

MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A SERVICE OF MORNING WORSHIP
Sunday, December 13, 2020, 10:30 a.m.
Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome and Greeting

Prelude: "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light" (John Schop, arr. Cindy Berry)

Opening Sentences

Hymn 89: "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Lighting of the Advent Candles: The Candle of Joy

Opening Prayer

Special Music: "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" (arr. Michael Kastner and Kevin McChesney)

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Sermon: "THE ABSURDITY OF ADVENT"

Hymn 90: "Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers"

Benediction

Benediction Response 580 (v. 1): "God Be With You 'Til We Meet Again"

Participants: Pastor Mark & DeeAnn McCormick, Pastor Jacob Richards, Barb & Jerry Fuller, Shannon Spasova

THE TRIUNE GOD

89

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Haggai 2:7

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

Attr. to Christian F. Witt, 1660-1716

Psalmodia Sacra, Gotha, 1715

1. Come, Thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy
 2. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the
 3. Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a child, and
 4. By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our

peo - ple free; From our fears and sins re - lease us,
 earth Thou art: Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion,
 yet a king, Born to reign in us for - ev - er,
 hearts a - lone; By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it

Let us find our rest in Thee.
 Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne. A - men.

STUTT GART
8.7.8.7

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

90

Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722

Trans. by Sarah Borthwick Findlater, 1823–1907; alt.

Welsh Folk Melody

Evans' *Hymnau a Thonau*, 1865

1. Re - joice! Re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;
2. See that your lamps are burn - ing, Re - plen-ish them with oil;
3. Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The ev - 'ning is ad - vanc - ing And dark - er night is near.
 Look now for your sal - va - tion, The end of sin and toil.
 A - rise, Thou sun so longed for, A - bove this shad - owed sphere!



The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing And soon He will draw night;
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing, The gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, watch with ex - pec - ta - tion, At mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry, The Bride-groom is at hand!
 The day of earth's re - demp - tion, And ev - er be with Thee!

