

CALL TO WORSHIP

Harpeth Baptist Church

The Gift of God is not by works

We receive God's perfect gift by grace through faith

Text: Ephesians 2:8-9

Responsive Reading: Ephesians 2:1-7

8:30 service

199 Joy to the World

189 O Come All Ye Faithful

190 Silent Night, Holy Night

195 God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

11:00 service

189 O Come All Ye Faithful

210 Ring the Bells

199 Joy to the World

237 Emmanuel

SONGS

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

This ancient advent hymn originated in part from the "Great 'O' Antiphons," part of the medieval Roman Catholic Advent liturgy. On each day of the week leading up to Christmas, one responsive verse would be chanted, each including a different Old Testament name for the coming Messiah.

When we sing each verse of this hymn, we acknowledge Christ as the fulfillment of these Old Testament prophecies. We sing this hymn in an already-but not yet-kingdom of God. Christ's first coming gives us a reason to rejoice again and again, yet we know that all is not well with the world. So along with our rejoicing, we plead using the words of this hymn that Christ would come again to perfectly fulfill the promise that all darkness will be turned to light.

The original text created a reverse acrostic: "ero cras," which means, "I shall be with you tomorrow." That is the promise we hold to as we sing this beautiful hymn.

- Dec. 17 O Sapientia (O Wisdom)
- Dec. 18 O Adonai (Hebrew name for God, usually translated "Lord")
- Dec. 19 O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse)
- Dec. 20 O Clavis David (O Key of David)
- Dec. 21 O Oriens (O Dayspring)
- Dec. 22 O Rex Gentium (O King of the Gentiles)
- Dec. 23 O Emmanuel (O Emmanuel)

O come, o come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

Chorus: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you o Israel

O come, our wisdom from on high
Who ordered all things mightily.
To us the path of knowledge show
And teach us in her ways to go

[Chorus]

O come, the Branch of Jesse's Tree
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust your might pow'r to save
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave

[Chorus]

O come, o Key of David, come
And open wide our heav'nly home.
Make safe the way that leads on high
And close the path to misery

[Chorus]

O come, desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind.
O bid our sad divisions cease
And be yourself our King of Peace!

[Chorus]