

# Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

# Paxton Presbyterian Church

Established 1732



3500 Sharon Street, Harrisburg, PA 17111

717~561~0510, [www.paxtonchurch.org](http://www.paxtonchurch.org)

**December 6, 2020**  
Second Sunday of Advent

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

**WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

(Take time to prepare your heart to worship God.)

PRELUDE

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

MUSIC INTERLUDE Chimettes

**TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD**

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

HYMN 93 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek the things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world. Amen.

*(Time of silent reflection)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the Good News. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.  
**Praise God. Amen.**

GLORIA PATRI

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**TO CELEBRATE THE FAMILY OF FAITH**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

MORNING PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming 129

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung,  
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I have in mind;  
3 This flower, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the air,

of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing, by faith - ful proph - ets sung,  
with Mar - y we be - hold it, the vir - gin moth - er kind.  
dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where.

It came, a flower - et bright, a - mid the cold of  
To show God's love a - right she bore for us a  
En - fleshed, yet ver - y God, from sin and death he

win - ter, when half spent was the night.  
Sav - ior, when half spent was the night.  
saves us and light - ens ev - ery load.

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

# Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the  
 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a  
 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is  
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for  
 thee; here, Lord, a - bide. Let me thy in - ner

draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.  
 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.  
 pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

## TO HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

SPECIAL MUSIC John Palmer, Bill Sanford, Nan Bonnet

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Isaiah 40:1-11

Mark 1:1-8

**This is the word of the Lord.**

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“An Odd Way to Prepare”

Pastor John Green

HYMN 129 “Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

APOSTLE'S CREED

## TO OFFER OUR GIFTS AND OUR LIVES

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY

HYMN 82 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

## TO GO REJOICING IN GOD'S NAME

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

+ + +

**THE FLORAL ARRANGEMENT** in the chancel this morning is placed in celebration of Deborah Krekstein's birthday, by her mother, Yvonne Rosenberger.

**WE HOLD IN CHRISTIAN MEMORY,** Katherine (Kitty) Janes who joined Paxton Church in 1983 and entered the Church Triumphant on November 28, 2020. Our sympathy and prayers are extended to her family and friends.

**COINS FOR CARING (C4C):** December Coins for Caring will go to the St. Francis Soup Kitchen. The Soup Kitchen is a vital component of the life of the parish and the city of Harrisburg. You may contribute your coins at church events.

**Christian Churches United – Gift of Music:**

Give the gift of music to help the homeless! Local artists have rallied to create a Christmas album to support the homelessness programs of Christian Churches United. Proceeds will specifically fund a women’s winter walk-in shelter in downtown Harrisburg and other efforts to help people get off the street into long-term housing. It’s a fun album, for a great cause...and is the gift that gives twice: it will bless your friends and family with music, and give the gift of hope to people on the street this Christmas. You can order the album at [www.JoyToTheBurg.com](http://www.JoyToTheBurg.com) (CD or Digital Download) or pick one up at your local Karns Grocery Store. It makes a great Christmas gift!

**A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CORPORATION** will be held today, following worship for the purpose of approving the Pastor’s Terms of Call for 2021. A Stated Meeting of the Congregation is also called for the purpose of receiving the Pastor’s Terms of Call for 2021, the election of officers and at-large members of the Nominating Committee for 2021, and presentation of the 2020 budget. We will also be meeting to amend the bylaws:  
  
*Bylaw revision (Article 3 Meetings, section 1): All meetings may be held in person, electronically and or virtually.*

**Worship & Music Update**

This year the sanctuary will be graced by a Christmas tree in the chancel!  
Anyone wishing to purchase a red bow to be placed on the tree ***in memory or in honor of a loved one or friend*** may do so by completing the order form and returning it to the church office.

**Bows are \$5 each – Order Deadline is Monday, December 14.**

**TREE TRIMMING:** We invite you to place your bow(s) on the tree on **Saturday, December 19, from 11 am – 3 pm.** Please enter through the south door of the sanctuary to pick up your bow(s) and place them on the tree. What a wonderful opportunity to see Paxton in all her **Christmas** glory! All Covid protocols (masks required & social distancing) will be followed. For those unable to attend, we will place your bow(s) on the tree for you!



**Christmas Tree Bows Order Form**

**Bows are \$5 each – ORDER DEADLINE MONDAY, DECEMBER 14**

**Checks may be made payable to Paxton Presbyterian Church and must accompany this slip. Please use the exact wording you would like in the bulletin:**

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_  
In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_  
In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_  
In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_  
Placed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Bows: \_\_\_\_\_ X **\$5** Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Check One:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes! I will stop by Saturday, December 19 between 11am & 3pm to place my bow(s) on the tree.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am unable to attend – please place my bow(s) on the tree for me!