



Lectionary Readings

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 The servant of God is anointed to bring justice and restoration to the community in exile.
 Psalm 126 Joyfulness is proclaimed in response to God's work of restoring Zion.
 or
 Luke 1:47-55 Mary's soul magnifies the Lord and rejoices in God's works of mercy and justice.
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 Paul speaks of how to live one's life in light of God's work in the world, which includes praying, rejoicing, and giving thanks.
 John 1:6-8, 19-28 John the Baptist is witnessing and testifying to the light. He is baptizing in preparation for the Messiah.

Call to Worship

Rejoice in the coming of God the Savior,
 for there is good news on the way.
Good news for the down-trodden and weary?
 Good news—peace is coming.
Good news for the broken-hearted?
 Good news—joy is coming.
Good news for those captive and imprisoned?
 Good news—freedom is coming.
Good news for the hard of heart?
 Good news—thunder in the desert tells of God's coming.
 Good news is on the way!

Hymns for the Day

	PH	EH	ELW	UMH	NCH	VU	STF	SNC	TFBF	HFTG
Hymns of Praise										
Blessed Be the God of Israel	601,602	444	250,552	209		901		104		
When God Delivered Israel (Psalm 126)	237							210		
New Songs of Celebration Render (Psalm 98)	218	413								
Old Testament										
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus	1	66	254	196	122	2				
O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing	466	493	886	57	42	326				
O Day of Peace	450	597	711	729		682				
Epistle										
Song of Mary	600	437,438	573, 882	198	86, 119	899		102		
Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers	231	68	244							
God of the Sparrow	272		740	122	32	229				
Gospel										
O Laughing Light						434	2093			
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel	9	56	257	211	116	1				
O Splendour of God's Glory Bright	474	5	559	679	87	413				
The Moon With Borrowed Light	28									
Communion										
Now We Offer									129	
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence	5	324	490	626	345	473			129	
Sending										
Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth	7	598	727							
Rejoice! You Pure in Heart	145,146	556,557	873,874	160,161	55, 71					
O Day of Peace	450	597	711	729		682				
Important Hymns from Other Sources										
Christ, the Word Before Creation, Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., <i>Redeeming the Time</i>										

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Prayer of Confession

O God, you long to fill our mouths with laughter and shouts of joy.
But we are content with ashes and mourning.
 Your Apostle Paul urges, "Rejoice always!"
But we say, "Maybe later."
 Again he says, "Pray without ceasing."
But we say, "We're too tired."
 Forgive our failures to respond to you.
Send your Spirit upon us and anoint us to share the good news of your joy.

Psalm/Canticle Settings

Psalm 126 Metrical
 "When God Delivered Israel" PH 237
 "When the Lord Restored our Fortunes" SP 53
Responsorial
 "The Lord has Done Great Things" P 130
 "The Lord has Done Great Things for Us" HP1 30
Luke 1:47-55 (See Fourth Sunday of Advent, page 69)

Contemporary Songs

"Christ Be Our Light" Bernadette Farrell
Gather Comprehensive
 "Light Dawns on a Weary World" Mary Louise Bringle/William Rowan *Joy and Wonder, Love and Longing*
 "God Has Done Great Things for Us" (Psalm 126) Marty Haugen *Gather Comprehensive*
 "A Place at the Table" Shirley Erena E Murray/Lori True *Gather Comprehensive*
 "My Soul Proclaims" Marty Haugen GIA, G-5571
 "My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness" Marty Haugen *Psalms for the Church Year (Celebration), Vol. 2, GIA*
 "Este momento en punto/This Is the Moment" Pablo Sosa/Mary Louise Bringle *Este es el Dia, GIA*

Global Songs

"Come, Lord Jesus Christ" (Bangladesh) STB 8
 "Magnificat" (Scotland) HSNW 120
 "Canticle of the Turning" (Ireland) RW 245, ELW 723

Anthems for Larger Choirs

"The Spirit of the Lord Is Upon Me" Edward Elgar, NOV 29.0216.08, SATB

"I Will Greatly Rejoice" Donald Rotermund, CPH 98-1877, SATB
 "Magnificat in G" C. V. Stanford, CPDL (www.cpd.org), SATB
 "They Who Sow" Johann Schein, HIN HMC-1211, SSATB
 "E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come" Paul Manz, MSM 50-0001, SATB

Anthems for Smaller/Youth Choirs

"Nova, Nova!" Bedford, CGA838, unison, flute, tambourine, keyboard
 "Rejoice, Rejoice" Miller, Aug, (978-0-8006-7855-5) 2-part mixed, piano
 "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" Scott, MSM (50-0204), SAB, keyboard

Anthems for Children's Choirs

"Creator of the Stars of Night" Arr. John Ferguson, handbells and opt. flute, CGA 474
 "Hark, the Glad Sound!" Mary Goetze, MSM 50-0401
 "Light the Candle" Carl Schalk, MSM 50-0006

Handbell Music

"Advent Contemplation" Arr. William E. Moats, Genesis, GP2027, 3, 4 or 5 oct., L2
 "Light in the Darkness" ("Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah") Arr. by Margaret R. Tucker, Choristers Guild, CGB501, 3, 4 or 5 oct. handbells and opt. 3 oct. hand chimes and finger cymbals, L2+
 "Love Came Down at Christmas with Of the Father's Love Begotten," Arr. Cynthia Dobrinski, Agape, #2154, 3-5 oct. with optional flute, L2+

Organ Music

"Tocatta on Veni Emmanuel" Adolphus Hailstork, ECS/AGO *African American Organ Series*, (M-D)
 "Choral Fantasia on Veni Emmanuel" Walter MacNutt, *A Christmas Album*, BM, (M+)
 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" John David Peterson, *Three Christmas Fantasies*, MS (E+)
 "Prelude on Veni Emmanuel" Alec Wyton, *Preludes and Fanfares*, SMP (E+)