



**BE BORN
IN US**
Today

A SERIES OF SPECIAL
SERVICES FOR ADVENT

WEEK 1: BE BORN IN US



*Bringing
Blessing*

WEEK 2: BE BORN IN US



*Bringing
Renewal*

WEEK 3: BE BORN IN US



*Bringing
Guidance*

WEEK 4: BE BORN IN US



*Bringing
Power*



A SERIES OF SPECIAL SERVICES FOR ADVENT

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A SERIES OF SPECIAL SERVICES FOR ADVENT

ABOUT “BE BORN IN US TODAY”

In this Advent series, we are reminded that Christ is born in us spiritually today and every day. He enters into us daily to strengthen and support us, save us and renew us. We are changed by his presence within us as we become more and more like him in the living of our lives.

Week 1 • Be Born in Us Today Bringing Blessing (Genesis 12:2): God promises Abraham that an offspring from his line would bring blessing to all. When Jesus was born, that promise came true with an abundance.

Week 2 • Be Born in Us Today Bringing Renewal (Isaiah 40:31): The prophet Isaiah declared that a Holy One from God would be born into this world to bring renewal to all the faint and weary. Christ’s birth restores our strength that we might serve him.

Week 3 • Be Born in Us Today Bringing Guidance (Psalm 31:3): The children of Israel wandered in the desert for 40 years, often doubting God’s plan for them. With the arrival of Jesus on the scene, we have a clear path to the promised land of heaven through him who is the Way.

Week 4 • Be Born in Us Today Bringing Power (Exodus 15:6): John the Baptist pointed to the power of God present in Jesus Christ. As we prepare for the birth of baby Jesus, we point others to the power at work in our lives through our Emmanuel, God with us.

For each service, the kit contains: order of service • sermon • children's sermon • prayers • music for the accompanist

The kit includes everything you need for each service as well as digital files with the text of the entire kit in .rtf (rich text format), newsletter/bulletin notices, hymns, visual media recommendations, contemporary music song suggestions, pdfs of the worship bulletins as well as promotional inserts and posters for you to print on your own and PowerPoint documents of all the services with images and text (along with a copyright release) for use on screens.

ORDERING INFORMATION

Other coordinating resources are available. Call Creative Communications for the Parish at 1-800-325-9414, or visit us on the web at creativecommunications.com for current pricing and availability.

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A SERIES OF SPECIAL SERVICES FOR ADVENT

WEEK 1:
BE BORN IN US TODAY
BRINGING BLESSING

NEWSLETTER NOTICE

Join us for the Be Born in Us Today special service for the First Week of Advent, a season when we are reminded of the birth of Christ. In this service, we recall that God promised Abraham that an offspring from his line would bring blessing to all. That offspring was Jesus. And he is born in us today.

BULLETIN NOTICE

In this first service in our Be Born in Us Today series for Advent, we recall that God promised Abraham that an offspring from his line would bring blessing to all. That offspring was Jesus. And he is born in us today.



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WEEK 1:
BE BORN IN US TODAY
BRINGING BLESSING

ORDER OF SERVICE

*And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you
and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. Genesis 12:2*

Opening Hymn.....Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation he doth bring; therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise your joyful songs of praise.

A righteous Helper comes to thee; his chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness, his scepter, pity in distress.
The end of all our woe he brings; therefore the earth is glad and sings.
To Christ the Savior raise your grateful hymns of praise.

How blest the land, the city blest, where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O peaceful hearts and happy homes to whom this King in triumph comes!
The cloudless sun of joy is he who comes to set his people free.
To God the Spirit raise your happy shouts of praise.

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple set apart
From earthly use for heav'n's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.
So shall your Sov'reign enter in and new and nobler life begin.
To God alone be praise for word and deed and grace!

Invocation and Lighting of the Advent Wreath

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

(The first blue or purple candle is lit.)

P We light the first candle on the Advent wreath as we rejoice in the blessings that have come to us through the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. God told Abraham that through one of his descendants "all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Genesis 12:3).

C **Holy Child of Bethlehem, you were born among us to live and die and rise in fulfillment of God's promise to bless all nations.**

P The promised descendant of Abraham, Jesus Christ, is a blessing for people of all nations who trust in him for salvation. "So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith" (Galatians 3:7-8).

C **Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. Through faith in your name, Lord Jesus, we have the blessings of forgiveness and salvation!**

Confession and Absolution

P Let us confess our sins to God and ask his forgiveness.

C **Lord God, we are blessed with your love and salvation, but we do not always live as your people. We turn away from your Word and ways to follow our own selfish desires. We listen to the temptations of the world around us. We do not share with others the blessings we have received. Have mercy on us and forgive us.**

P God has had mercy on us. He sent his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the blessing for the nations, to atone for the sins of the world. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered”

(Romans 4:7).

Hymn O Little Town of Bethlehem

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in. Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

Prayer of the Day

Hymn Once He Came in Blessing

Once he came in blessing, all our sins redressing;
Came in likeness lowly, Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us; hope and freedom gave us.

Children’s Sermon

Hymn Once He Came in Blessing

Come, then, O Lord Jesus, from our sins release us.
Keep our hearts believing, that we, grace receiving,
Ever may confess you till in heav’n we bless you.

Old Testament Reading Genesis 12:1-8

Epistle Reading Romans 4:1-8

Gospel Reading Luke 1:39-56

Sermon Hymn The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, with wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:
“All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady.” Gloria!

“For know a blessed mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor thee;
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favored lady.” Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head; “To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said.
“My soul shall laud and magnify God’s holy name.” Most highly favored lady. Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born in Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say: “Most highly favored lady.” Gloria!

Sermon

Hymn of Response Arise, O Christian People

Arise, O Christian people! Prepare yourselves today;
Prepare to greet the Savior, who takes your sins away.
To us by grace alone the truth and light were given;
The promised Lord from heaven to all the world is shown.

Prepare my heart, Lord Jesus; turn not from me aside,
And help me to receive you this blessed Adventtide.
From stall and manger low come now to dwell within me;
I'll sing your praises gladly and forth your glory show.

Apostles' Creed

C 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, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Prayers

P Lord and Savior, have mercy on those who are suffering through illness and loss. Watch over them and comfort them through the promises of your holy Word. Lead us as we seek ways to help and serve those in need so that we might share our blessings with them. Holy Child of Bethlehem,

C Be born in us today. As we have been blessed through your birth, help us to bless others in your name.

P Lord and Savior, you were born among us in fulfillment of the promise to Abraham, that one of his descendants would be a blessing to people of all nations. By your suffering and death, you atoned for the sins of the world. Holy Child of Bethlehem,

C Be born in us today. Like Abraham, we too are blessed to be a blessing to others. Guide and protect the pastors, teachers, missionaries and other workers who carry the good news of Jesus to every nation. Help us to support them with our gifts and prayers.

P Lord and Savior, Abraham believed your promise and his faith was counted as righteousness. Through faith in your name, we too are counted righteous. Through your suffering, death and resurrection, we have received the blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. Holy Child of Bethlehem,

C **Be born in us today. We pray that the Holy Spirit will work through our acts of love and our words of witness so that others will come to know and worship you as Lord.**

P Holy Savior, Lord of all nations, hear our prayer and accept our grateful praise.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

P "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

C **For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name"** (Luke 1:46-48).

P "The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace" (Numbers 6:24-26).

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn..... Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

Come, thou precious Ransom, come, only hope for sinful mortals!
Come, O Savior of the world! Open are to thee all portals.
Come, thy beauty let us see; anxiously we wait for thee.

Enter now my waiting heart, glorious King and Lord most holy.
Dwell in me and ne'er depart, though I am but poor and lowly.
Ah, what riches will be mine when thou art my guest divine!

Hail! Hosanna, David's Son! Jesus, hear our supplication!
Let thy kingdom, scepter, crown, bring us blessing and salvation,
That forever we may sing: Hail! Hosanna to our King.



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WEEK 1:
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COMPLETE SCRIPT FOR WORSHIP LEADERS

- If desired, an **Environmental Projection** is shown on a screen or on the walls of your worship space to set the tone for the service before the service begins or throughout the service at various points:

[shutterstock.com/image-photo/blue-color-tone-close-rain-water-298791248](https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/blue-color-tone-close-rain-water-298791248)

- This **Theme Verse** is read aloud by the pastor at the start of the service or is read silently by the congregation before the service begins:

*And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you
and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. Genesis 12:2*

- The **Opening Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Milwaukee 88 88 88 66, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits.
 The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.
 Life and salvation he doth bring; therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
 To God the Father raise your joyful songs of praise.

A righteous Helper comes to thee; his chariot is humility,
 His kingly crown is holiness, his scepter, pity in distress.
 The end of all our woe he brings; therefore the earth is glad and sings.
 To Christ the Savior raise your grateful hymns of praise.

How blest the land, the city blest, where Christ the ruler is confessed!
 O peaceful hearts and happy homes to whom this King in triumph comes!
 The cloudless sun of joy is he who comes to set his people free.
 To God the Spirit raise your happy shouts of praise.

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple set apart
 From earthly use for heav'n's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.
 So shall your Sov'reign enter in and new and nobler life begin.
 To God alone be praise for word and deed and grace!

- The **Invocation and Lighting of the Advent Wreath** are spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

(The first blue or purple candle is lit.)

P We light the first candle on the Advent wreath as we rejoice in the blessings that have come to us through the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. God told Abraham that through one of his descendants “all the families of the earth shall be blessed” (Genesis 12:3).

C **Holy Child of Bethlehem, you were born among us to live and die and rise in fulfillment of God’s promise to bless all nations.**

P The promised descendant of Abraham, Jesus Christ, is a blessing for people of all nations who trust in him for salvation. “So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith” (Galatians 3:7-8).

C **Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. Through faith in your name, Lord Jesus, we have the blessings of forgiveness and salvation!**

- The **Confession and Absolution** is spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

P Let us confess our sins to God and ask his forgiveness.

C **Lord God, we are blessed with your love and salvation, but we do not always live as your people. We turn away from your Word and ways to follow our own selfish desires. We listen to the temptations of the world around us. We do not share with others the blessings we have received. Have mercy on us and forgive us.**

P God has had mercy on us. He sent his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the blessing for the nations, to atone for the sins of the world. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C **“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered”**
(Romans 4:7).

- The **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune St. Louis 86 86 76 86, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in. Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

- The **Prayer of the Day** is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

P Almighty God and Father, through the gift of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, you fulfilled your promise to Abraham, that one of his descendants would be a blessing for all nations. Jesus, the Holy Child of Bethlehem, was born among us to bring us the blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation through faith in his name. Give us opportunities to use our earthly blessings to help those in need and empower us by your Spirit to be bold witnesses to our Savior, so that others will come to know the blessing of faith in Jesus. Hear our prayer and accept our grateful praise in his holy name. Amen.

- The **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Gottes Sohn Ist Kommen 66 66 66, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

Come, then, O Lord Jesus, from our sins release us.
Keep our hearts believing, that we, grace receiving,
Ever may confess you till in heav'n we bless you.

- The **Children's Sermon** is delivered by the pastor or other worship leader:

*Needed: a gift-wrapped Christmas box; wrap the box and lid separately
so it is easy to open; place a small manger figure of Baby Jesus inside the wrapped box*

Ⓟ In just a few weeks, it will be Christmas! I look forward to singing Christmas hymns and carols and getting together with friends and family to celebrate. What do you like best about celebrating Christmas? *(Let children share their favorite Christmas activities.)* One of the Christmas activities that we all enjoy is giving and receiving presents! I have a small present here. Let's open it and see what's inside. *(Let one of the children open the box and take out the Baby Jesus figure.)* We look forward to finding all kinds of gifts under the Christmas tree, but the best gift we will ever receive is the gift of Jesus our Savior.

But there are even more gifts at Christmas, because Jesus came to bring gifts to us! What does Jesus bring us? *(Let children suggest gifts.)* Those are all good answers. Jesus brings us his blessings. We are blessed because Jesus came to die on the cross so that our sins are forgiven. We are blessed because Jesus came to give us eternal life. We will live forever with our Savior. When we have so many blessings from God, we can share our blessings with others. We can tell other people about Jesus and the gifts that he brings. Then we will be a blessing to others!

Let's pray: Jesus, you were born in Bethlehem to bring us the blessings of forgiveness and eternal life. Help us to share our blessings with others. Amen.

- The **Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Gottes Sohn Ist Kommen 66 66 66, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

Come, then, O Lord Jesus, from our sins release us.
Keep our hearts believing, that we, grace receiving,
Ever may confess you till in heav'n we bless you.

- The **Old Testament Reading**, Genesis 12:1-8, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

Ⓟ Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD.

- The **Epistle Reading**, Romans 4:1-8, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

Ⓟ What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

- The **Gospel Reading**, Luke 1:39-56, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:

Ⓟ In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.” And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in

God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.” And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

- The **Sermon Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune *Gabriel’s Message* 10 10 11 73, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, with wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:
“All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady.” Gloria!

“For know a blessed mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor thee;
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favored lady.” Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head; “To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said.
“My soul shall laud and magnify God’s holy name.” Most highly favored lady. Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born in Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say: “Most highly favored lady.” Gloria!

- The **Sermon** is delivered by the pastor:

Theme verse: [Now the LORD said to Abram:] “I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.” Genesis 12:2

- Ⓟ Imagine that two friends of yours are attending a Packers Game at Lambeau Field. The game is televised, and you have the game on at home. You know your friends are there in person, and wonder if by chance you might spot them somewhere near the fifty yard line in the crowd of 80,000. What are the odds? Then suddenly there they are! A camera pans across the crowd and settles on them long enough that you recognize them. It is an amazing moment. You shout out their names as if they can hear you. What are the odds? The many and the one or, in this case, the many and the two!

It’s easy to get lost in a crowd. As in the old *Where’s Waldo?* books, it can be hard to find the one among the many. In the holy history of God and humanity known as the Bible, God is more than pretty good at finding someone in a crowd. Four millennia ago God found a tribal chief named Abram from among all the nations and people groups on earth. God singled this leader out of the crowd and promised to bless him. Such a blessing God gave Abram that it

would extend to all nations. That's what God said, and that's exactly what happened.

Some see this idea of Abraham blessing the nations as fulfilled in his impact on the world's religions. The three great world religions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam are all called "Abrahamic religions," each recognizing Abraham in some way as significant in its history and tradition.

For us Christians, Abraham's impact goes much farther than that of an historical or religious figure. We believe that God blessed Abraham to establish the nation Israel and that from that nation God blessed the world with the Messiah, Jesus Christ. We believe that when God first blessed Abraham, God already had blessing the whole world in mind. You can't miss this in the promise God gives Abraham. It is all very personal, this call of God. At the same time, it is all very universal, the one and the many. God says, "And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing ... in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Genesis 12:2-3).

We live among the many. We are defined by the communities we cherish, the relationships we hold dear, the culture that shapes us. More and more, we think globally. We care what happens on the other side of the world. In so many ways we can lose ourselves in our culture. Almost a century ago already, Thornton Wilder's play *Our Town* was prophetic in recognizing how the one can get lost in the many. Wilder has one of his characters, Rebecca, recall a letter her friend Jane had received. It was addressed to "Jane Crofut; The Crofut Farm; Grover's Corners; Sutton County; New Hampshire; United States of America; Continent of North America; Western Hemisphere; the Earth; the Solar System; the Universe; the Mind of God." You can picture Jane Crofit in that address becoming smaller and smaller, less and less significant.

This can be a blessing, this strong sense of the many, especially when it leads us, as in the case of the letter in *Our Town*, back to the One who has created it all, all of this community and culture of which we are a part, From the individual we move to the universe and ultimately to the Creator God. The challenge, though, is not to lose oneself along the way. The challenge is to know that as God is busy working the divine plan to save the world through Jesus Christ, God has not lost sight of you in the global crowd. "God so loved the world" is true, but just as true is "God so loved you." God has some work to do, cutting through all that is between me and God—the stuff of families, nations and cultures—but God gets the divine mail delivered to Jane and to you.

That is the message of the call of Abraham. Yes, God is out to save the many, even the all, but God does it one by one, family by family, nation by nation. And when God gets through, when the saving work of Jesus Christ takes hold of an individual, it is simply true that community is born. This new community is, of course, with God, with the church, and with the neighbor, all objects of the individual's Christian love. In other words, from the many God finds the one who



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CONTEMPORARY MUSIC SONG SUGGESTIONS

- The following song suggestions can be used for a more contemporary worship service in place of the more traditional hymns included in this kit. Rights to use these songs in the service must be purchased by your parish through CCLI or other copyright licensing agencies.

“Blessed Be Your Name” by Beth Redman and Matt Redman

“10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)” by Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman

“Counting Every Blessing” by Chris Llewellyn and Gareth Gilkeson

“The Blessing” by Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Karl Jobe and Steven Furtick

“Blessing” by Matt Redman

“All the Earth” by Andi Rozier, Jason Ingram, Jonathan Smith and Meredith Andrews



A SERIES OF SPECIAL SERVICES FOR ADVENT

WEEK 2:
BE BORN IN US TODAY
BRINGING RENEWAL

MUSIC GUIDE

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Musical notation for measures 1-6. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). Measure 1 is a whole rest in both staves. Measures 2-6 contain chords and single notes in both staves. Measure 5 features a quarter note in the treble staff.

Musical notation for measures 7-12. Measures 7-12 contain chords and single notes in both staves. Measure 10 features a quarter note in the treble staff and a triplet of eighth notes in the bass staff.

Musical notation for measures 13-18. Measures 13-18 contain chords and single notes in both staves. Measure 18 ends with a double bar line and repeat signs in both staves.

- The **Opening Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Puer Nobis LM, or a selection from the contemporary music song suggestions list at the end of the music guide for this service can be sung instead:

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!

We hail thee as our Savior, Lord, our refuge and our great reward;
Without thy grace we waste away like flow'rs that wither and decay.

Lay on the sick thy healing hand and make the fallen strong to stand;
Show us the glory of thy face till beauty springs in ev'ry place.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee whose advent sets thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore.