Sunday @ Seven November 2022 Coming ready or not!

Welcome

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

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height in ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.

Rejoice, rejoice....

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....

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....

O come, Thou key of David, come and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

Rejoice, rejoice.....

Opening Prayer

God our Father, you promised so much if only we trust in you.

Help us to make this Advent a time of renewal;

a time of hope, expectancy, faith and peace;

a time when we hear you speaking to us
- "I am he who comforts you." Amen.

Make way, make way, for Christ the King In splendour arrives. Fling wide the gates and welcome Him Into your lives.

> Make way! Make way! For the King of kings. Make way! Make way! And let His kingdom in.

He comes the broken hearts to heal, The prisoners to free; The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance, The blind shall see.

Make way!

And those who mourn with heavy hearts, Who weep and sigh, With laughter, joy and royal crown He'll beautify.

Make way!

We call you now to worship Him As Lord of all. To have no gods before Him, Their thrones must fall.

Make way!

Let us praise the Lord Giving thanks for Jesus, the One True Light who comes into our world, into our lives, into our hearts.

Let us praise the Lord.

Let us praise the Lord who brings comfort and security to those who are lost.

Let us praise the Lord.

Let us praise the Lord who opens up the way of pardon to all those who repent.

Let us praise the Lord.

Let us praise the Lord who promises peace in a troubled world, showing the way of reconciliation and love.

Let us praise the Lord.

Let us praise the Lord who is here with us in this place and as we stand in his presence may we shine only for Him.

Let us praise the Lord.

These are the days of Elijah, declaring the word of the Lord; and these are the days of your servant, Moses,

righteousness being restored. And though these are days of great trial, of famine and darkness and sword, still we are the voice in the desert crying "Prepare ye the way of the Lord."

Behold He comes riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call; lift your voice it's the year of jubilee, out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

These are the days of Ezekiel, the dry bones becoming as flesh; and these are the days of your servant, David,

rebuilding the temple of praise. These are the days of the harvest, the fields are as white in the world, and we are the labourers in your vineyard, declaring the word of the Lord.

Behold He comes riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call; lift your voice it's the year of jubilee, out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

The time is coming. Reading &reflection – Mark 13: 32-37

There's a sound on the wind like a victory song,

listen now let it rest on your soul. It's a song that I learned from a heavenly king,

It's a song of a battle royal.

Come on heaven's children the city is in sight. There will be no sadness on the other side.

There's a loud shout of victory that leaps from our hearts

as we wait for our conquering king.

There's a triumph resounding from dark ages past

Come on heaven's children......

There'll be crowns for the conquerors and white robes to wear, there'll be no more sorrow or pain. And the battles of earth shall be lost in the sight, of the glorious Lamb that was slain.

Come on heaven's children......

Now the king of the ages approaches the earth,

he will burst through the gates of the sky. And all men will bow down to his beautiful name;

we shall rise with a shout, we shall fly!

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Now the king of the ages approaches the earth,

he will burst through the gates of the sky. And all men will bow down to his beautiful name;

we shall rise with a shout, we shall fly!

How long will it be? Reading & Reflection – Matthew 24:36/34

Purify my heart, let me be as gold and precious silver. Purify my heart, let me be as gold, pure gold.

Refiners fire, my heart's one desire is to be holy, set apart for you , Lord. I choose to be holy, set apart for you my master, ready to do your will.

Purify my heart, cleanse me from within and make me holy. Purify my heart, cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

Refiners fire.....

to the victory song we now sing.

How ready are we? Is there anything we are trying to hide? A moment for quiet, personal, reflection.

A prayer to say together -

Loving God, you call us to test ourselves and ensure that we are still in the faith. Help us to take that challenge seriously. Draw us closer to you, day by day, so that our faith may be as real and fresh as the day we first believed. Prepare us for your coming again in Christ Jesus, so that we may be ready to receive him and found faithful in his service.

Amen.

Create in me a clean, clean heart. Create in me a work of art. Create in me a miracle; Something real and something beautiful.

You're not finished with me yet. You're not finished with me yet. By your power, I can change, I can change; `cause you're not finished with me yet.

Have your say....

From heaven you came, helpless babe, entered our world, your glory veiled; not to be served but to serve, and give your life that we might live.

This is our God, the Servant King, He calls us now to follow Him, to bring our lives as a daily offering of worship to the Servant King. There in the garden of tears, my heavy load He chose to bear; his heart with sorrow was torn, 'yet not my will but yours,' He said.

This is our God.....

Come see His hands and His feet, the scars that speak of sacrifice, hands that flung stars into space to cruel nails surrendered.

This is our God.....

So let us learn how to serve, and in our lives enthrone Him; each other's needs to prefer, for it is Christ we're serving.

This is our God.....

Space for our prayers

God of all hope and joy, open our hearts in welcome, that your Son Jesus at his coming may find in us a dwelling prepared for himself.

Come, Lord Jesus, Come as King. Rule in our hearts, Come as love. Rule in our minds, Come as peace. Rule in our actions, Come as power. Rule in our days, Come as joy. Rule in our darkness, Come as light. Rule in our labours, Come as hope. Thy Kingdom come Among us. Amen. 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.

Hills of the North, rejoice, river and mountain-spring, hark to the advent voice; valley and lowland, sing, Christ comes in righteousness and love, he brings salvation from above.

Isles of the Southern seas, sing to the listening earth, carry on every breeze hope of a world's new birth: in Christ shall all be made anew, his word is sure, his promise true.

Lands of the East, arise, he is your brightest morn, greet him with joyous eyes, praise shall his path adorn: your seers have longed to know their Lord; to you he comes, the final word.

Shores of the utmost West, lands of the setting sun, welcome the heavenly guest in whom the dawn has come: he brings a never-ending light who triumphed o'er our darkest night. Shout, as you journey home, songs be in every mouth, lo, from the North they come, from East and West and South: in Jesus all shall find their rest, in him the universe be blest.

We say the Grace together -

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

There will not be a Sunday @ Seven in December. The last Sunday of the month is Christmas Day.

Next Sunday @ Seven will be on January 29th 2023.

What's in the offing?

Come and join with us for an hour of relaxed worship and reflection. It's a new year. What are our hopes and expectations for the months ahead? Perhaps God has got something new in store for us! We will meet at St John & St Mark Hall. Or you can join in via Zoom. Please contact Nigel Silvester or Ian Banks for more details.

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