

The Creator Who Brings Hope

Scripture for Meditation: *Revelation 4:9-11*

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, “Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”

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Call to Worship: *All Creatures of Our God and King*

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam!

Refrain:
O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!

All the redeemed washed by His blood,
Come, and rejoice in His great love!
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Christ has defeated every sin.
Cast all your burdens now on Him!

He shall return in pow’r to reign.
Heav-en and earth will join to say:
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Then who shall fall on bended knee?
All creatures of our God and King!

Stanzas 1 and 2 by St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226), translated by William H. Draper (1855-1933)
Stanzas 3 and 4 by Jonathan Baird and Ryan Baird
Arranged by Ben Ebner
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Offertory Hymn of Exaltation: *Once in Royal David’s City*

Once in royal David’s city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from Heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in Heav’n above,
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see Him; but in Heaven,
Set at God’s right hand on high;
Where like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Cecil F. Alexander, 1818-1895

Prayer of Blessing

Responsive Reading: *Isaiah 60:1-6, 8, 9*

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. Lift up your eyes all around, and see; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from afar, and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.

Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and exult, because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the Lord. . . .

Who are these that fly like a cloud, and like doves to their windows?
For the coastlands shall hope for me, the ships of Tarshish first, to bring your children from afar, their silver and gold with them, for the name of the Lord your God, and for the Holy One of Israel, because he has made you beautiful.

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Hymn of Supplication: *Creator of the Stars of Night*

Creator of the stars of night,
Thy people’s everlasting light,
O Christ, Thou Savior of us all,
Now hear Thy servants when they call.

When the whole world drew on toward night,
Thou camest, not in splendor bright
As sovereign, but the humble child
Of Mary, virgin mother mild.

At the great name of Jesus now,
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
And things celestial Thee shall own,
And things terrestrial, Lord alone.

To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Laud, honor, might, and glory be
From age to age eternally.

7th century chant, various translations

Prayer of Corporate Confession

Silence for Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon: *Romans 5:2*

Through [Jesus] we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

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Hymn of Mission: *Across the Lands*

You're the Word of God the Father
From before the world began.
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet
Has been fashioned by Your hand.
All creation holds together
By the power of Your voice.
Let the skies declare Your glory;
Let the land and seas rejoice!

Chorus:
You're the Author of creation;
You're the Lord of ev'ry man;
And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.

Yet You left the gaze of angels,
Came to seek and save the lost,
And exchanged the joy of heaven
For the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer You fed the hungry;
With a word You calmed the sea;
Yet how silently You suffered
That the guilty may go free!

With a shout You rose victorious,
Wresting vict'ry from the grave,
And ascended into heaven,
Leading captives in Your way.
Now You stand before the Father,
Interceding for Your own;
From each tribe and tongue and nation,
You are leading sinners home!

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Hymn of Praise: *There Is a Higher Throne**

There is a higher throne
Than all this world has known,
Where faithful ones from ev'ry tongue
Will one day come.
Before the Son we'll stand,
Made faultless through the Lamb;
Believing hearts find promised grace—
Salvation comes.

Refrain:
Hear heaven's voices sing; their thund'rous anthem rings
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies. Their praises rise.
All glory, wisdom, pow'r, strength, thanks, and honor are
To God our King, who reigns on high forevermore.

And there we'll find our home,
Our life before the throne;
We'll honor Him in perfect song
Where we belong.
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye
As thirst and hunger die.
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd King;
We'll reign with Him.

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*Children under first grade may leave during this song.

Ministry of the Word

Church Info

SUNDAY

9:15am Corporate Prayer Service
10:30 am Corporate Worship Service

THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Shepherding Groups
*A nursery is available for all services.
Sunday sermons are available as downloadable MP3s at
<http://ebcupstate.sermonaudio.com/>

MINISTERS The congregation at large

PASTORS Brad Baugham
Rhett Gieck
Mike Gray
David Schwingle
MINISTER OF WORSHIP Brian Pinner

Phone: 864.962.7314 Email: information@ebcupstate.com
Website: www.ebcupstate.com
Address: 200 E. Butler Road, Mauldin, SC 29662

Emmanuel Bible Church is a church plant of Heritage Bible Church, Greer, SC.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness,
and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in
which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that
in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to
judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for the First Sunday of Advent, *Book of Common Prayer*