

## REFLECTING ON OUR ADVENT HYMNS

By Joanne Maguire

During Advent, the church looks back upon Christ's coming at Christmas while at the same time looking forward in eager anticipation to the Second coming of Christ. Each Advent hymn below gives us different aspects of the season. Luther tells us the Christmas story in **From Heaven Above**; **O Come O Come Emmanuel** shares characteristics of Christ; **Lift Up Your Heads** ties Old Testament history with New Testament; **On Jordon's Bank**, John the Baptist reminds us to prepare for the Coming of the Christ Child.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent



#### **O Come O Come Emmanuel LSB 357**

The eerie melody for this text was originally a Chant, the earliest form of singing in the Church around the 12th century.

Monks would meditate on one verse each day of the week during Advent.

Each verse gives Christ a different title as recognized in the Scriptures.

**Vs 1** O come Emmanuel- Lord with us or Deliverer. His coming as the Messiah was first prophesied in the sixth century BC when the Jews were captive in Babylon. **Isaiah 7: 14**

**Vs 2** O come Thou Wisdom (all knowing) from on high - **Prov 1: 20, Prov 8: 12, 1 Cor 1:20**

**Vs 3** O come Lord of might. The One who first gave the Law at Mount Sinai to the accompaniment of lightning and thunder. **Ex 19: 16**

**Vs 4** O come Thou branch of Jesse. A new shoot to save humanity. **Is: 1**

**Vs 5** O come Thou Key of David- Jesus is that key. The prophecy fulfilled! **Is 22: 22.** Jesus is coming back again.

**Rev 3: 7**

**Vs 6** O come Thou Dayspring (Dawn) - The healing hand of God, to give light in the darkness. **Luke 1: 78, 79. Mal 4: 2**

**Vs 7** O come Desire of nations. The Messiah's lineage is from the Jews but He came for all people. **Rev 7: 9**

Also read **Is 7: 10-14, Is 11: 1-5, 10,11. Mat 1:23**

