

Hymn 362**“Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers”**

1 Rejoice! Rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear; the evening is advancing and darker night is near. The Bridegroom is arising and soon he will draw nigh. Up, watch with expectation; at midnight comes the cry.

2 See that your lamps are burning; replenish them with oil; look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil. The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand; arise, O heirs of glory; the Bridegroom is at hand!

3 Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear; arise, thou Sun so longed for, above this shadowed sphere! With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see the day of earth's redemption, and ever be with thee!

Hymn 487**“These Treasured Children” Verse 2**

2 Our ancient story we shall tell, till these our children know it well within their souls and minds and hearts, for this is where their journey starts.

Hymn 92**“While We Are Waiting, Come!”**

1 While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.

Refrain: Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

2 With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come. (Refrain)

3 Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come. (Refrain)

Matthew 25:1-13

‘Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, “Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.” Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.” But the wise replied, “No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.” And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, “Lord, lord, open to us.” But he replied, “Truly I tell you, I do not know you.” Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.