

O come, o come Emmanuel

And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel.

O come thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here
And drive away the shades of night
And pierce the clouds and bring us light.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel.

O come thou Wisdom from on high
And order all things far and nigh
To us the path of knowledge show
And cause us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel.

O come, desire of nations, bind
All people in one heart and mind
Bid envy strife and quarrels cease
Fill all the world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel.

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope, without light
'Til from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes

To fulfill the law and prophets
To a virgin came the word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

*Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit, three in one
God of glory, Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings*

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross

For even in your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake you died

And the morning that You rose
All of Heaven held its breath
'Til that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

And the church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel, shall not faint

By His blood and in His name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me

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We will wait for you

As the waves crash in.
We will stand and watch
For the morning sun.
In the dawning light
We will lift our eyes.
Oh God our hope, we wait.

We will wait for you our God.
We will wait for you our hope.
We will wait for you the Son.
We will wait Jesus; we wait.

Hope
You are our hope
You are.....

There's a place where the streets shine

With the glory of the Lamb.
There's a way we can go there,
We can live there beyond time.

*Because of you, because of you,
Because of your love, because of your blood.
All our sins are washed away,
and we can live forever.
Now we have this hope because of you.
Oh we'll see you face to face,
and we will dance together
In the city of our God, because of you.*

No more pain, no more sadness
No more suffering, no more tears,
No more sin, no more sickness
No injustice, no more death

There is joy everlasting,
There is gladness, there is peace,
There is wine ever flowing
There's a wedding, there's a feast.

We're waiting for the day when you come

The sound of praise together resounds
Every voice from beginning to end
Join the song

This story of our lives that we sing
Our God at work through history
Every voice from beginning to end
Join the song

*Immanuel – God is with us
Praise to our king
Born to save us
Immanuel – God is with us*

We're listening for the sound of your voice
Your word of truth in heart and in mind
Every voice from beginning to end
Join the song

The story of our saviour's great love
Our God becoming one of us
Every voice from beginning to end
Join the song

During Advent we reflect on the first coming of Jesus, his coming to us now and his promised return. In the light of this, we can take time to give thanks for all God's blessings and for the certain promise of his return.

A Daily Advent Exercise

Look back over the previous 24 hours. Where have you seen darkness and where have you seen light? If the darkness was to end, how would you feel?

A Daily Advent Prayer

Gracious God, in the birth of your Son you kept your promise to bring light into a dark world. I want to thank you that the darkness cannot overcome the light, for you have promised that Jesus will establish justice and righteousness for ever.

Help me to live with gratitude and hope until he returns.
O come, O Bright and Morning Star and bring us comfort from afar!