

Come Long-Expected Jesus -- Advent

ALL: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: “ ... what is God asking of us by the Incarnation of His dear Son other than gratitude for our Redemption?”

ALL: “Just as [Jesus] left heaven to be united to earth,
so He wants us ... to be united to His Divinity.”

Spiritual Writings of Louise de Marillac, A.7 page 700, "Retreat Meditations" *Fourth Day*, (c 1628)



Hymn: “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”



1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, Born to
 2. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of
 3. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, Born a
 4. By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in

1. set thy peo - ple free! From our fears and
 2. all the earth thou art; Dear de - sire of
 3. child, and yet a king: Born to reign in
 4. all our hearts a - lone; By thine all - suf -

1. sins re - lease us, Let us find our rest in thee.
 2. ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 3. us for - ev - er, Now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 4. fi - cient mer - it Raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: 87 87; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788.

Music: Christian F. Witt's *Psalmody Sacra*, 1715; adapt. by Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876. Used with permission License #5393

Reading “[Jesus] chose to come down from God and become human. To become human means to become ‘poor,’ to have nothing ... With the courageous acceptance of such poverty, ... Jesus held back nothing; he clung to nothing and nothing served as a shield for him. ... Have we really understood the impoverishment that Christ endured? Everything was taken from him ... even the love that drove him to the cross ... Jesus perfected and proclaimed in action what took place in the depths of his being: he professed and accepted our humanity ... He came to us where we really are – with all our broken dreams and lost hopes ... God’s fidelity to humanity is what gives humans the courage to be true to [our]selves. ...” *God Becomes Human*, Johannes Baptist Metz, C21 Resources, Fall 2014, pp.16-17

Prayer ALL: O God, Jesus assumed the lowliness of human flesh and so fulfilled the design you formed long ago and opened for us the way to salvation. When he comes again in glory and all is at last made manifest, may we who watch for that day inherit the great promise in which now we dare to hope. We ask this through Jesus, your Son, in union with the Spirit. Amen.

adapted from *Preface I of Advent Roman Missal*, p. 386

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Prayer Texts

Isaiah 7: 14 “The virgin shall bear a son ...”

John 1: 14 “The Word became flesh ...”

