

Worshipping Christ through Carols
1. O Come, O Come, Immanuel (Isaiah 7v10-17)

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Introduction

- Waiting and longing?

The history of the carol

- The lyrics (the “O Antiphons”)
- The tune

Two horizons

- Advent
- Jesus’ Second Coming

Immanuel – God with us

- The prophecy (Isaiah 7:10-17)
- Its fulfilment (Matt. 1:22-23)

Who Jesus is and what he came to do

- The Branch of Jesse (Isaiah 11:1-10)
- The Bright and Morning Star (Num. 24:17, Luke 1:78-79)
- The Key of David (Isaiah 22:22, Rev. 3:7)

Conclusion

Isaiah 7v10-17 (NIV)

¹⁰ Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹ “Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.”

¹² But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.”

¹³ Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also?

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, ¹⁶ for before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste.

¹⁷ The LORD will bring on you and on your people and on the house of your father a time unlike any since Ephraim broke away from Judah—he will bring the king of Assyria.”

1 O come, O come, Immanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

4 O come, O Key of David, come
and open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe for us the heavenward road
and bar the way to death's abode.

Refrain:
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.*

5 O come, O come, great Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times did give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.

2 O come, O Branch of Jesse's stem,
unto your own and rescue them!
From depths of hell your people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.

3 O come, O Bright and Morning Star,
and bring us comfort from afar!
Dispel the shadows of the night
and turn our darkness into light.

