



# Burlington

## Baptist Church

2225 New Street, Burlington, ON L7R 1J2

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## Christmas According to Mark



*Advent | -HOPE*

Sunday, December 1, 2024

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*Welcome* to Burlington Baptist Church today!

\* You are invited to stand.

## WE APPROACH GOD

This we know, Christmas child;  
As we step out to Bethlehem:  
we cannot travel unless we walk in company with others,  
we cannot reach the stable door unless we walk in hope,  
we cannot stay the course unless you give us strength.

But in these Advent days,  
the call is strong and we begin.  
Longed-for child, hope of the world,  
guide our feet. Amen.

Prelude      “Veni, veni Emmanuel”      (Paul Fey)      Cameron

Welcome and Announcements      Dave

Prayer and Preparation

## WE PRAISE GOD

Invitation to Worship

\* Hymn of Praise      “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”      [Tune @ #88; alt. words]

- 1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and with your captive children dwell.  
Give comfort to all exiles here,  
and to the aching heart bid cheer.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come within as Love to dwell.*
- 2. O come, you Splendour very bright,  
as joy that never yields to might.  
O come, and turn all hearts to peace,  
that greed and war at last shall cease.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come within as Truth to dwell.*

3. *O come, you Dayspring, come and cheer  
our spirits by your presence here.  
And dawn in every broken soul  
as vision that can see the whole.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come within as Light to dwell.*
4. *O come, you Wisdom from on high,  
from depths that hide within a sigh,  
to temper knowledge in our care,  
to render every act a prayer.  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come within as Hope to dwell.*

\* **Prayer of Confession and Approach:** (In Unison)

Silent Word, Revealed Love: we wait for you.  
To be precise, we are impatient for you  
to come and set things right.  
We are insecure within our world,  
fearful of crimes in the streets, and anxious about ourselves.  
We refuse your guidance, but we often wish  
you would act according to our plans.  
We seldom pause to consider that you are waiting for us:  
waiting for us to repent and change;  
waiting for us to listen and respond with a burning passion  
for your truth, your justice, and your mercy.  
Furnish us with humble hearts and willing spirits, O God,  
to receive you as you come to us  
through all the experiences of our lives. Amen.

**Lighting of the First Advent Candle**

Janet & Ken

ALL: Loving God, as we enter this Advent season,  
we open all the dark places in our lives  
to the healing light of Christ.  
Show us the creative power of your hope.  
And throughout this season, as we hope,

prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,  
that we may walk always in the light of Christ.  
In his name we pray. Amen.

Candle Hymn            “Hope is a Candle”            (Linnea Good)

*Hope is a candle on our journey.  
Hope is the travel and the end.  
All through the frosty fields of winter,  
This dancing flame of Hope we'll tend.*

*For we are a people of a Story,  
Of stars that sing and Love that cries.  
And tho' these nights are getting longer,  
The path is lit before our eyes...*

*Hope is a candle on our journey.  
Hope is the travel and the end.  
All through the frosty fields of winter,  
This dancing flame of Hope we'll tend.*

## WE GIVE OURSELVES TO GOD

A Gift of Music            “Shines the Light”            The BBC Singers  
(Susan Naus Dengler / Lee Dengler)

Sunday Morning Friends

Prayers of the People of God

Offering Invitation

\* Offering Hymn            “On Jordan's Bank”            96 - GG

*1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings!*

2. *Then cleansed be every life from sin;  
make straight the way for God within;  
and let us all our hearts prepare  
for Christ to come and enter there.*
  
3. *We hail you as our Saviour, Lord,  
our refuge and our great reward:  
without your grace, we waste away  
like flowers that wither and decay.*
  
4. *Stretch forth your hand; our health restore,  
and make us rise to fall no more.  
O let your face upon us shine  
and fill the world with peace divine.*

## GOD SPEAKS TO US

The Scriptures

Crystal

The Gospel According to Mark 1: 1 - 15

Sermon: *“Christmas According to Mark”*

\* Communion Hymn “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” 82 - GG

1. *Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.*
  
2. *Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.*

Celebration of Communion

## GOD SENDS US FORTH

\* Hymn of Response “Now the Heavens Start to Whisper” 94 - GG

[Tune @ #231]

- 1. Now the heavens start to whisper,  
as the veil is growing thin.  
Earth from slumber wakes to listen  
to the stirring faint within:  
Seed of promise, deeply planted,  
child to spring from Jesse's stem!  
Like the soil beneath the frostline,  
hearts grow soft to welcome him.*
- 2. Heavy clouds that block the moonlight  
now begin to drift away.  
Diamond brilliance through the darkness  
shines the hope of coming day.  
Christ, the morning star of splendor,  
gleams within a world grown dim.  
Heaven's ember fans to fulness;  
hearts grow warm to welcome him.*
- 3. Christ, eternal Sun of justice,  
Christ the rose of wisdom's seed,  
come to bless with fire and fragrance  
hours of yearning, hurt and need.  
In the lonely, in the stranger,  
in the outcast, hid from view:  
child who comes to grace the manger,  
teach our hearts to welcome you.*

\* Benediction

Choral Benediction “We are Walking a Path”

*We are walking a path of HOPE, (x3)  
lead us home, lead us home.*

Postlude

Cameron