<u>SENDING</u>

PEOPLE, LOOK EAST- red book # 248

Verse 1

People, look east! The time is near of the crowning of the year.

Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.

People, look east and sing today:

Love, the Guest, is on the way

Verse 2

Furrows, be glad! Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.
People look east and sing today:
Love the Rose, is on the way.

Verse 3

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim' one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Verse 4

Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjenn1881-1965 Text: © Miss E Farjenn Will Trust by permission of David Higham Ass.

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Sunday December 20, 2020

GATHERING HYMN

MY SOUL PROCLAIMS YOUR GREATNESS

red book # 251

Verse 1

My soul proclaims your greatness, Lord; I sing my Saviour's praise!
You looked upon my lowliness, and I am full of grace.
Now ev'ry land and ev'ry age this blessing shall proclaim – great wonders you have done for me, and holy is your name.

Verse 2

To all who live in holy fear your mercy ever flows.
With mighty arm you dash the proud, their scheming hearts expose.
The ruthless you have cast aside, the lowly throned instead: the hungry filled with all good things, the rich sent off unfed.

Verse 3

To Israel, your servant blest, your help is ever sure; the promise to your parents made their children will secure.
Sing glory to the Holy One, give honour to the Word, and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all adored.

Text: With One Voice, 1995, based on the Magnificat Text: © 1989 Augsburg Fortress Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-716578

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

HOPE IS A STAR – Voices United #7 – vs 4

Love is a flame that burns in our heart, Jesus has come and will never depart. When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

> Text: Brian Wren b1936 © 1989 Hope Publishing Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-716578

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

COME NOW O GOD OF LOVE

 Voices United # 34
 Sung once before gospel and once after gospel

Come now, O God of love, we are your people; pour out your spirit that we be one body.

Text: Geonyong Lee b.1947
Text: Geonyong Lee
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COMMUNION

LO HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING – red book # 272

Verse 1

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung, It came, a flow'r so bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

Verse 2
Isaiah had foretold it,
the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it,
the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
she bore to us a Saviour,
when half-spent was the night

Verse 3

This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air, dispels with glorious splendour the darkness ev'ry where.

True man, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us and lightens ev'ry load.

Verse 4

O Saviour, child of Mary, who felt our human woe; O Saviour, king of glory, who dost our weakness know: bring us at length, we pray, to the bright courts of heaven and into endless day.

OFFERTORY

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY - blue book # 123

Verse 1
Once in royal David's city, stood a lowly cattle shed; where a mother laid her baby, in a manger for His bed.
Mary was that mother mild,

Jesus Christ, her little Child.

Verse 2

He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all; and His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall.

With the poor and mean and lowly, lived on earth, our Saviour holy.

Verse 3

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by; we shall see Him but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high. when, like stars, His children crowned, all in white shall gather round.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander 1818-1895 Public Domain

HYMN OF THE DAY

THE ANGEL GABRIEL - red book # 265

Verse 1

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, with wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame: "All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary, most highly favoured lady". Gloria!

Verse2

"For know a blessed mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honour thee: thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favoured lady." Gloria!

Verse 3

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head; "To me be as it pleaseth God," she said. "My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name." Most highly favoured lady, Gloria!

Verse 4

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn, and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say: "Most highly favoured lady." Gloria!

Text: Basque Carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould 1834-1924 Public Domain

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of power and might, fulfill your promise and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need. Each petition will end with **God of Love**, and you are invited to respond with "**We pray to you**."

A brief silence is kept.

O come, O come, Emmanuel, that the Church, your people Israel, and the whole world may rejoice in the splendour of your appearing.

God of Love

We pray to you.

O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High, fill the Church with your Spirit. Sustain and order its proclamation and its works of charity. In our Anglican and Lutheran prayer cycle, we pray for The Rev. Dr. Eileen Scully, Director, and the staff of Faith, Worship, and Ministry of the Anglican Church; The Rev. Paul Gehrs, and; Gretchen Peterson, Assistants to the Lutheran Christ. Come, and teach us prudence.

God of Love

We pray to you.

O King of the nations, you humble the powerful and lift up the lowly. We pray for the leaders of all nations, that they amplify the voices of people in need. Guide all people entrusted with leadership to creat societies in which everyone can flourish.

God of Love

We pray to you.

O Adonai, ruler of the House of Israel, rule also in the hearts and lives of your people in this congregation. Especially we pray for Nancy Wehrens; - Gail Wilson; - James Woodward. Give us your Word and show us your glory. Come; and make our hearts glad.

God of Love

We pray to you.

O Healing God, pour out mercy to all who cry out to you: – especially we remember Emily Patterson and family; George Anderson and family; Jim Fee; Nathan and family; Louisa Jensen; Susan Kuschel and for her daughter, Jen Kuschel and all the family; for Leslie and her family; Valerie Davies and family; and for all those we also name either aloud or in the silence of our hearts [pause]. Surround everyone in need of healing in body, mind, or spirit with your tender presence.

God of Love

We pray to you.

O Dayspring, splendour of life everlasting, keep safe in your mighty arms all those who died trusting in your promises. [pause] Come and enlighten us, who are still on our earthly journey; and open wide our heavenly home.

God of Love

We pray to you.

Graciously answer our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns, one God, now and forever. .Amen.