

---

EMBRACE | EMBODY | EXTEND



**ADVENT**  
HOUSTON

**2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
APRIL • 16 • 2023

---

## WELCOME TO ADVENT!

Advent means “arrival” or “coming.” Many of us have a temptation to believe that we can live a good enough life or do the right things to make our way to God. We think that if we do enough of the right types of things, then God will allow us into His home. But the Bible tells us again and again that we are never the first movers in this relationship. God is always the initiator. He spoke all things into being; He created; and He pursues. He is the one who arrives. And we see this in the first advent of God.

John begins his gospel by saying, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth” (ESV). God the Son came to us in the first advent: what the church calls the incarnation. He didn’t wait for us to try and make our way to his heavenly abode. He didn’t stand above us to lecture us or condemn us. He came to us. In fact, he became one of us, taking on flesh, pain, sorrows, and death.

And God hasn’t stopped there. After Jesus came into this world to inaugurate the reign of God on earth as it is in heaven, after he died on the cross to atone for our sins, and after he was raised from the dead to defeat sin and death, He ascended to heaven to assume the throne. Scripture tells us that he will come again. And when he comes again, he is bringing the new heavens and the new earth with him.

It is in this second advent, that Jesus promises to make all things new. Though he has already dealt with sin and death, it isn’t until he comes again that death will be eradicated.

ADVENT | CHRISTMAS | EPIPHANY | LENT | **EASTER** | PENTECOST | ORDINARY

## EASTER

“Christ is the one in whom life and the new creation, the beginning again of our lives and all of creation, is assured. Our Easter calling is to let him live in us, to embrace by faith his new life, to let it take hold of us, to participate in him and his resurrection for the life of the whole world. In this way we are born again (John 3:3); we are made a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17).

...The message of Easter is that the way of being in Jesus, the way of living the new resurrected life is through participation. This message is very different than the message I all too frequently hear about Easter day. I hear that knowing God is accomplished through the way of intellectual evidence: Believe the facts and that will transform your life. I also hear that knowing God is accomplished through the way of emotion: Feel God. Feel forgiveness. ... But the emphasis of the early church fathers and the ancient church is knowing God through the way of participation. We participate in Christ by living the life of our baptism into his death and resurrection. This is a daily, existential, moment-by-moment experience as we choose in this or that situation to die to the sins for which Christ died and choose the life of the Spirit for which Christ was raised to new life.”\*

Easter is a fifty-day period in the church calendar that lasts from Easter Sunday until Pentecost Sunday (the celebration of God’s sending of the Holy Spirit). This fifty day period is not merely meant to be an extended celebration – although it is that. But, as lent was a time of preparation for new Christians to join the church, Easter was a time of continued education of those newly welcomed Christians. This instruction was intended to be a teaching of “mystagogy” – a leading through the mysteries, chiefly the mystery of the sacraments.

Thus, Easter became a time for Christians to learn the pattern of baptism and to learn the expectation and celebration of the Eucharist (what we refer to as Communion). We are to continue in this baptismal pattern – of dying to sin and living to Christ. We too are called to live into that pattern of repentance and faith – to become more and more like Christ in our journey as His disciples.

During this Easter season, may we learn better what it means to PRACTICE our faith by paying attention to our sins, turning from them, and then turning toward our Life and our Lord, Jesus Christ.

\*Robert E. Webber, *Ancient Future Time*

---

## REFLECTIONS

“The great gift of Easter is hope – Christian hope which makes us have that confidence in God, in his ultimate triumph, and in his goodness and love, which nothing can shake.”

- **Basil Hume**

"If Jesus rose from the dead, then you have to accept all that he said; if he didn't rise from the dead, then why worry about any of what he said? The issue on which everything hangs is not whether or not you like his teaching but whether or not he rose from the dead."

- **Tim Keller**

"We are adopted into God's family through the resurrection of Christ from the dead in which he paid all our obligations to sin, the law, and the devil, in whose family we once lived. Our old status lies in his tomb. A new status is ours through his resurrection."

- **Sinclair B. Ferguson**

"But if Easter is only an abstraction, it doesn't mean much to me. I'm with the Apostle Paul who wrote and the billions of Christians around the world who profess, "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile." If Jesus wasn't actually resurrected, then Easter is less real than the budding buzz of spring, less real than a dying breath, less real than my own hands, feet and skin. I have no interest in a Christianity that isn't deeply, profoundly, irreducibly material."

- **Tish Harrison Warren (edited)**

But, as we wait for him to come again, we wait with hope. And as we wait, we live in light of that hope – praying for and acting in the knowledge that God's Kingdom will come in bits and pieces even now, offering us glimpses of the way that it is supposed to be, the way it will ultimately be.

In the middle of these two advents of Christ, there is a third advent. There is the coming of the Holy Spirit. Jesus has sent the Holy Spirit to be with us, to help us to remember all that he taught and accomplished (John 14:26), and to help us as we follow him by faith. And Jesus tells us to follow him in the same way that he himself came. We are to leave our own comforts and to come into the places that he has called us. And so, in that way, we want to take the example of Christ's first coming to enter into the lives of our community. We want to bear witness to the coming of the Kingdom of God in its fullness in the future. And, we want to minister as the mouthpiece, the hands, and the feet of Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit (John 20:21).

So, Advent Houston is a **coming** of a group of Christians to the Texas Medical Center, to Rice University, and to the surrounding neighborhoods to embrace, embody, and extend the grace of Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit.

We are so glad that you are here with us!

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

---

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Written by Christine Longhurst

Adapted from Psalm 16

Leader: Come, bless the Lord,  
in whom we find our refuge and safety.

**People: You are our God;  
All good things come from You alone.**

Leader: Come, bless the Lord,  
Who gives us a rich inheritance,  
And surrounds us with abundance.

**People: You are our God;  
Our lives are in your hands.**

Leader: Come, bless the Lord,  
Who guides us on the path to eternal life,  
Whose presence strengthens and sustains us.

**ALL: You are our God;  
We will not be shaken.**

## \*SONG

## Come Thou Fount

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” words by Robert Robinson and music by John Wyeth

© Words and Music: Public Domain

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
Sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
Mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
Hither by thy help I'm come;  
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wandering from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
Interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,  
Bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for thy courts above.

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
Seal it for thy courts above.

## PRAYER OF ADORATION

Adapted from "A Litany of Thanksgiving"  
From The Book of Common Prayer"

Leader: Let us give thanks to God our Father for all God's gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

**People: We thank you, Lord.**

Leader: For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

**People: We thank you, Lord.**

Leader: For daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

**People: We thank you, Lord.**

Leader: For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,  
**People: We thank you, Lord.**

Leader: For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,  
**People: We thank you, Lord.**

Leader: For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,  
**People: We thank you, Lord.**

Leader: For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,  
**People: We thank you, Lord.**

Leader: For the communion of saints, in all times and places,  
**People: We thank you, Lord.**

Leader: Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;  
**People: To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**

## FIRST READING

## 1 Peter 1:3-9

[3] Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, [4] to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, [5] who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. [6] In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, [7] so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. [8] Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, [9] obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (ESV)

Leader: The Word of the LORD.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

John 20:19-31

[19] On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." [20] When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. [21] Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." [22] And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. [23] If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

[24] Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. [25] So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

[26] Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." [27] Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." [28] Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" [29] Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

[30] Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; [31] but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (ESV)

Leader: The Gospel of the LORD.

People: **Praise be to You, Lord, Christ!**

## \*SONG

## This Is My Father's World

"This Is My Father's World" words by Aaron Purdy, Jennie Lee Riddle, and Maltbie Davenport Babcock and music by Aaron Purdy, Franklin Lawrence Sheppard, and Jennie Lee Riddle

© 2009 Jennie Lee Riddle Music

This is my Father's world  
And to my list'ning ears  
All nature sings and 'round me rings  
The music of the spheres  
This is my Father's world  
I rest me in the thought  
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas  
His hand the wonders wrought

This is my Father's world  
The birds their carols raise  
The morning light, the lily white  
Declare their Maker's praise  
This is my Father's world  
He shines in all that's fair  
In the rust'ling grass I hear Him pass  
He speaks to me ev'rywhere

This is my Father's world  
O let me ne'er forget  
And though the wrong seems oft so strong  
God is the Ruler yet  
This is my Father's world  
Why should my heart be sad?  
The Lord is King, let the heavens ring  
God reigns, let the earth be glad



## **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles Creed & Catechism Questions 76, 77 & 78 from “To Be A Christian”

Leader: Christian, what is it that you believe?

**ALL: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell\*; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic\*\* Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\* Christ's 'descent into hell' occurred in His death and burial, the Father's wrath toward sin being poured out on him in our place, so we would never have to taste His wrath.

\*\* By 'catholic,' we mean the universal church made up of all Christians who are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.

### ***“He will come again”***

Leader: What does the Creed mean when it says, “He will come again”?

**People: Jesus promised that he would return (Luke 21:27–28). His coming in victory with great glory and power will be seen by all people and will bring this age to an end. The present world order will pass away, and God will usher in a fully renewed creation to stand forever. All the saints will be together with God at that time.**

Leader: Can we know when Jesus will return?

**People: No. We cannot know when Jesus will return. Jesus patiently waits for many to repent and trust in him for new life; then he will return unexpectedly, which could be at any moment.**

Leader: How should you live in anticipation of Jesus' return?

**People: I should anticipate with joy the return of Jesus my Savior and be ready to stand before him. His promise to return encourages me to be filled with the Holy Spirit, to live a holy life, and to share the hope of new life in Christ with others.**

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

Adapted From "We Want to See Jesus"  
WorshipAlive Plus!

Leader: O King and Father, your Son died and was raised up in power.  
Enable us to die to our sin so we may rise to new life in Him.  
We confess to you:

**ALL: Lord, though you should guide us, we inform ourselves;  
though you should rule us, we control ourselves;  
though you should fulfill us, we console ourselves.  
We think your truth too high, your will too hard,  
your power too remote, your love too free. But they are not!  
And without them, we are stuck in misery.  
By your power and grace heal our confused minds with your  
word, heal our divided wills with your law,  
heal our troubled consciences with your love,  
heal our anxious hearts with your presence,  
all for the sake of your Son,  
who loved us and gave himself for us. Amen.**

## \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

John 3:16 (ESV)

**Leader:** For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

**Leader:** Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all of your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Amen.**

## \*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow” words by Thomas Ken and music by Louis Bourgeois

© Words and Music: Public Domain

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

### ADVENTURERS

CHILDREN (K - 3RD GRADE)

All kids from Kindergarten through 3rd Grade are invited to go to Adventurers, a children's lesson and activity time during the sermon. They will be escorted back to the sanctuary after the Passing of the Peace.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

“A Prayer for the Son’s Mission”

From To Be A Christian: An Anglican Catechism

By the Anglican Church in North America

**Leader:** O Jesus, God the Son, in your incarnation you manifested your heart of mission in the world: Help us so to know and practice your presence, that we may always live for your glory and the spread of your Kingdom; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**People: Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Yours is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**\*SERMON READING**

**Psalm 50**

The Mighty One, God the Lord,  
speaks and summons the earth  
from the rising of the sun to its setting.  
[2] Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,  
God shines forth.  
[3] Our God comes; he does not keep silence;[a]  
before him is a devouring fire,  
around him a mighty tempest.  
[4] He calls to the heavens above  
and to the earth, that he may judge his people:  
[5] "Gather to me my faithful ones,  
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"  
[6] The heavens declare his righteousness,  
for God himself is judge! Selah  
[7] "Hear, O my people, and I will speak;  
O Israel, I will testify against you.  
I am God, your God.  
[8] Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you;  
your burnt offerings are continually before me.  
[9] I will not accept a bull from your house  
or goats from your folds.

- [10] For every beast of the forest is mine,  
the cattle on a thousand hills.
- [11] I know all the birds of the hills,  
and all that moves in the field is mine.
- [12] “If I were hungry, I would not tell you,  
for the world and its fullness are mine.
- [13] Do I eat the flesh of bulls  
or drink the blood of goats?
- [14] Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,[b]  
and perform your vows to the Most High,
- [15] and call upon me in the day of trouble;  
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”
- [16] But to the wicked God says:  
“What right have you to recite my statutes  
or take my covenant on your lips?
- [17] For you hate discipline,  
and you cast my words behind you.
- [18] If you see a thief, you are pleased with him,  
and you keep company with adulterers.
- [19] “You give your mouth free rein for evil,  
and your tongue frames deceit.
- [20] You sit and speak against your brother;  
you slander your own mother's son.
- [21] These things you have done, and I have been silent;  
you thought that I[c] was one like yourself.  
But now I rebuke you and lay the charge before you.
- [22] “Mark this, then, you who forget God,  
lest I tear you apart, and there be none to deliver!
- [23] The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies me;  
to one who orders his way rightly  
I will show the salvation of God!”

Leader: The Word of the LORD.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

Owen Merrell

“The Sacrifice of Thanksgiving”

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, “Peace be with you.”

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

Leader: May the Peace of the Lord be always with you!

People: **And also with you!**

### RETURN OF CHILDREN

During the Offertory, “ADVENTURERS” teachers will bring the children back to the Sanctuary. Feel free to pick up younger children at this time as well. You may also wait to retrieve them, as childcare is provided for the duration of the service.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WE ARE GLAD TO HAVE YOU WORSHIP WITH US TODAY. PLEASE SIGN IN SO WE HAVE A RECORD OF YOUR ATTENDANCE.**

**OPTION 1: SIGN-IN ON THE BLUE PAD LOCATED NEAR THE CENTER AISLE AND RECORD YOUR INFORMATION THERE.**



**OPTION 2: SCAN THE QR CODE AND COMPLETE THE FORM THERE. THIS CAN BE DONE AFTER THE SERVICE.**

## OFFERTORY & PRIVATE PRAYER

**ALL GIVING IS A RESPONSE TO GOD'S GENEROSITY TO YOU IN ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE, BUT PARTICULARLY THROUGH THE PERSON AND WORK OF JESUS. IF YOU ARE NOT SURE WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT JESUS OR CHRISTIANITY, OR IF YOU ARE A GUEST, WE WOULD INVITE YOU TO REFRAIN FROM GIVING AT THIS TIME.**

**ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE AT [ADVENTPRE.ORG/GIVE](https://adventpre.org/give). YOU CAN ALSO SCAN THIS QR CODE OR PLACE A GIFT IN THE OFFERING BASKET NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO THE SANCTUARY.**



# SERVICE OF THE TABLE



## CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

**ALL:** We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, who always delights in showing mercy. Nourish us, therefore, gracious Lord, so that in partaking of this sacrament of your son Jesus Christ, we may walk in newness of life, grow into his likeness, and evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Leader: The LORD be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People:** We lift them up unto the LORD.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the LORD, our God.

**People:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Leader: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works. For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing forever the hymn of your glory.



ALL:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
Hea - ven and earth are full, full of your  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name of the  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Leader: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ has died.**  
**Christ is risen.**  
**Christ will come again.**

Leader: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Leader: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## COMMUNION AT ADVENT

Advent welcomes all baptized Christians to participate in the Lord's table. This includes all Christians, whether members at Advent or at another church. Children who have been baptized and admitted to the table by the elders of this church or the leadership of another church are also welcome to the table.

If you're still investigating Christianity, not sure what you believe, or simply choose not to participate, you may either remain in your seat or come forward, cross your arms over your chest, and receive a blessing. Feel free to use the prayers printed in the bulletin below. Non-communing children are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing while their parents receive communion.

### ABOUT THE ELEMENTS

- We serve both wine and grape juice for communion.
- Grape juice is available in the center of the communion trays; wine is available along the edge.
- All communion bread is gluten free.



### PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me the ability to follow you no matter what it might cost me. Give me an understanding for you that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life that you promise. Amen. A prayer of belief: A prayer for those struggling against sin: A prayer for covenant children who have not yet made a profession of faith:

### PRAYER OF BELIEF

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead and are now representing me at the Father's right hand in heaven, I turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. Amen.

### PRAYER FOR THOSE STRUGGLING AGAINST SIN

Lord Jesus, give me the ability to see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and desires, and help me to turn from every false source of satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me, and run with perseverance the race that you have set before me, looking only to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

### A PRAYER FOR CHILDREN WHO HAVE NOT YET MADE A PROFESSION OF FAITH

Lord Jesus, thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow up in a Christian family where I am surrounded by the good news of the gospel. Help me to grow in my understanding of who you are and what you have done for me on the cross. Help me learn what it means for me to turn from my sins and trust in you alone for my salvation. Teach me what it means to follow you as one of your disciples. Amen.

## COMMUNION SONG

## Jesus I Come

"Jesus I Come" words by William True Sleeper and music by George Coles Stebbins

© Words and Music: Public Domain

Out of my bondage sorrow and night  
Jesus I come Jesus I come  
Into Thy freedom gladness and light  
Jesus I come to Thee  
Out of my sickness into Thy health  
Out of my want and into Thy wealth  
Out of my sin and into Thyself  
Jesus I come to Thee

Out of my shameful failure and loss  
Jesus I come Jesus I come  
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross  
Jesus I come to Thee  
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm  
Out of life's storms and into Thy calm  
Out of distress to jubilant psalm  
Jesus I come to Thee

Out of unrest and arrogant pride  
Jesus I come Jesus I come  
Into Thy blessed will to abide  
Jesus I come to Thee  
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love  
Out of despair into raptures above  
Upward for aye on wings like a dove  
Jesus I come to Thee

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb  
Jesus I come Jesus I come  
Into the joy and light of Thy home  
Jesus I come to Thee  
Out of the depths of ruin untold  
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold  
Ever Thy glorious face to behold  
Jesus I come to Thee

## \*SONG

## On Jordan's Stormy Banks

"On Jordan's Stormy Banks" words by Samuel Stennett and music by Christopher Miner

© Words and Music: Public Domain

### Verse 1

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand  
And cast a wishful eye  
To Canaan's fair and happy land  
Where my possessions lie

### Verse 2

All o'er those wide extended plains  
Shines one eternal day  
There God the Son forever reigns  
And scatters night away

### Chorus

I am bound (I am bound) I am bound (I am bound)  
I am bound for the promised land  
I am bound (I am bound) I am bound (I am bound)  
I am bound for the promised land

### Verse 3

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath  
Can reach that healthful shore  
Sickness sorrow pain and death  
Are felt and feared no more

*Chorus*

### Verse 4

When shall I see that happy place  
And be forever blessed  
When shall I see my Father's face  
And in His bosom rest

*Chorus x2*

## \*CLOSING PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & MISSION

### \*BENEDICTION

Zephaniah 3:17 (ESV)

**Leader:** The LORD your God is in your midst,  
a mighty one who will save;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness;  
he will quiet you by his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing.

**People:** Amen.

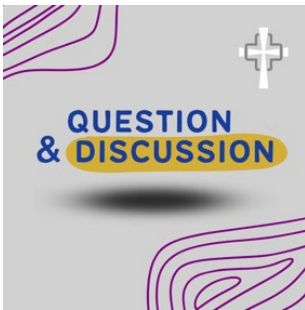
# Announcements



## ADVENT STUDENT DINNER

*April 23 - 6:00 P.M.*

Undergrad, graduate, and medical students are invited to dinner on Advent at Hillel. We would love to care for you and your friends in this way!



## QUESTION & DISCUSSION

*April 30<sup>th</sup> - 5:30 P.M.*



Got questions? Let's discuss. Scan the QR code to submit your questions.



## DONUTS AT THE PARK

*May 7 - 10:30 A.M.*

Mark your calendars! Join Miss Josie and gang for our next donuts in the park event! Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 A.M. at Colonial Park in the West U area.

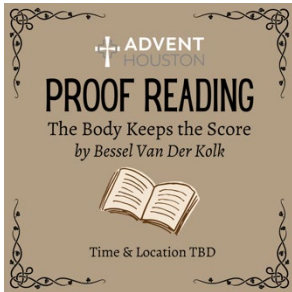


## MEMBERSHIP CLASS

May 19 - 5:30 P.M.



Interested in learning more about Advent? Click the QR code and register for the “All About Advent” membership class.



## PROOF READING

*Coming Soon - Maybe in May? Stay Tuned*

Come and discuss the book *The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, Mind, and Body in the Healing of Trauma* by Bessel A. van der Kolk. Books are available for purchase at the Welcome Table.

### Media Release

Advent Houston shares photos taken at our events in our monthly newsletters, on our website, or on social media for the purpose of promoting and highlighting the church’s mission. By being present, you consent to being photographed and having these photos shared. For individuals who are not comfortable being visible in a shared photograph, please notify the church at [admin@adventpres.org](mailto:admin@adventpres.org) to opt out of the media release.

**ADVENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOUSTON**

2617 BISSONNET ST. SUITE 200, #227  
HOUSTON, TX 77005

---



ADVENT HOUSTON EXISTS TO EMBRACE,  
EMBODY, AND EXTEND THE GRACE OF JESUS  
TO THE TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER, RICE  
UNIVERSITY, AND THE SURROUNDING  
NEIGHBORHOODS.

ALL SONGS USED BY PERMISSION.  
CCLI LICENSE #21309482

---

**ADVENTPRES.ORG**  
713-364-6748