

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.



3rd Sunday of Advent

Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates LSB 341

The psalmist David appeals to Jerusalem to open the gates and allow the Ark of the Covenant to enter the city. This Ark entering Jerusalem also previews a future event...

Jesus entering the gates in humility (vs 2) riding on a donkey. He is given a spontaneous welcome. Clearly, the crowds acknowledged him as the Messiah. However, that turned around on Good Friday. But Christ will enter Jerusalem again at His second coming. He will arrive as King of Kings and Lord of Lords...

Rev 19: 11-16.