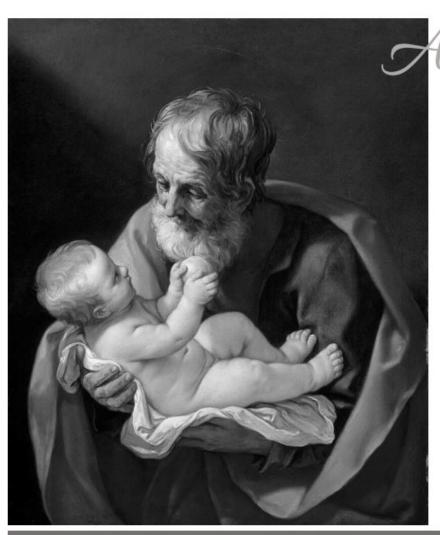
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MARKET SQUARE

20 South Second Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

resbyterian

DECEMBER 21, 2025 • 11:00 A.M.



n angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means "God with us."



OUR MISSION

To proclaim and live the Good News of Jesus Christ by welcoming friend and stranger alike into our diverse and inclusive family of faith regardless of race, class, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or worldly condition of any kind as we celebrate our gifts, work for justice, peace, and a sustainable environment, reach out in mission, and witness to God's transforming love.

Children's Ministry

Children of all ages are always welcome! There are two shelves in our Narthex (at the back of the Sanctuary) with sequin boards, crayons, markers, coloring sheets, and puzzles as well as a few library books that go along with the theme of the worship service. On typical Sundays immediately following the children's sermon (around 11:15 a.m.), education for children K-6 is offered in the Children's Education Room (Level 4). On Sundays, nursery care is available for children (infants through 5-year-olds) in the nursery on the fourth floor. The nursery is staffed by Sidney Dame, our nursery caregiver, and volunteers.

Visitors

We are glad you joined us for worship today! Please take a moment to sign the yellow visitor card located in your pew and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher. If you want to learn more about our church, the best place to start is our website at marketsquarechurch.org and our Facebook page at facebook.com/MarketSquareChurch.

Parking

The city's parking garages have upgraded their entrance and exit system, which means paper tickets are a thing of the past. When you pull up to the entrance gate, it will lift on its own—no button-pushing required. To leave at no cost, you'll need to see a staff member or someone who looks like they know what they're doing (ushers, atrium staff like Steve, and other confident-looking folks qualify). They'll take your license plate number, validate you, and then you're free to exit whenever you're ready. Best practice: please validate as soon as you arrive at church.

A few important notes:

- Make sure your license plate isn't covered by snow or mud (we know how much Market Square folks enjoy off-roading).
- Know your license plate number when you come into the church.
- If you previously registered your plate using the parking company's instructions, please remove your credit card information (unless you also park in other garages).

No need to worry about QR codes or the app—we're keeping it simple. Every time you come to church, please see someone to validate your parking. This is the new (and improved!) #2 ticket procedure.

Media & Privacy Notice

The church regularly uses photos, videos, and audio recordings of services and programs for printed materials, its website, and social media (Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube).

Worship services and some events are livestreamed. Leaders (pastors, musicians, speakers, etc.) will appear on camera, and the backs of congregants' heads may be visible. If you prefer not to appear on camera, please sit in one of the last four rows. During Communion, use the right-hand line, which is not on camera.

Unless you tell us otherwise, the church assumes permission to use your photo or likeness. If you do not wish to be included, please contact the church office at 717-257-1270 ext. 10 or sheets@marketsquarechurch.org.

Market Square Presbyterian Church—December 21, 2025

When you see this symbol † preceding a part of the worship service, please rise in body or spirit. **Bold type** denotes parts spoken or sung by the congregation.

WE APPROACH GOD

TOLLING OF THE BELL

Let us use this time during the opening voluntary to quiet our conversations and open our hearts and minds in preparation for worshipping God. Please silence your electronic devices at this time.

WELCOME The Reverend Stanley J. Jenkins

VOLUNTARY O Come, O Come, Emmanuel John Behnke (b. 1953), setting

Chant - Meditation

CHORAL INTROIT Prepare the Way of the Lord Taizé Community (1984), text

Jacques Berthier (1923 – 1994), music

Prepare the way of the Lord,

and all people will see the salvation of our God.

† CALL TO WORSHIP & LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH

Ruling Elders Kari A. Hultman & Nancy D. Sheets

One: We gather together in this place:

All: prophets and dreamers, singers and poets, One: we who dare to imagine a world renewed; All: we who dare to dream God's dream.

One: We speak out with Zechariah. God's name be blessed forever! All: One: For God has remembered us in mercy, All: and remained faithful to us in love. One: Because of God's tender compassion, All: the dawn from on high will rise over us.

One: We light the candle for hope, which creates a path for a new, unknown story to unfold.

We light the candle for peace, which requires us to pay attention to the needs of those around us.

We light the candle of joy, which sustains us in the midst of uncertainty.

Today, we also light the candle of love because love makes the impossible possible. All:

† PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Reverend Allison R. Smith

God of love,

you teach us songs of praise and call us to proclaim justice.

We confess the ways that we instead

use our words and voices in ways that cause harm.

We share half-truths, spread gossip, and speak unkindly.

We fail to speak up for the vulnerable.

We pay lip service to our faith

instead of taking risks in the name of love.

Help us to love you and our neighbors

with courage and conviction,

in word and in deed.

We pray in the name of Jesus.

CORE VALUES: FAITH • COMMUNITY • COMPASSION • JUSTICE • SERVICE

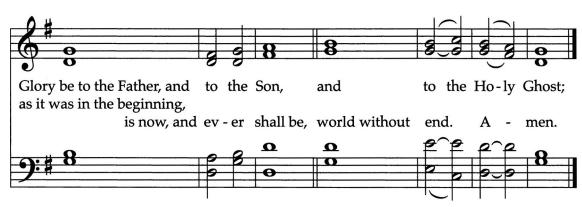
† SILENCE

† KYRIE



† ASSURANCE OF PARDON





† PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM And the Glory of the Lord from Messiah Isaiah 40:5, text

George F. Handel (1685 – 1759), music

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,

and all flesh shall see it together:

For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT

Gospel Luke 2:1-7 Ruling Elder Morgan Dame

Mary and Joseph look for a room

Hymn No. 115 Away in a Manger MUELLER

Mary lays Jesus in the manger

Gospel Luke 2: 8-16 Evie Dame

Angels appear to the shepherds

Hymn No. 119 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing MENDELSSOHN

Gospel Luke 2:17-20

The Shepherds tell the Good News

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

† RESPONSIVE HYMN NO. 136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain GO TELL IT

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (written by Bruce D. Prewer and used with permission of the author)

I believe in God whose light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never smother it.

I believe in the Word who has become incarnate, our very flesh and blood, yet full of grace and truth.

I believe in the blessed appearing of the salvation of our God, that is for the happiness of all people.

I believe in his name as Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of peace; Of the increase of his rule and of his unique peace, there will be no end.

The zeal of the God of hosts will do this.

This I surely believe!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

INVITATION TO GIVING

If you would like to give a financial gift online during the time of the offering, scan this QR code to access our online giving portal.



GIVING OF OUR GIFTS & THE 2026 CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

OFFERTORY

What Ya Gonna Name Your Baby Boy?

John Parker (b. 1938), text David Lantz III (b. 1956), music

Oh, Mary, what ya gonna call Him?

What ya gonna call Him, born in a stable? Angels shout it out with joy! Oh, Mary, what ya gonna call Him, Savior of the world? Mary, what ya gonna name that baby boy? What ya gonna name your boy?

In a town one night, guided by a God of might, Mary gave birth to a child, pure and wholly undefiled.

Laid Him a manger bed, tuft of fodder for His head. No room in the town was found though they sought one all around.

Call Him King of kings! Call Him Jesus!

CORE VALUES: FAITH • COMMUNITY • COMPASSION • JUSTICE • SERVICE

† DOXOLOGY No. 609

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

† SENDING HYMN NO. 110

Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH

† CHARGE & BENEDICTION

† CHORAL RESPONSE

As a sign of our unity in Christ, we invite you to join hands — or simply make a friendly connection with someone nearby in whatever way feels comfortable — as we sing the first verse of "Blest Be the Tie That Binds." And if you're joining us via livestream, feel free to reach for the hand (or paw!) of whoever is closest and sing along with us.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

+ + + + +

Worship Leaders This Morning

Rev. Allison R. Smith, Supply Associate Pastor Rev. Stanley J. Jenkins, Pastor/Head of Staff Ruling Elders Nancy Sheets & Kari Hultman, Candlelighters Tyler A. Canonico-Dilley, Minister of Music & Organist Ethan J. Draper, Organ Scholar The Sanctuary Choir Sean Meara, Crucifer Newman Stare, Audiovisual Technician Andrew Hunter, Livestream Technician

Liturgy adapted from materials from <u>Illustrated Ministry</u>
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Today: Christmas Joy Offering

We will dedicate the 2026 Christmas Joy Offering this morning during 11 am worship. Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we lift up past, present, and future leaders of the church. God has blessed the church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. This Offering provides support for Presbyterian church workers and their families in their time of need and leadership development and education for communities of color at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

Envelopes can be found at the back of the sanctuary or you may designate "Christmas Joy" on your checks.

Our Ministry Today

Breakfast Coordinator — Janet Kunkel **Breakfast Preparers** — First Korean Church of Dillsburg

Breakfast Servers — Marty Shifflett, Ray Kunkel, Tim and Meredith Poole, Marci Mowery, Joe Frassetta

Ushers — Jerry Bair, Kirk Ney, Jill Smeltzer Marianne Flickinger

12/19/25 Friday dinner:

Shift #1 Ben P, Dae A, Kate A, Dale L, Gail L, Shift #2 Joel L, Andy H, Ishmael, Ken B,

Cover Art

Guido Reni (1575–1642), Saint Joseph and the Christ Child, 1638–1640. Oil on canvas. The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Public domain.

Reni was the most famous Italian painter of his day, revered for the grace and naturalness of his serenely balanced compositions. This intimate portrayal of Joseph demonstrates Reni's skill through his rendering of the foster father of Christ as a simple man tenderly holding his infant son. The fruit held by the infant Jesus is a reminder to the viewer of both the fall of man in Eden as well as the fruitfulness of redemption through the advent of Christianity. [MFAH, ed.]

Help Us Finish the Year Strong

As we approach year's end, we are facing a \$32,000 shortfall in our pledge and general fund unless December giving increases. We trust that, together and with God's help, this need can be met.

If you have not yet given this year, we invite your support. If you have already given faithfully and are able to give a bit more, we are deeply grateful.

Offerings may be placed in the plate on Sunday or given online by clicking "Donate" on our church website.

Thank you for your generosity and partnership in ministry.

Congregational Meeting

We have a congregational meeting today, December 21, 2025, immediately following the 11 am worship service for the purpose of electing 2026 officers and at-large members of the Churchwide Nominating Committee. The ordination and/or installation will take place on Sunday, January 18, 2026. The slate of nominees in advance of next Sunday's meeting can be found on the back of the poinsettia memorial order form. Market Square has three elected leadership boards: Session, the Board of Trustees, and the Board of Deacons. All Presbyterian churches have a Session — the primary governing body made up of ordained Ruling Elders. Not all PC(USA) churches have trustees and deacons, but Market Square does. Our Trustees oversee the church's facilities and investments, while our ordained Deacons care for the congregation through hospitality, ushering, and flower delivery. The Session provides overall spiritual and practical leadership for the church. Made up of ordained Ruling Elders, the Session helps guide Market Square's mission, oversees our ministries and membership, supports our pastors and staff, and ensures that the life of the church reflects our faith and values. Officers are elected to three-year terms and may serve up to two consecutive terms (a maximum of six years).

A Note from Dr. Phuong

Dear Market Square Presbyterian Church Congregation,

We are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Mr. Roger Olson on Sunday, December 7, 2025. His dedication and support to our refugee community through coordinating the Market Square and Pine Street Presbyterian Church volunteer groups have left a lasting impact on all of us.

Mr. Roger was an invaluable volunteer of our International Service Center (ISC) and will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

His kindness, generosity, and dedication to assisting the newly arrived refugees, especially those from Syria, Afghanistan, Haiti, and Ukraine have enabled them to start a new life with dignity in their new homeland.

Mr. Roger was an extraordinary partner-in-mission who unselfishly gave his time and energy to help the disadvantaged and underprivileged people of the world. His kindness and compassion will be profoundly missed.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his loving family. May Mr. Roger's memory lives on in our hearts, forever.

On behalf of the ISC Team,

Phuong N. Truong

Christmas Eve Services

6:30 pm

Prelude music offered by the Market Square Ringers, Andy Herring on saxophone, Beck Morales and Marty Schlenker on French horn, and Lucy Schlenker on piano.

7:00 pm

Traditional Candlelight Service with a Christmas homily by the Rev. Allison Smith, joyous carols, and candlelighting.

10:30 pm

Choral Prelude offered by the Sanctuary Choir and Ruth Hunter on harp.

11:00 pm

Traditional Candlelight Service with a Christmas homily by the Rev. Stan Jenkins, joyous carols, and candlelighting.

CORE VALUES: FAITH • COMMUNITY • COMPASSION • JUSTICE • SERVICE

Music Notes This Week

The opening organ voluntary is John Behnke's setting of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" and it offers a reflective and expressive interpretation of this beloved Advent hymn. Known for his sensitive writing for the organ and his ability to illuminate well-loved melodies with fresh color, Behnke draws out the hymn's ancient roots and its message of longing for the Savior's coming. In this arrangement, the familiar chant-like tune, *Veni Emmanuel* is presented with reverence, often supported by gentle harmonic movement and carefully chosen registrational contrasts. The music conveys both the quiet yearning of God's people and the steadfast hope woven through the hymn's text. Through subtle shifts in texture and mood, Behnke leads the worshipper from contemplation toward expectation, mirroring the spiritual journey of Advent.

Our processional hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" is one of the most cherished hymns of the Advent season, drawing the church into a posture of longing, hope, and expectant waiting. Its text is rooted in the ancient "O Antiphons," a series of prayers dating as early as the 8th century that invoke biblical titles for the coming Messiah – Emmanuel, Wisdom, Lord of Might, Root of Jesse, Key of David, Dayspring, King of Nations. Each stanza calls upon Christ to come and redeem His people, echoing Israel's yearning and the church's ongoing prayer for Christ's presence in a broken world. The familiar plainchant tune Veni Emmanuel, with its haunting, modal character, deepens this sense of holy anticipation. Its steady, chant-like movement invites quiet reflection while carrying the hymn's message of hope: that God comes to dwell with God's people and bring light into darkness.

The anthem, "And the Glory of the Lord" is the first chorus of Handel's 1741 oratorio "Messiah," a work that has become one of the most enduring and beloved musical expressions of the Christian story. Drawing its text from Isaiah 40:5 – "And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it" – the chorus announces the coming of God's salvation with joyful confidence. Handel sets these words with remarkable clarity and energy! Four distinct musical ideas – each introduced by different voice parts – interweave to create a vibrant tapestry of sound. The music dances with assurance, portraying the certainty of God's promise and the universal reach of his glory. Even in its Baroque elegance, the chorus radiates a timeless sense of hope and expectation.

David Lantz III's "What Ya Gonna Name Your Baby Boy?" offers a warm, accessible, and gently humorous reflection on one of the most familiar moments in the Nativity story: the anticipation surrounding the birth of Jesus. Written in a light, folk-inflected musical style, the piece imagines the voices of curious onlookers asking Mary about her soon-to-arriving child. Beneath its playful surface, the anthem points toward the profound truth that his baby – whose name was given by God – would be called Jesus. Lantz's approachable melody and conversational text make the piece both engaging and deeply meaningful. Its simplicity highlights the humility of Christ's birth, inviting listeners to consider the wonder that the Savior of the world arrived not with fanfare but in the ordinary circumstances of a family welcoming a child.

Our sending hymn, "Love Has Come" pairs a modern, expressive text with the beloved 17th-century French carol tune *Bring A Torch (Un Flambeau, Jeannette, Isabelle)* – a melody traditionally associated with the joyful announcement of Christ's birth. In this hymn, lyricist Ken Bible reshapes the tune's festive energy into a message centered on the heart of the Christmas story: that God's love has entered the world in the person of Jesus. The text proclaims Christ as the light who shines in our darkness, offering hope, healing, and peace. Its refrain – *Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!*" – echoes the angels' proclamation and invites worshipers to join in the wander of God's incarnation. The familiar lilt of *Bring A Torch* gives the hymn a sense of immediacy and warmth, as though we, too, are hurrying to the manger to witness this miracle of love made flesh.

~Tyler A. Canonico-Dilley

Congregational Nominating Committee Annual Report 2025

The Nominating Committee recommends the following slate of officers and at-large members of the Nominating Committee for election by the congregation:

Session

Class of 2028

Beth Cate-Freeman (2nd term)

Emily Dame (1st term)

Beth Hager (2nd term)

Cherstin Hamel (1st term)

Trustees

Class of 2028
Darryl Barney (1st term)
Ed Earp (1st term)
Sarah Stoner (1st term)
Carlin Wenger (1st term)

Barb Jewett (1st term)

Board of Deacons

Class of 2028
Ken Bateman (1st term)
Susan Hoover (1st term)
Dave Minnich (1st term)
Marty Shifflett (2nd term)
PJ Taylor (1st term)
Deb Yates (1st term)

Nominees for At-Large Members of the 2026 Nominating Committee

Jonelle Darr, Bob Garrett, Debbie Olson, Nancy Sheets, Elizabeth Terry

The chair wishes to thank the committee members for their dedication to this important work.

Respectfully Submitted, Nancy Snyder

Members of the 2025 Nominating Committee: Nancy Snyder (Session chair), Steve McMullen (Session), Michelle Simmons (Trustee), Sally Harris (Deacon). At large members: Cherstin Hamel, John Cameron, Debbie Olson, Bob Garrett, and Nancy Sheets.



December 21 - 28

Sun	8:00 am	Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall (FH)	Thurs		Christmas DayOFFICE CLOSED
	9:00 am	Charging Center (until 10:45 am), FH	Fri		OFFICE CLOSED
	9:15 am	Coffee Station, Geneva Hall (Level 4)		3:00 pm	MSPC Friday Evening Meal Prep, Kitchen
	9:15 am	Youth Group, Little Amps		5:30 pm	Friday Evening Meal Service, 2nd Street
	9:30 am	Korean Language Worship, Davis Chapel	Sat	9:00 am	MSPC Food Pantry, Fellowship Hall
	9:30 am	Children's Prayer Breakfast, Geneva Hall		11:00 am	Richwine Funeral Service, Monaghan P.C.
	9:30 am	Weekly Bible Study, Youth Room	Sun	8:00 am	Community Breakfast, Fellowship Hall (FH)
	9:30 am	Advent Book Study, Adult Ed. Rm (Level 4)		9:00 am	Charging Center (until 10:45 am), FH
	9:45 am	Sanctuary Choir rehearsal, Sanctuary		9:15 am	Coffee Station, Geneva Hall (Level 4)
	10:45 am	Nursery opens, Level 4		9:15 am	Youth Group, Little Amps
	11:00 am	English Language Worship, Sanctuary		9:30 am	Korean Language Worship, Davis Chapel
	11:00 am	Korean Language Bible Study, Davis Chapel		9:30 am	Weekly Bible Study, Youth Room
	11:30 am	Korean Language Potluck/Fellowship, Knox		9:30 am	Advent Book Study, Adult Ed. Rm (Level 4)
	12:15 pm	Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary		10:45 am	Nursery opens, Level 4
	7:00 pm	Outreach & Marketing Committee, Zoom		11:00 am	Lessons & Carols, Sanctuary
Mon	10:00 am	Weekly Worship Meeting, Stan's office		11:00 am	Korean Language Bible Study, Davis Chapel
Wed	5:30 pm	Market Square Ringers, Sanctuary		11:15 am	Children's Sunday School, Level 4
	6:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary		11:30 am	Korean Language Potluck/Fellowship, Knox
	6:30 pm	Prelude, Sanctuary		12:30 pm	Covenant Group #2, tbd
	7:00 pm	Candlelight Traditional Worship, Sanctuary		7:00 pm	Outreach & Marketing Committee, Zoom
	9:30 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary			
	10:30 pm	Prelude, Sanctuary			
	11:00 pm	Candlelight Traditional Worship, Sanctuary			

Church Staff

Stanley J. Jenkins, Pastor/Head of Staff Allison R. Smith, Supply Associate Pastor Ki Nam Lee, Pastoral Associate for Korean Ministries Anne M. Ross, Pastoral Assistant for Congregational Care Jennifer McKenna, Spiritual Director James D. Brown, Pastor Emeritus	Ext. 11 Ext. 12	jenkins@marketsquarechurch.org smith@marketsquarechurch.org kinlee21c@gmail.com amross0611@gmail.com revjjm@gmail.com			
Tyler A. Canonico-Dilley, Minister of Music & Organist	Ext. 18	canonico@marketsquarechurch.org			
Ethan J. Draper, Organ Scholar	Ext. 20	draper@marketsquarechurch.org			
Peter Yardley-Jones, Artist-in-Residence		email@peteryardleyjones.com			
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Daemeaon Allen, Custodian		dae2u@icloud.com			
Steve Jackson, Greeter & Parking/Events Staff					
Art Miles, Community Breakfast Hospitality Coordinator					
Ollie W. Silver, Community Breakfast Support/Events Sta	ollie.silver@aol.com				
Sidney Dame, Nursery Caregiver					
Newman Stare, Audiovisual Technician	nleeaudiotech@gmail.com				
Andrew Hunter, Livestream Technician		hunterandrew2314@gmail.com			

CHURCH PHONE: 717-257-1270, ext. 10

Worship services are livestreamed through our YouTube Channel • Find us on Facebook and Instagram

88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



5 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! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

- 6 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! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:

Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)

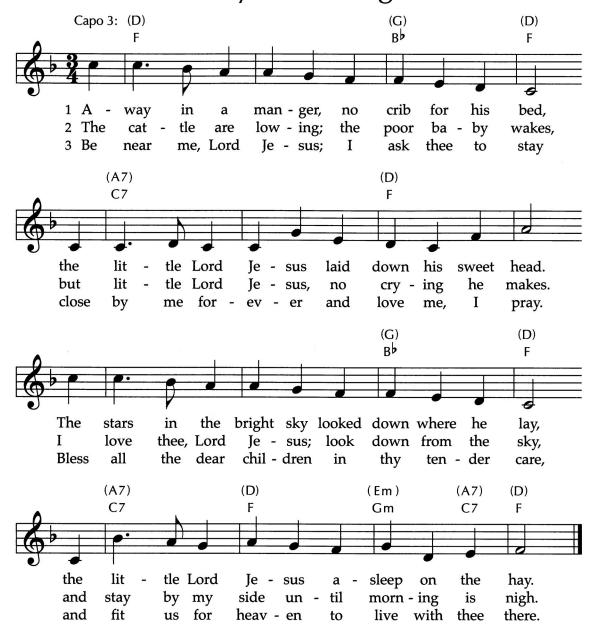
Dec. 20: O Key of David (5) Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6) Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1)

Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3) Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4)

Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7)

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

Away in a Manger



Though erroneously attributed to Martin Luther, this anonymous carol has North American roots, probably originating among Pennsylvania Lutherans. Although more than forty melodies have been connected with these words, this tune was among the earliest written for them.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



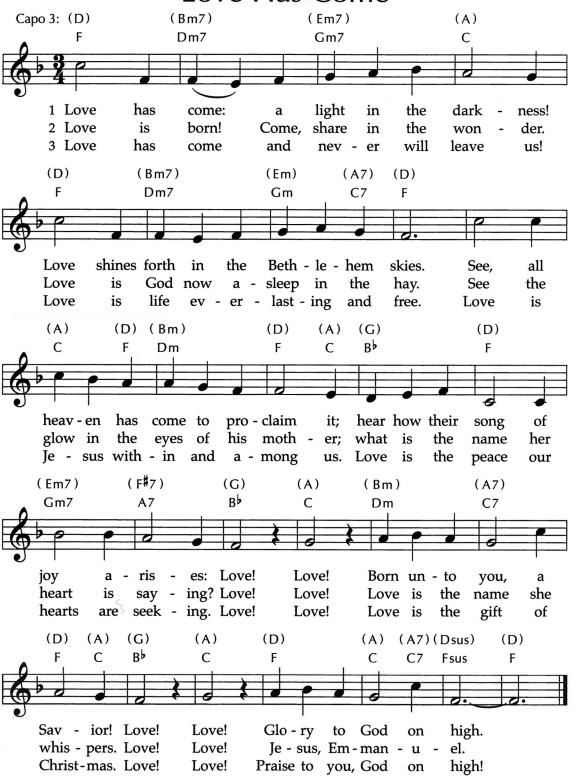
Brought together in the mid-19th century, the text and tune of this familiar carol began in quite different forms. The text had ten stanzas and began, "Hark, how all the welkin rings." The tune was created for a festival celebrating Gutenberg's introduction of moveable type.

Go, Tell It on the Mountain



Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.

Love Has Come



Here is a chance to sing a familiar French carol tune with new words, the most important clearly being "Love." The senses "seen and heard" (as in Acts 4:20 and elsewhere) organize the first two stanzas, while the third holds the summary statement: "Love is the gift of Christmas."