

Come
Isaiah 2:1-5 Crossroads Christian Church
December 1, 2013 Advent 1 C
By Michael E. Dixon

Come.

"O come, O come, Emmanuel, to ransom captive Israel, that
mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear."ⁱ

Come.

"Come, O long-expected Jesus, born to set your people free; from
our sins and fears release us; Christ in whom our rest shall be."ⁱⁱ

Come.

Come.

"Come surely, Lord Jesus, as dawn follows light, our hearts long
to greet you, as roses the light."ⁱⁱⁱ

Come.

"Christians all, your Lord is coming, drawing near in holy birth."^{iv}

Come. All those hymns bid us to come, for Advent is here.

Come and gather.

Come and decorate.

Come and sing.

Come and pray.

Come and light the candles.

Come and draw near to God.

Come and wait. Wait, for God is coming as a child.

Come with fear, and come with hope.

Come in wonder, and come in joy.

Come in peace, and come in anticipation.

Come, said the prophet Isaiah, come and learn, all you nations.

"Come, let's go up to the Lord's mountain,

to the house of Jacob's God

so that he may teach us his ways

and we may walk in God's paths."

Instruction will come from Zion;

the Lord's word from Jerusalem."^v

Come and learn the ways of peace, said the prophet of Isaiah.

"God will judge between the nations,

and settle disputes of mighty nations.

Then they will beat their swords into iron plows

and their spears into pruning tools.
Nation will not take up sword against nation;
they will no longer learn how to make war.”^{vi}
Come and be a part of God’s light, says the prophet Isaiah.
Come, house of Jacob,
“let’s walk by the Lord’s light.”^{vii}
Come to learn from God; come to walk in the ways of peace;
come to walk in the light of God’s love.
Come. That word appears 1462 times in the Bible; more than a
thousand in the Hebrew Scriptures, more than 400 in the New
Testament, so God must want us to take it seriously. Come and
Advent are related, as is Advent and Adventure. In Advent is
adventure. So come.^{viii}
Come and prepare your hearts.
Come and cleanse your thoughts.
Come and lift your eyes toward God.
Come and follow faithfully.
Come, and put your emphasis not on buying goods but being
good.
Come and follow Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem.
Come, and be ready, for the countdown has now started. Four
Sundays, then three Sundays, then two Sundays, then one, then
Christ will be born. Then we can sing, “O Come, All Ye Faithful,
Joyful and Triumphant.”^{ix}
Come. Amen.

ⁱ Chalice Hymnal, 119. Medieval hymn.

ⁱⁱ Chalice Hymnal, 125. By Charles Wesley.

ⁱⁱⁱ “One Candle is Lit ,Chalice Hymnal 128, by Mary Anne Parrot

^{iv} Chalice Hymnal, 136, by Jim Miller.

^v Isaiah 2:3

^{vi} Isaiah 2:4

^{vii} Isaiah 2:5

^{viii} Adapted from “Coming, Advent, and Adventure,” a sermon by Edward F. Markquart, Sermons from Seattle website.

^{ix} Chalice Hymnal, 148. By John Francis Wade.