ADVENT

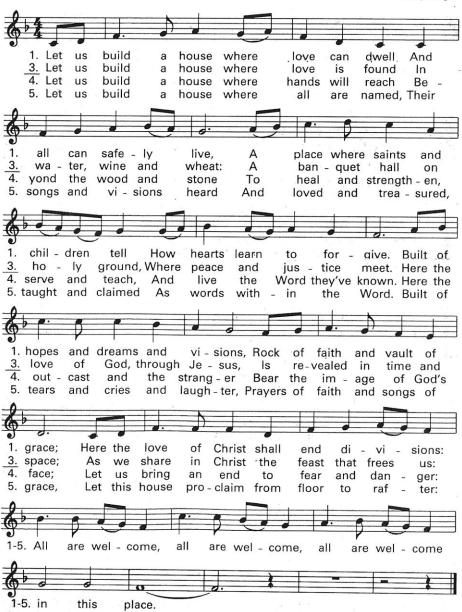












Text: 96 86 87 10 with refrain. Music: TWO OAKS.

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Priest: Let us begin our service: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Reading: COMMUNITY STATEMENT

1st Reader: Continual mutual conversion plays a very important role in the growth of a missionary community whose members place their energy into meaningful-living-together. Conversion is an ongoing process of listening and living out of one's inner being, the heart, the mind and the spirit. From where the Spirit dwells the process flows into appreciation of oneself and of others. The individual as well as the community are converted and grow into a vibrant missionary community!

Pause:

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

2nd Reader: Ongoing conversion in community is seeing with God's eyes! God sees, understands and accepts each person's goodness and limitations!

One who experiences God's understanding and acceptance looks at others with greater understanding and acceptance. Although it is not easy to acknowledge and embrace one's own shortcomings and those of others the experience of God's love empowers one to let go of judgments, criticism, negativity and even violence. Gradually community members are enabled to move out of their comfort zones with a new willingness to struggle together toward reconciliation and transformation. Who God is (community), the community becomes!

Pause:

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Reader: Each one's surrender to the Holy Spirit leads to personal transformation and makes community possible. A total self-giving to the Holy Spirit is sustained through prayer, sacrament, Eucharist and Scripture. This creates a spiritually bonded community. In the Strength of the Holy Spirit, diversity, internationality, culture and differences in age, rather than being obstacles become tools of communion and unity. Because a community shaped in the Holy Spirit is not meant for itself, a community is meant to live and witness God's love and life. The energy of being and being community flows into mission and exists for mission and is mission itself.

Pause:

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

4th Reader: COMMUNITY GOALS FOR 2011-2012

- 1. Become more compassionate to self and to others
- 2. Be a welcoming community

Pause:

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice! Emanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

Priest: Reading: John: 1:1-6, 9-14, 16-18

In the beginning was the Word: the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things came into being, not one thing came into being, except through him. What has come into being in him was life, life that was the light of men and light shines in darkness, and darkness could not overpower it. The Word was the real light that gives light to everyone; he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had come into being through him, and the world did not recognize him. He came to his own and his people did not accept him. But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God to those who believed in his name who were born not from human stock or human desire, or human will, but from God Himself.

The Word became flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that He has from the Father as only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received- one gift replacing another, for the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



WE ARE MANY PARTS



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Silence and Individual Confession

Priest: Blessing!

We all bless one another with Paul's Prayers in Ephesians:

Priest:

This, then is what I pray, kneeling before the Father, from whom every Fatherhood, in or on earth, takes its name.

In the abundance of his glory may he, through his Spirit enable you to grow firm in power with regard to your inner self, so that Christ may live in your hearts through faith, and then planted in love and built on love, with all God's holy people you will have the strength to grasp the breadth and the length, the height and the depth; so that, knowing the love of Christ, which is beyond all knowledge, you may be filled with the utter fullness of God.

All: Glory be to him whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine; glory be to him from generation to generation in the Church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.



One Heart - Many Faces

