

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.



4th Sunday of Advent

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry 344 LSB

This Hymn calls us to make way for Christ. It references John the Baptist, a key figure in the story of Christ's birth, to address us today to prepare the way for Christ's second coming. Verse 1&2 are messages to us, instructing us to prepare the way of the Lord today Verse 3- we confess our need for salvation Verse 4 - we pray for healing and love Verse 5 - Doxology -praise to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Read **Mathew 3:1-6, Is 40: 3.**