

Wait Upon the Lord  
A Series of Services for Advent

# Wait Upon the Lord With Rejoicing

## Order of Service

*This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation. Isaiah 25:9*

### Invocation and Call to Worship

Stand

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Wait upon the Lord

**C Be strong and courageous.**

P Wait upon the Lord. That's what Elizabeth did.

**C She waited for a child.**

P John the Baptist.

**C Then she said to Mary:**

P When the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.

**C Wait upon the Lord.**

P Be strong and courageous.

**C Wait upon the Lord!**

Be Seated

# Hymn

## “The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us”

Christian Worship Hymnal #10



1 The Bride-groom soon will call us; Shake off your drow-sy sleep!  
2 There shall we see in glo - ry Our dear Re-deem-er's face;  
3 There God shall from all e - vil For - ev - er make us free,  
4 In that fair home shall nev - er Be si - lent mu-sic's voice;



Lest care - less-ness be - fall us, A watch - ful vig - il keep!  
The long - a - wait - ed sto - ry Of heav'n - ly joy takes place:  
From sin and from the dev - il, From all ad - ver - si - ty,  
With hearts and lips for - ev - er We shall in God re - jice,



May all our lamps be burn - ing With oil e - nough and more  
The pa - tri-archs shall meet us, The proph - ets' ho - ly band;  
From sick-ness, pain, and sad - ness, From trou - bles, cares, and fears,  
While an - gel hosts are rais - ing With saints from great to least



That we, with him re - turn - ing, May find an o - pen door!  
A - pos - tles, mar - tyrs greet us In that ce - les - tial land.  
And grant us heav'n - ly glad - ness And wipe a-way our tears.  
A might - y hymn for prais - ing The giv - er of the feast.

Text: Johann Walter, 1496–1570, abr.; tr. composite, 1989.

Tune: ACH GOTT VOM HIMMELREICHE (76 76 D) *Musae Sioniae*, VII, Wolfenbüttel, 1609.

## Confession and Forgiveness

P God of all mercy and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:

**C We admit that we have become impatient with ourselves, each other, and sometimes with you. We have turned to our own way and have gone astray from your will. Lost in sin we ask you, O Lord, to forgive our sin, cleanse our hearts, and keep us patiently waiting for the promised coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

P Believe and receive the good news! God sent his Son, the Babe of Bethlehem, to show his infinite love and forgiveness for all people. Your sins are forgiven in the holy name of Christ who came and indeed, will come again.

**C Amen.**

P Wait upon the Lord.

**C Be strong and courageous. Wait upon the Lord!**

## Kyrie

P Lord, have mercy.

**C Give us patience.**

P Christ, have mercy.

**C Give us patience and peace.**

P Lord, have mercy.

**C Give us patience and peace for the living of these days.**

## Prayer of the Day

P O Lord, rend the heavens and come down. Be our strength every morning and our salvation in the night of despair. Show forth your power and might, just as you did in the days of Mary and Elizabeth; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit—God forever.

**C Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading:** 1 Samuel 2:1-3

Then Hannah prayed and said:

"My heart rejoices in the LORD; in the LORD my horn is lifted high.  
My mouth boasts over my enemies, for I delight in your deliverance.

<sup>2</sup>"There is no one holy like the LORD; there is no one besides you;  
there is no Rock like our God. <sup>3</sup>"Do not keep talking so proudly  
or let your mouth speak such arrogance, for the LORD is a God who knows,  
and by him deeds are weighed.

P The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle Reading:** Romans 12:11-18

<sup>11</sup>Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

<sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

P The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

Stand

## Gospel Acclamation

P Alleluia! Alleluia!

**C Those who wait upon the Lord will renew their strength. Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Luke 1:39-45

<sup>39</sup>At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, <sup>40</sup>where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>42</sup>In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! <sup>43</sup>But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

P The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise be to you, O Christ.**

Be Seated

## Sermon Hymn

“Oh, Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel”

Christian Worship Hymnal #23



1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
2 Oh, come, O Root of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's  
3 Oh, come, O Day-spring from on high, And cheer us by your  
4 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save,  
draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,  
heav'n - ly home. Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
And bring them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
And close the path to mis - er - y.



Em - man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 12th century, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-66, alt.

Tune: VENI, EMMANUEL (LM with Refrain) Plainsong melody, 15th century, alt.

**Sermon** Romans 12:11-18

Wait Upon the Lord with Rejoicing

Stand

## Prayers

P Heavenly Father, we wait for you.

**C More than watchmen wait for the morning—**

P More than watchmen wait for the morning.

**C Lead us in your truth and teach us.**

P For you are the God of our salvation.

**C For you we wait all the day long.**

P O God, inspire us to wait for you faithfully.

**C Serve you joyfully.**

P And give to others generously.

**C Gracious Lord, grant healing for the sick.**

P Courage for the fainthearted.

**C Hope for the discouraged.**

P And great clarity for all in the valley of decision.

**C Amen.**

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## Benediction

P: God give us the faith of Abraham, the hope of Isaiah, the joy of Elizabeth, and the gratitude of Zechariah. God will make us strong and courageous.

**C: As we wait upon the Lord! Amen.**

## Hymn

“God’s Own Son Most Holy”

Christian Worship Hymnal #17



1 God’s own Son most ho - ly Came a ser - vant low - ly,  
2 Still he comes with - in us; Still his voice would win us  
3 Thus, if we have known him And will not dis - own him  
4 Those who then are loy - al Find a wel - come roy - al.



Came to live a - mong us, Came to suf - fer for us,  
From the sins that hurt us, Would to truth con - vert us  
Nor have loved him cold - ly But will trust him bold - ly,  
Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re - lease us.



Bore the cross to save us, Hope and free - dom gave us.  
From our fool - ish er - rors Ere he comes in ter - rors.  
He will then re - ceive us, Heal us, and for - give us.  
Let us here con - fess you Till in heav’n we bless you.

Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Tune: GOTTES SOHN IST KOMMEN (66 66 66) attr. Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534.

## UPCOMING WORSHIP SERVICES

**December 18 & 19 - *A God Lived Life Opens Our Hearts to Others***

**December 24 - *Who Is He?***

**2 PM & 4 PM Lutheran Elementary School**

**6 PM Sunday School**

**10 PM Candlelight Service -- *What Child Is This?***

**December 25 - 9 AM -- *What Child Is This? God in the Flesh***

**December 26 -- *What Child Is This? Our Substitute and Sacrifice***

**December 31 -- *New Year’s Eve***

**January 1 & 2 -- *What Child Is This? Who Turns Slaves into Sons***