



THE ADVENT OF OUR GOD

A Service for the Season of Advent

by James Hansen

O Come, Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in earthly exile here until the Son of God appear.

REFRAIN:

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall
come to free you Israel.

2. O send now maker of the starry skies the light 'twas never
lost by faithful eyes.
Send us the child, salvation for all, to save your people when they call.
3. O come now Spirit of this child of peace. From long endured injustice
now release
this people you have promised on earth, a life anew; this wondrous birth.

* Text: adpt. by James Hansen. Music: *Veni, Veni Emmanuel*, arranged by James Hansen.
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Herald In The Desert

- Who is called baptizer, from the edge of desert;
camel's hair Elijah, standing in the water.

REFRAIN: All

Re-ment, for the King-dom of God is at hand. Pre-pare now the
way of the Lord in the land. land. land.

- Leather belt around him, from the edge of darkness;
locusts, wild honey, wild John the Baptist. (to Refrain)
- They begin to ask him, "What should we be doing?"
"Let the one with two coats give to one who has none." (to Refrain)
- "What of us required; tax collectors, soldiers?"
"Honesty to people, plain and simple justice." (to Refrain)
- Herald in the desert, clear the path before him.
Straighten, smooth and level. All will see salvation. (to Refrain and Final Refrain)

Text: James Hansen. Music: Trad. Spanish Carol arranged by James Hansen.
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There Grows In Jesse's Dwelling

- There grows in Jesse's dwelling on hardy root and green,
a bloom as prophets telling for all the earth foreseen.
This bloom, this winter rose, will flower forth in shining
as darkness nears its close.
- Isaiah was inspired, proclaiming how in earth, with such love,
God conspired with Mary to give birth.
Such love unknown before to purchase for creation
our freedom evermore.
- This flower has a fragrance, a power we can share;
a life of graceful radiance, no darkness anywhere.
This child has God's own name; a name to live and die for,
our fullness to reclaim.

Text: adpt. by James Hansen. Music: *Es Ist Ein Ros'*, arranged by James Hansen.
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Song Of High Revolt

Choir: All:
1. Sing we a song of high re - volt. Sing we a song of high re -

- Sing we of God who deep-ly cares. Sing we of God who deep-ly
- By God the poor are lift - ed up. By God the poor are lift - ed
- God calls us to re - volt and fight. God calls us to re - volt and

Choir:
1. volt; make great the Lord, God's name ex - alt! Sing we the words of

- cares and still with us our bur - den shares. God, who with strength the
- up; God sat - is - fies with bread and cup the hun - gry folk of
- fight; to seek for what is just and right, to sing and live Mag-

1. Ma - ry's song of God at war with hu - man wrong; -

- proud dis - owns, - brings down the might - y from their thrones; -
- man - y lands; - the rich are left with emp - ty hands; -
- ni - fi - cat; - to ease all peo - ple's sor - ry lot; -

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All: Fine

1. _____ of God at war with hu - man wrong. _____
 2. _____ brings down the might - y from their thrones. _____
 3. _____ the rich are left with emp - ty hands. _____
 4. _____ to ease all peo - ple's sor - ry lot. _____

Ballad Of The Ark

1. Now God saw things were not very good on the earth that God created;
 yet, on Noah did God smile, "Make yourself an ark of wood."

All:

What is the Ark? What that with - in lives the glo - ry of God?

2. Two and two each came into the ark, as the waters swelled about them;
 til the end of forty days, til the dove returned no more.

All:

Where is the Ark? Where that with - in lives the glo - ry of God?

3. With the midwife near to help her, did the Hebrew woman give birth,
 and she knew well of the danger but for three months hid him still.
 Then a little ark she fashioned, placed the tiny child within.
 Then she launched him in the river reeds, his journey to begin.

4. Now when David arose and went out from Jerusalem to Judah;
 to bring back the Lord's abode, went the King of Israel.

All:

What is the Ark? What that with - in lives the glo - ry of God?

5. "How would come here the Ark of the Lord?" In his fear did David waver.
 So the Ark was left to stay about three months in that house.

All:

Where is the Ark? Where that with - in lives the glo - ry of God?

6. Now does Mary rise and set out for the countryside of Judah.
 She is on her way to visit with her kin, Elizabeth.
 Mary hears cry out a loud voice, drawing near her cousin's portal,
 "How is it the mother of my Lord should come to visit me?"

7. In the house where the Ark was delayed came to lodge the Lord's great blessing.
 So the King of Israel danced with joy before the Lord.

All:

Here is the Ark: Here that with - in lives the glo - ry of God.

8. For about the time of three months does she tarry with her cousin,
 with Elizabeth a party to the Spirit of the Lord.
 Now, like Mary, she is pregnant; in her body other life.
 In his mother is the dancing John, in joy, before the Lord.

9. Here the Ark of the new covenant, still within, the dwelling presence.
 Mark the journey of the Ark; journey to Jerusalem.

All: Fine

Who is the Ark? Who that with - in lives the glo - ry of God?

Magnificat

1. Ev'rything living and breathing within me,
All that I am sings the joy of my life.
2. All is alive in a cry of thanksgiving,
all is delight in the Savior, the Lord.

VERSE 3: All

All is a - live in a cry of thanks - giv - ing, ———

all is de - light in the Sav - ior, the Lord.

4. In lowness and need I am never alone,
and all who come after, God's goodness is known.
5. How holy the name of the Lord God who leads
with miracles, wonders and great, mighty deeds.
6. Forever this mercy a shield on guard,
for all who rely on and reverence the Lord.
7. In power the strong arm of God is revealed,
the proud go to pieces; their priv'lege repealed.
8. The high and the mighty collapse in decay,
while those they have trampled on carry the day.
9. With hunger and helplessness now in the past,
the powers that be are sent packing at last.
10. Deep is the mem'ry of God come to save us;
promise to Abraham, sands on the shore.
11. Promise to mothers and fathers before us,
covenant love until time after time.

VERSE 12: All

Cov - e - nant pres - ence as time be - gins bloom - ing, ——— (Fine)

prom - ise to Is - ra - el, heir ev - er - more.

Text: Luke 1:46-55. Music: James Hansen.
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People, Look East

1. People, look East. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able. Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look East and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.
2. Furrows, be glad, though earth is bare. One more seed is planted there:
give up your strength the seed to nourish. That in course the flow'r
may flourish.
People, look East and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.
3. Stars, keep the watch when night is dim. One more light the bowl
shall brim.
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look East and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.
4. Angels, announce on this great feast, him who cometh from the East.
Set ev'ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord
is coming.
People, look East and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Flemish Prophet Carol

1. A blazing chariot, lightning on high; the prophet,
watcher of wind, moon and sky.
In scorn he holds riches, is one with the poor;
"make justice your worship", his words will endure.
A light only dreamed by an unwelcome fire;
of visions and trances, of prophets inspired.

2. From Jesse's root will a little shoot spring.
The land to justice and right he will bring.
Jerusalem, city of justice: to name,
to favor the captives, the poor and the lame.
By the glory of God is Israel led
with mercy and justice, companions ahead.

3. To strengthen hands that are feeble and weak,
embolden hearts with the courage to seek.
For blind eyes and deaf ears a new freedom bring
in Zion when enters the Lord as the king.
A light only dreamed by an unwelcome fire;
of visions and trances, of prophets inspired.

4. The wolf shall live as the friend of the lamb,
with lion eating the same hay as ram.
The sea knows the water as earth knows the Lord,
and hidden by poverty, Jesus is born.
By the glory of God is Israel led
with mercy and justice, companions ahead.

5. With flow'rs and singing the desert will bloom.
Rejoice as dawn from the darkness untombs.
Our love is the sign of the new birthing place;
no longer the swaddling limits of space.
A light only dreamed by an unwelcome fire;
of visions and trances, of prophets inspired.
A bur on the back if it sting or ignite;
in fury or comfort, a star in the night.

Text: James Hansen. Music: Trad. Flemish Carol arranged by James Hansen.
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Bring A Torch

1. Bring a torch Jeanette, Isabella, bring a torch to Bethlehem.
Kings and common folk all to the village; people of light
released from darkness.

REFRAIN: All

Good News! Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - cis.

Great Joy! Call him E - man - u - el. *Fine*

2. Now, remember the long ago stories when the virgin will be with child.
All will happen as said by the sages. Call him a name which means,
"God with us." (to Refrain)

3. Join the journey of mother and father, join the search for a room
and a bed. Come with shepherds and others who hunger. Come
find your strength in wondrous weakness. (to Refrain)

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The Rose Tree Carol

1. In December cold and still, as the year is slowing;
while the world is dark as night, hope of Spring is growing.
See the bud of rose tree here, one bright blossom will appear.
On the rose tree see, and the fig tree see, oh the promise,
the promise, the promise saying, watch at all times, praying.
2. Hear Isaiah prophesy; thirsty land springs water.
Jordan knows the Baptist's cry for your sons and daughters.
From their thrones the mighty fall; rise up justice over all.
On the rose tree see, and the fig tree see, oh the promise,
the promise, the promise saying, watch at all times, praying.
3. Now the springtime has returned, image of creation.
Here the flow'ring bush is burned, rising to salvation.
Now this flame on every tongue from the tree is surely hung.
From the virgin womb to the virgin tomb, oh the promise,
the promise, the promise saying, watch at all times, praying.

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Masters In This Hall

1. Masters in this hall, hear the news of signs and wonders
brought from far away and ever you I pray. (to Refrain)
- REFRAIN: All
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell sing we clear.
Blessed will the folk on earth all be when born is God's Son, dear.
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell sing we loud.
When our God will raise the folk so poor and cast adown the proud.
2. This is he whom ancients chanted of with one accord;
promised by the prophets in their faithful word. (to Refrain)
 3. Joseph, son of David, have no fear to take her as your wife.
The child she bears is of the Holy Ghost. (to Refrain)
 4. This is Adam's heir, Adam's hope and Eve's redemption.
Sing the joyful news when Eden is restored. (to Refrain)
 5. Now to Bethlehem let us make our pilgrimage
and the wickedness of earth will be destroyed. (to Refrain)

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Kingdom Come!

REFRAIN: All

(Fine)

1. Sing forever woman, man. Make the music while we can.
Life from death proclaim, O God; rescue from the pain, O God. (to Refrain)
2. Do not trust the ones who take power over justice sake;
Once by death are overcome, all their works so quickly done. (to Refrain)
3. On this day make new your hope, you who trust in Jacob's God.
Hear the earth and sky, O God. Hear the outcry now, O God. (to Refrain)
4. Faithful promise keep, O God; justice for the weak, O God;
food for hunger deep, O God; prisoner's release, O God. (to Refrain)
5. Blindness changed to sight, O God; voice for victim's right, O God;
refuge strangers share, O God; orphan's mothercare, O God. (to Refrain)
6. Comfort widows long, O God; guard from tyrant's rage, O God;
ever Lord, alone, O God; age to age is Zion's God. (to Refrain)

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VISITATION, German 15th c. Frueauf, Rueland von, the Elder, 1470-1507
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