

Pray.
See your path
Welcome the risks.
Be faithful.
Pray.

The Third Sunday of Advent
December 12, 2010



Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Candle

First Sunday of Advent:	Hope
Second Sunday of Advent:	Peace
Third Sunday of Advent:	Joy
Fourth Sunday of Advent:	Love
Christmas	Light of the World

Call to Worship

One: Come away from haste and the frantic. Quiet, as we wait for the arrival that has already arrived, for the patience with ourselves that is just momentarily forgotten.

All: It's not easy when we are so wrapped up like the gifts we give or hope for.

One: May we all receive God's strength in these ways and more, in the Spirit of hope and peace and joy and love.

All: Yes, and may we find these things again, here, for they are always with us, always there, always God. Always. Amen.

Hymn #9 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ADVENT

9

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL LM with refrain

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
 2. O come, Thou Day - spring, come and cheer Our spir - its
 3. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All peo - ples

cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 by Thine ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
 in one heart and mind; Bid - en - vy, strife, and dis - cord

here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 cease; Fill the whole world with heav - en's peace.

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

Prayer of Confession (In Unison)

We avoid actions, sometimes we do - especially the ones that have uncertain outcomes. This is not a time of the year to seek answers or security. No, it is the time to put all of ourselves into the hope and anticipation of a rebirth we have lost track of; a rebirth that these days stir in us with seemingly no effort. Forgive us God, when it takes too much effort to stir us in your direction. We really are seeking the way and the path, doing our best to follow your beacons of light. Move us to action based on loved and not outcomes. May you be all the certainty we need. Amen.

Silent Prayer for Reconciliation

Hymn #324: Open My Eyes That I May See

324 Open My Eyes That I May See *Psalm 119:18*

Clara H. Scott, 1895

OPEN MY EYES 8.8.9.8 with refrain

Clara H. Scott, 1895



1. O-pen my eyes, that I may see Glimps-es of truth Thou hast for me;
2. O-pen my ears, that I may hear Voic - es of truth Thou send-est clear;
3. O-pen my mouth, and let me bear Glad - ly the warm truth ev - ery-where;



Place in my hands the won-der-ful key That shall un - c' l I set me free.
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, Ev - ery-thing false v. ill dis-ap-pear.
O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare Love with Thy chil-dren thus to share.

Assurance of God's Love & Forgiveness

Of course we know we are forgiven, if we just sit still for a moment, ask for your help, and wait. Of course we know. Let us be assured it is true.

Amen.

*The Passing of the Peace

Prayer for Illumination

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, so that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace.

Amen.

Isaiah 35: 1-10 (The Message)

The Voiceless Break into Song

Wilderness and desert will sing joyously, the badlands will celebrate and flower— Like the crocus in spring, bursting into blossom, a symphony of song and color. Mountain glories of Lebanon—a gift. Awesome Carmel, stunning Sharon—gifts. God's resplendent glory, fully on display. God awesome, God majestic.

Energize the limp hands, strengthen the rubbery knees.
Tell fearful souls, "Courage! Take heart!
God is here, right here, on God's way to put things right
And redress all wrongs. God's on the way! God save you!"

Blind eyes will be opened, deaf ears unstopped,
Lame men and women will leap like deer, the voiceless break into song.
Springs of water will burst out in the wilderness, streams flow in the desert.

Hot sands will become a cool oasis, thirsty ground a splashing fountain.
Even lowly jackals will have water to drink, and barren grasslands flourish richly.

There will be a highway called the Holy Road.
No one rude or rebellious is permitted on this road.
It's for God's people exclusively— impossible to get lost on this road.
Not even fools can get lost on it.

No lions on this road, no dangerous wild animals—
Nothing and no one dangerous or threatening.

Only the redeemed will walk on it.
The people God has ransomed
will come back on this road.
They'll sing as they make their way home to Zion,
unfading halos of joy encircling their heads,
Welcomed home with gifts of joy and gladness
as all sorrows and sighs scurry into the night.

Isaiah 35: 1-10 (New International Version)

Joy of the Redeemed

The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God.

Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way;
say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear;
your God will come, God will come with vengeance; with divine retribution
God will come to save you."

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.
Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.
Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs.
In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness.
The unclean will not journey on it; it will be for those who walk in that Way;
wicked fools will not go about on it.

No lion will be there, nor will any ferocious beast get up on it;
they will not be found there.

But only the redeemed will walk there,
and the ransomed of the LORD will return.
They will enter Zion with singing;
everlasting joy will crown their heads.
Gladness and joy will overtake them,
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Gospel of Matthew 11:2-11: (New Revised Standard Version – NRSV)

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Gospel of Matthew 11:2-11 (The Message)

John, meanwhile, had been locked up in prison. When he got wind of what Jesus was doing, he sent his own disciples to ask, "Are you the One we've been expecting, or are we still waiting?" 4-6 Jesus told them, "Go back and tell John what's going on:

The blind see, The lame walk, Lepers are cleansed, The deaf hear,
The dead are raised, The wretched of the earth learn that God is on their side.
"Is this what you were expecting? Then count yourselves most blessed!"

When John's disciples left to report, Jesus started talking to the crowd about John. "What did you expect when you went out to see him in the wild? A weekend camper? Hardly. What then? A sheik in silk pajamas? Not in the wilderness, not by a long shot. What then? A prophet? That's right, a prophet! Probably the best prophet you'll ever hear. He is the prophet that Malachi announced when he wrote, 'I'm sending my prophet ahead of you, to make the road smooth for you.'

"Let me tell you what's going on here: No one in history surpasses John the Baptizer; but in the kingdom he prepared you for, the lowliest person is ahead of him. For a long time now people have tried to force themselves into God's kingdom. But if you read the books of the Prophets and God's Law closely, you will see them culminate in John, teaming up with him in preparing the way for the Messiah of the kingdom. Looked at in this way, John is the 'Elijah' you've all been expecting to arrive and introduce the Messiah.

Provocation *Overtaken by Gladness & Joy, Almost!* Ray Bagnuolo

Hymn

18

The Desert Shall Rejoice

STERLING 6.6.8.8

Gracia Grindal, 1983

Joy F. Patterson, 1988



The des-ert shall re-joice And blos-som as a rose:

1. It shall
2. For the
3. For the
4. For the
5. As the
6. Un-to



blos-som a-bun-dant-ly And re-joice with praise and sing-ing.
 ears of the deaf shall hear And the blind, their eyes be o-pened.
 tongue of the mute shall sing And the lame will dance with glad-ness.
 ground will be-come a pool And the dry land springs of wa-ter.
 ran-somed re-turn to God And come sing-ing back to Zi-on.
 Zi-on we come with joy, For our God has come to save us.

Preparing for the Offering

One: In this world, someone has too much.

Many: **Someone has barely enough, someone has nothing at all.**

One: When we share our commitment and financial support, we act on the imagination of Jesus.

Many: **Jesus, who sees enough bread to go around, enough courage to speak the truth, and enough love to overcome all things.**

One: O God, to those of us who have hunger, give bread. And to those of us who have bread, give the hunger for justice.

Many: **When the 5,000 were hungry, the disciples came to Jesus and said: "Send the people away, so they may get something to eat."**

One: Jesus answered: "You give them something to eat."

Offertory Music

Blessing the Offering

One: And the people reached in their pockets and pulled out the bread and the fishes and shared them, and there was abundance for all, and even more.

Many: **Amen.**

Announcements

Prayers of the People

Please remember Jerry Brody;
 the family of Catherine Hooper;
 those who struggle in the midst of oppression;
 those who find comfort in lies and bigotry;
 all those who travel or not;
 those whose hearts have chilled and are waiting to be warmed...
 your prayers...

The Prayer that Jesus Taught Us (In Unison)

Mother/Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn

Psalm 24:7-10

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 8

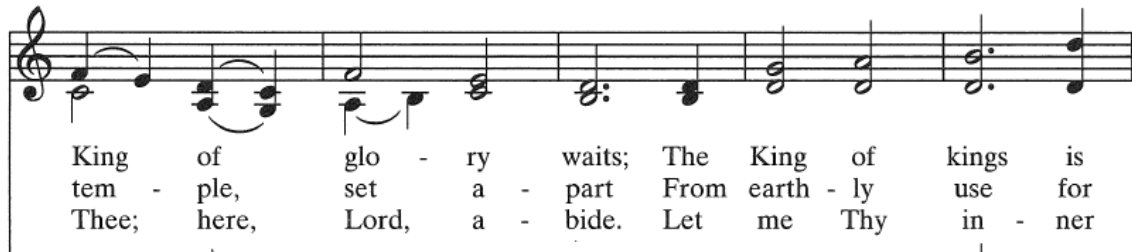
TRURO LM

Georg Weissel, 1642
Trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1855

Thomas Williams, 1789
Harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)



1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates, Behold, the
2. Fling wide the portals of your heart; Make it a
3. Redeemer, come! I open wide My heart to



King of glory waits; The King of kings is
temple, set apart From earth - ly use for
Thee; here, Lord, abide. Let me Thy in - ner



draw - ing near; The Savior of the world is here!
heaven's employ, Adorned with prayer, and love, and joy.
presence feel; Thy grace and love in me reveal.

Benediction

Sung Blessing (in English or Czech)

Christians rise and act your creed,	Amen to pozechnani prijdiz na nas vsecky,
Let your prayer be in your deed;	Abychom po skonani vesli v raj nebesky,
Seek the right, perform the true,	A tam s angelskou risi, boha take ctilli,
Raise your work and life anew.	Dejz nam to; o Jezisi, spasitely mily.
Come then law divine and reign,	Amen.
Freest faith assailed in vain.	
Perfect love, bereft of fear,	
born in heaven and radiant here. Amen.	

Blessing:

One: Go out into the world to love and serve God and God's people. Cherish all the members of God's family. Go with peace in your hearts, find peace in your lives, make peace in the world.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude (Closing Music)

Please join us for our fellowship meal following the Postlude.

This Coming Saturday!



**Saturday, December 18th
Jan Hus Presbyterian Church and Neighborhood House**

**Produced and Directed and Performed by
Christian McLeer and the
Remarkable Theatre Brigade
7:00 P.M.**

Advent and Christmas Schedule

Sunday, Nov. 28:	First Sunday in Advent 1:00 P.M. Composer's Voice Concert (Free)
Sunday, Dec. 5:	Second Sunday in Advent; Communion Sunday
Sunday, Dec. 12:	Third Sunday in Advent
Saturday, Dec. 18:	Amahl and the Night Visitors
Sunday, Dec. 19:	Fourth Sunday in Advent
Friday, Dec. 24:	6:30 P.M. Christmas Eve Service
Christmas Day	10:30 A.M. Morning Christmas Service
Sunday, Dec. 26	11:00 A.M. Worship

Announcements

Thank you! To All who made Friday's Variety Show a Wonderful Success!

Today! Following Worship at 1:00 PM
Composer Voice Workshop!
All Are Welcome! Free Admission!

Jan Hus Presbyterian Church & Neighborhood House

Since 1888, the doors of this church have been open to those who seek a new way to engage with the Spirit and share at the table Jesus has set for us all. In those early years, Jan Hus served the needs of the Czech immigrants who founded the church and named it after the Czech reformer and martyr Jan Hus.

Today, our mission has expanded to include people from many different walks in life; people who want to share this stage of their journey with others in a God centered community. We continue to honor our Czech founders, as well, by singing our closing hymn in the Czech language each Sunday.

Worship at Jan Hus is a time for the Body of Christ to affirm God's vision for the world and witness the Gospel of Hope. We believe that God is greater than human language or experience, and to more fully experience the wonder of God, we embrace language that acknowledges God the Mother and God the Father.

We hold fast to the tenets of the Reformation that call for the priesthood of all believers, therefore ours is a shared pulpit. This is a place in which we hear the Scriptures interpreted by clergy and laity, alike, reflecting our congregation and community as a diverse expression of the presence of God in each believer. We strive for sermons that are conversations which give us an opportunity to hear how God's voice speaks to each of us. Often, we are invited into new ways of seeing and hearing God, deepening and affirming those beliefs we hold most true.

It is possible that Jan Hus may seem different than what you expect in church, for surely God loves to challenge us all with the unexpected!

However you may find us, please know that you are most welcome here as one who carries within you the Spirit of God who loves us all. *Namasthe!*



Jan Hus Presbyterian Church & Neighborhood House

"Where you are welcome, long before you arrive."

351 East 74th Street New York City 10021
Telephone: (212) 288-6743 Fax: (212) 879-0929
Pastor Ray Bagnuolo on his cell call 914.217.4173

E-mail: church@janhus.org

Email Ray: pastor@janhus.org Website: www.janhus.org

Facebook: Jan Hus Presbyterian Church; Twitter @janhuschurch

THE SESSION: Kerry Flynn, Gary Ireland,
Annie Rawlings, Del Shorter, Deborah Widerkehr

THE DEACONS: Essie Rance

THE STAFF

Ministers	All the People
Ray Bagnuolo	Stated Supply Pastor
Amy Conley	Volunteer Coordinator, HOAP Outreach
Drew Paton	Pastoral Assistant, HOAP Outreach
David Kelley	Social Worker
Stanley M. Kusz	Hospitality & Building Support
Edmund Leary	HOAP Outreach
Jimmy Ortiz	Part-time Building Manager
Walter Marcus	Custodian/Helper
Christian McLeer	Music Director
Karl Kaminski, Jeremiah Frederick	Musicians
Holly Nedelka, Director	Child's Play; www.childsplaynyc.com
Carol Schachter	Church Administrator
Gerard D. Shaw	Hospitality

THE RESIDENT STAFF: Lily Grecco, Albert Linares, Marvin Ramirez, Essie Rance, Annie Rawlings, Sara Renstron, Juan Reyes, Frank Rocco, Gerard D. Shaw

HUSSITE PETS: Philpot, Madge, **Sam**, Rocket & Bizou + 4, Allie, & Marvin's Reptile Friends

16,1,2,15,14,3,4,13,12,5,6,11,10,7,8,9

