harmful or unjust.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: Come as the good shepherd, that people from this city and every city of the world will be saved and find life in you. We pray especially for the work of Young Life, that you would give them success as they labor together with you.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: Come as Savior and comforter to all who suffer, and break into our lives where we struggle with illness, addiction, loneliness or distress; set us free to serve you.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory. Lift us up to meet you, that with all your saints and angels we may live and reign with you in your new creation.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Leader: Lord Jesus, hear the prayers of your people.

(Please offer your own prayers to the Lord, silently or aloud.)

Leader: Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords:

People: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Leader: Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God:

CONFESSION OF SIN (said together)

Heavenly Father, we confess that we have obstructed the way for your Son's coming in our lives. We have lived for our own desires and interests, rather than seeking first your Kingdom and your righteousness. By the power of your Holy Spirit, prepare the way for your coming in our hearts. Straighten our crooked ways. Flatten the mountainous greed within us. Fill in the valleys of our unrighteous thoughts. Smooth out the roughness of our speech; so that all mankind may see your salvation, through Jesus Christ, the light who has come into the world. Amen.

—The absolution of sin is to be pronounced by a priest who symbolically stands in the authority of God to forgive the sins of those who truly repent (Matt 16:19, John 20:23).

May almighty God, who sent his son into the world to save sinners, bring you his pardon and peace, now and forever. Amen.

The peace of the Lord be always with you;
And also with you.

WELCOME & OFFERING

Come Thou Jesu

Advent Choir

HOLY COMMUNION

*(All baptized and believing followers of our Lord Jesus Christ are invited to partake in Holy Communion regardless of denomination. It is our custom to use wine during communion. **If you prefer, you may receive grape juice** from the smaller chalices on the end of the serving lines. If it would not be authentic for you to receive Communion, you may remain in your seat and contemplate the prayers on the following page.)*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Leader continues in Eucharistic Prayer.

Leader: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

LORD'S PRAYER (said together)

**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 daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses**

**As we forgive those
Who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For thine is the Kingdom
And the power and the glory
Forever and ever Amen**

***Unable to come forward?** Please inform an usher to request that Communion be brought to you.
Gluten-free wafers available upon request.*

PRAYERS FOR THOSE NOT TAKING HOLY COMMUNION

The Church of The Apostles welcomes all Christians who are willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, to receive Holy Communion with us by coming forward to one of the communion stations at the front. If you are not able to receive Communion, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth.

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing and that leads to the life you promise.

Prayer of Belief.

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Please come into my life through the power of your Holy Spirit.

A prayer team is available to pray with you at the back of the worship area.

In My Father's Kingdom

This bread is My body broken for you
This cup is My blood of the covenant
Poured out for you

*I will not drink of the fruit of this vine
Until I drink it anew with you
In My Father's Kingdom
In My Father's Kingdom*

Fernando Ortega and Bernard Chadwick
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All Who Are Thirsty

Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come

All who are thirsty, all who are weak
Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the stream of life
Let the pain and the sorrow
Be washed away
In the waves of His mercy
As deep cries out to deep (we sing)

As deep cries out to deep
As deep cries out to deep
As deep cries out to deep

Holy Spirit come
Holy Spirit come

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Brenton Brown | Glenn Robertson

King Of Heaven

1 Jesus let Your kingdom come here
Let Your will be done here in us
Jesus there is no one greater
You alone are Savior
Show the world Your love

King of heaven come down
King of heaven come now
Let Your glory reign
Shining like the day
King of heaven come

2 We are children of Your mercy
Rescued for Your glory
We cry Jesus set our hearts towards You
That ev'ry eye would see You lifted high

King of heaven come down
King of heaven come now
Let Your glory reign
Shining like the day
King of heaven come
King of heaven rise up
Who can stand against us
You are strong to save in Your mighty name
King of heaven come

King of heaven come
King of heaven come

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Paul Baloche | Jason Ingram

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (said together)

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Remain watchful with your eyes on Christ, who humbled himself to be born in a manger, and who will come again in glory. And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and forever. Amen

Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee (Ode To Joy)

Mortals join the mighty chorus
Which the morning stars began
Father love is reigning o'er us
Brother love binds man to man
*Ever singing march we onward
Victors in the midst of strife
Joyful music lifts us sunward
In the triumph song of life*

Edward Hodges | Henry Van Dyke | Ludwig van Beethoven
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DISMISSAL

Leader: Go forth in love. The Christ is coming.
People: Thanks be to God!

WELCOME!

We are glad you are worshiping with us this morning. We want to get to know you! Yellow connection cards can be found under the seats in the sanctuary. Please fill one out and drop it in the offering basket.

Connect



We want to keep you connected to the life of Apostles! To be added to *The Pulse* contacts, fill out a yellow connection card and drop in the offering basket. You will receive our weekly e-newsletter and other important church-wide announcements.



Our online communication tool connects you to ministries and members of the Apostles community. For more info contact Marsha Whyte: marsha@apostles-raleigh.org

Community

Interested in connecting deeper into the community here at Apostles? Consider joining a Community Group! Various community groups meet throughout the week. Contact Jay for more information.

Jay Traylor

jay@apostles-raleigh.org



The Deal + Small Groups (6th - 12th grades)

happen Sundays from 6-8pm during the school year. Contact Emily for more information.

Emily Gebbie

emily@apostles-raleigh.org

Seek Prayer

The Apostles Prayer Ministry is a safe place to seek prayer for a variety of concerns.

You will find trained prayer teams and a prayer room at the back of the sanctuary.

Poinsettia Dedication

We will be decorating the sanctuary with poinsettias for the Advent Season. If you would like to give one in honor or in memory of someone, email laura@apostles-raleigh.org with (1) "in honor of" or "in memory of", (2) the person's name, and (3) who is giving the gift. The list of dedications will be in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

A \$15 minimum donation, which supports the flower ministry, is suggested.

Year End Giving Records

Please note that gifts of securities and mutual funds must be transferred to, and received in, the Church's brokerage account **by noon on December 29, 2017** to be included with 2017 giving. Because the church offices will be closed December 25 -29, we are requesting that you make every effort to bring any year end gifts for the general offering during the services on December 24th, 31st, or simply mail them. Payments mailed **and postmarked** by December 31, 2017 will be reflected on your 2017 Giving Record. If your bank issues your payment, please allow plenty of time for our receipt by mail. You can always check your giving records by logging into Apostles Link. Click on your name and select My Profile, then select the Financial tab. For any questions about your giving, please contact Laynette Rustin accounting@apostle-raleigh.org.

What's Happening at Apostles

Lessons & Carols ~ Please join us tonight at 6:00pm for an evening of Lessons & Carols. Following the program will be a Cocoa & Cookies Reception.

Advent Compline ~ *"Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace."* During Advent, the season in which we mark the waning sunlight and growing winter and look forward to the new light brought to us in Jesus at Christmas, this brief Compline service helps us to slow down, catch our breath, and remember our deep desire for God's restoration and healing. **Wednesdays at 8:45pm during Advent {12/6 * 12/13 * 12/20}**

This Week

Sunday, December 10

- Worship Services: 8:30am & 11am
- Women's Retreat Bake Sale
- NINE1NINE: 12:30-2:15pm
- Lessons & Carols: 6pm
- The Vine White Elephant: 7:30pm {offsite}

Tuesday, December 12

- Tuesday at Noon: *resumes 01/09*
- Tuesday Prayer & Praise: 1:30-2:30pm

Wednesday, December 13

- Band of Brothers (M): 7-8am
- Sleepyheads (M): 7:15-8:15am
- Growing in Grace (W): 9:30-11am
- Women's Coffee & Dessert: 7-8:30pm
- Advent Compline: 8:45pm

Thursday, December 14

- Blackwater Group (M): 7-8am
- Men's Fraternity (M): 6:45-8am
- Community HOPE Christmas Banquet: 6:30-8:30pm

Coming Soon

DECEMBER

- 17 ~ Christmas Pageant {10am}
- 24 ~ Christmas Eve Services {3pm, 5pm, 11pm}
no morning services
- 25 ~ Morning Prayer Service {10am}
- 31 ~ 10:00am Worship Service

JANUARY

- 6 ~ Jay Traylor Ordination {5pm}
- 7 ~ Town Hall Meeting {10am}
- 21 ~ Sunday School resumes

Student Ministry

DECEMBER

12/10 ~ NINE1NINE | 12:30 -2:15pm | Meet in the Youth Room to watch *Elf* after the second service. We'll have pizza, hot chocolate and Elf bingo!

Children's Ministry

Lessons for December 10

- **Nursery:** John is Born {Luke 1:5-25; 57-80}
- **Kids Time:** God Promised a Savior {Isaiah 7:14}

Lessons & Carols

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 • 6:00PM

Cocoa and Cookies Reception to Follow



PRIDE FOR PARENTS

CHRISTMAS STORE
TOY DRIVE

DECEMBER 3 - 14

CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES

Members of the Anglican Church of North America and Rwanda

333 Church at North Hills Street • Raleigh, NC 27609

919-782-0550

Church Office Hours:
M-Th 9am-5pm | Fri 9am-12pm

// www.apostles-raleigh.org //