

Advent Service, December 4, 2024 — 3pm

## "Yet in Thy Dark Streets Shineth..." A Service for Advent Berusalemů

Advent Approach

Response from Luke 2

Lift up your heads, you mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits. The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here. His coming rends the dark of night where shines the everlasting Light. God send the Light divine in our dark streets to shine!

- *P*: Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon.
- C: God's Spirit came to him and told him that he would not die until he had seen Christ the Lord.
- P: When Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple, Simeon took the baby Jesus in his arms and praised God:
- C: "Now, Lord, you have kept your promise, and you may let your servant go in peace."
- P: The aged prophet Anna was also there in the temple; day and night she worshiped God, fasting and praying.
- C: She praised God, and spoke about the child Jesus to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

O blest the land, the city blest, where Christ the Savior is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes to whom this King in mercy comes!
As to Jerusalem he came with palms to praise his holy name,
God send the Light divine in our dark streets to shine!

P: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us from the threatening dangers of our sin, and save us by your mighty deliverance; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BReadings B

Old Testament Reading

ι Chronicles 11:1-9

David takes Jerusalem as his capital.

Responsive Psalm from Psalm 68

- P: Your solemn processions are seen, O God,
- C: the processions of God my King into the sanctuary.
- P: The singers are in front, the musicians last, between them girls playing tambourines:
- C: "Bless God in the great congregation; praise the Lord, all you descendants of Jacob!"

- P: Summon your might, O God.
- C: Show your strength, O God, as you have done for us before.
- P: Because of your temple at Jerusalem kings bear gifts to you.
- C: Let bronze be brought from Egypt; let Ethiopia hasten to stretch out its hands to God.
- P: Awesome is God in his sanctuary, the God of Israel.
- C: He gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!

Holy Gospel Luke 1:5-17

An angel appears in the temple at Jerusalem.

Theme Hymp O Little Town

O city of Jerusalem, thou royal citadel
Where pilgrims throng with festal song the praise of God to tell:
Here, at God's time appointed, the Lamb of sacrifice,
The heav'nly King whose birth we sing, will pay redemption's price.

ÅHo∕vily Å

Canticle

Zechariah's Benedictus Melody: Nun danket alle Gott

Blest be the Lord our God, who grants his favored nation
The blessing long foretold, redemption and salvation!
From all who mean us ill he comes to set us free
That we may serve him still in peace and purity.

You, messenger of God, prepare the way before him-Forgiveness of all sins to those who thus implore him. God's strong and saving Light will dawn and still increase, Drive back the shades of night and guide our feet in peace.

 $\mathring{0}$ Offering $\mathring{0}$  &  $\mathring{0}$ Prayers $\mathring{0}$ 

- P: O WISDOM, come!
- C: You govern all creation with your strong yet tender care.
- P: O holy Word of God:
- C: Come; teach us; make us wise!
- P: O SACRED LORD, come!
- C: You showed yourself to Moses in the burning bush and gave him the Law on Mount Sinai.
- *P:* O Ruler of the house of Israel:
- C: Stretch out your arm and save us!
- P: O BRANCH OF JESSE, come!
- C: Kings are silent in your presence and nations bow before you.
- P: O Sign for all peoples:
- C: Come quickly to deliver us!

- P: OKEY OF DAVID, come!
- C: You open and no one can close; you close and no one can open.
- P: O Royal Power of Israel:
- C: Break down the walls of prison death!
- P: O RADIANT DAWN, come!
- C: Shine on those who dwell in deadly darkness.
- P: O Splendor of Eternal Light:
- C: Arise and come, O Sun of Righteousness!
- P: O KING OF THE NATIONS, come!
- C: You are the only joy of every human heart; you bring together peoples long apart.
- P: O Cornerstone:
- C: Save us, whom you fashioned from the dust!
- P: O EMMANUEL, come!
- C: You are the King of creation, the Hope of all nations, the Savior of all.
- P: O King and Lord:
- C: God-with-us, come!

Benediction

Closing Hymn

O Little Town

Thou who didst in Jerusalem thy precious blood outpour,
Who on the cross didst suffer loss, then rise to life once more:
Prepare us for thy coming that, in this world of sin,
Thy faithful will receive thee still: Redeemer, enter in!