



The CENTER
for Christian Spirituality

God with Us: Praying the Names of Christ



Adam Boulter

8:45 a.m. + December 5, 2021 + Second Sunday of Advent

O Radix

All of us sprung from one deep-hidden seed,
Rose from a root invisible to all.
We knew the virtues once of every weed,
But, severed from the roots of ritual,
We surf the surface of a wide-screen world
And find no virtue in the virtual.
We shrivel on the edges of a wood
Whose heart we once inhabited in love,
Now we have need of you, forgotten Root
The stock and stem of every living thing
Whom once we worshiped in the sacred grove,
For now is winter, now is withering
Unless we let you root us deep within,
Under the ground of being, graft us in.

Malcolm Guite

Call To Worship

"Light Everlasting"

Welcome

Preparing for Advent

from the Iona Community

Into our world as into Mary's womb...

Come, Lord Jesus.

Into the forgotten places, as into the stable...

Come, Lord Jesus.

Into the lives of the poor, bringing hope;

Into the lives of the powerful, bringing caution;

Into the lives of the weary, bringing rest;

Into the lives of the wise, bringing restlessness;

And into our lives and longings, whatever our estate...

Come, Lord Jesus

This is the good news: Christ is coming, and blessed are those who wait on the Lord.

Therefore come quickly, Lord.

Song of Welcome

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree,

An ensign of thy people be;

Before thee rulers silent fall;

All peoples on thy mercy call.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O Radix

Malcolm Guite

Song of Welcome

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree,

An ensign of thy people be;

Before thee rulers silent fall;

All peoples on thy mercy call.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Reading

Isaiah 11: 1, 10

*A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.*

*On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;
the nations shall inquire of him,
and his dwelling shall be glorious.*

Song

"Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming"

*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung.
It came, a floweret bright,
Amide the cold of winter,
When half spent was the night.*

*Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to us a Savior,
When half spent was the night.*

*O flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispel in glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man yet very God,
From sin and death now save us,
And share our every load.*

Sitting with Scripture

Ephesians 3:14b-17

*I pray that, according to the riches of his glory,
he may grant that you may be strengthened
in your inner being with power through his Spirit,
and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith,
as you are being rooted and grounded in love.*

Song of Welcome

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree,
An ensign of thy people be;
Before thee rulers silent fall;
All peoples on thy mercy call.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Meditation

Sitting with a Breath Prayer

Inhale: *Lord Jesus Christ, O Root of Jesse,*
Exhale: *Come and deliver us.*

Silence

During these minutes of silence, simply rest in God's abiding and loving presence in this moment. Simply be here now. You are in the Love of God. Christ is your Divine Center. There is nothing you need to do. Just be and relax. Center your attention in your heart, or breathe deeply down into your belly. If it helps you to center, use a sacred prayer word such as Mercy, Love, Abba, Jesus, or Spirit. Or follow the rhythm of your breath.

Communion

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

*Of the Father's love begotten,
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the Source, the Ending he.
Of the things that are, that have been -
And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore*

Silent Consecration

*Christ, to thee with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost to thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore.*

Receiving a Good Word

Thank you for worshipping with us today. Please register your attendance.

*If you are worshipping online, please text the word **center** to 75787.*

*If you are worshipping in person, please text the word **chapel** to 75787.*

For information about The Center for Christian Spirituality and upcoming events, visit: www.TheCenterFCS.org.