

Sunday 5th December 2021

Philippians 1:3-11

³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Luke 3: 1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. ⁵ Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; ⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

On Jordan's Bank *sung by St Martin's Voices*

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

3. For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward:
without thy grace, our souls must fade,
and wither like a flower decayed.

5. All praise, eternal Son, to thee,
whose advent sets thy people free,
whom, with the Father, we adore,
and Spirit bless, for evermore.

2. Then cleansed be every Christian breast;
and furnished for so great a guest.
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.

4. Stretch forth thine hand, to heal our
sore,
and make us rise to fall no more;
once more upon thy people shine,
and fill the world with love divine.

*Jordanis oras praevia Charles Coffin (1676-1749)
Translated John Chandler (1806-1876)
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Restore O Lord *Graham Kendrick & Chris Rolinson Copyright © 1981 Thankyou Music*

Restore, O Lord, the honour of Your name,
In works of sovereign power come shake the earth again;
That all may see and come with reverent fear
To the living God, whose kingdom shall outlast the years.

Restore, O Lord, in all the earth Your fame,
And in our time revive the church that bears Your name.
And in Your anger, Lord, remember mercy,
O living God, whose mercy shall outlast the years.

Bend us, O Lord, where we are hard and cold,
In Your refiner's fire, come purify the gold.
Though suffering comes and evil crouches near,
Still our living God is reigning, He is reigning here.

Restore, O Lord, the honour of Your name,
In works of sovereign power come shake the earth again;
That all may see and come with reverent fear
To the living God, whose kingdom shall outlast the years.

O come, O come Emmanuel *sung by St Martin's Voices*

1 O come, O come Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

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

2 O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.

Refrain

3 O come, Thou Day-spring, come and
cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Refrain

4 O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

Refrain

5 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.

Refrain

*Latin 13th century translated by John M Neale
(1818-1866)*

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