

There's a table that you've prepared for me  
 In the presence of my enemies  
 It's your body and your blood you shed for me  
 This is how I fight my battles  
 And I believe you've overcome and  
 I will lift my song of praise for what you've done

*This is how I fight my battles*  
*This is how I fight my battles*  
*This is how I fight my battles*  
*This is how*

In the valley I know that you're with me  
 And surely your goodness and your mercy follow me  
 So my weapons are praise and thanksgiving  
 This is how I fight my battles  
 And I believe you've overcome and  
 I will lift my song of praise for what you've done

It may look like I'm surrounded  
 But I'm surrounded by you

### Words of Assurance (Original Content):

Do not be afraid  
 Hear the good news of great joy for all people:  
 a Savior has been born this night for you!  
 Emmanuel, God with us, offers us a life filled with joy,  
 Regardless of what our experience has taught us,  
 Regardless of the fears we fight,  
 Regardless of the worries in our world,  
 the joy he gives remains unshaken.  
 Unable to be earned, or figured out,  
 Or conjured up through our own willpower.  
 The joy he offers is a joy to rest in,  
 a joy to revel in,  
 a joy that changes our perspective  
 as we live and breathe and walk with him,  
 And as we await his final joyous return.

### Responsive Reading (Psalm 46):

**Leader:** God is our refuge and strength,  
 an ever-present help in trouble.  
**People:** Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way  
 and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,  
 though its waters roar and foam  
 and the mountains quake with their surging.  
**Leader:** There is a river whose streams make glad the city of  
 God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within

her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.  
 Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;  
 he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

**People:** The Lord Almighty is with us  
 the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**Leader:** Come and see what the Lord has done,  
 the desolations he has brought on the earth.  
 He makes wars cease  
 to the ends of the earth.

He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;  
 he burns the shields with fire.

**People:** He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;  
 I will be exalted among the nations,  
 I will be exalted in the earth."

**Leader:** The Lord Almighty is with us.

### O Come, O Come Emmanuel (J. Neale):

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*

O come thou Dayspring come and cheer  
 Our spirits by thine advent here  
 Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
 And death's dark shadows put to flight

O come thou Wisdom from on high  
 And order all things far and nigh  
 To us the path of knowledge show  
 And cause us in her ways to go

### Benediction:

May we be people of kingdom perspective, practicing the  
 discipline of constantly living within the presence of God, not with  
 our heads in the clouds, seeking to avoid the troubles of the world,  
 but waking each morning and resting each night, grounded in a joy  
 brought about and made available through Emmanuel, God with  
 us.

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WITH

JOY

WEEK 3

**Joy To the World (Hillsong):**

Joy to the world the Lord is come  
 Let earth receive her King  
 Let every heart prepare him room  
 And heaven and nature sing  
 And heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world the Saviour reigns  
 Let men their songs employ  
 While fields and floods  
 Rocks hills and plains  
 Repeat the sounding joy  
 Repeat the sounding joy

*We will sing joy  
 We will sing joy  
 We will sing joy  
 Joy to the world*

He rules the world with truth and grace  
 And makes the nations prove  
 The glories of his righteousness  
 And wonders of his love  
 And wonders of his love

**Candle Light Reading #1 (Isaiah 61:1-3 ESV):**

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion - to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.

**Candle Light Reading #2 (Isaiah 9:2, 42:16, 49:6 NRSV):**

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; the one who follows me will not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined (Isaiah 9:2, NRSV)

I will lead the blind by a road they do not know, by the paths they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I will do and I will not forsake them. (Isaiah 42:16, NRSV)

The Lord says to his servant, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." (Isaiah 49:6, NRSV)

Come, Lord Jesus, our Promise and our Salvation. Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

**Old For New (Bethel Music):**

What was torn you mend again  
 You redesign the tattered thread by thread  
 You take the broken and destroyed  
 You rebuild, you make whole

*Joy, begin to rise  
 Hope, begin to light the dark  
 Our God exchanges old for new  
 Dawn has conquered dark  
 Death has lost to life  
 And now we are exchanging old for new*

You turn our flame in to a fire  
 In you, we walk in the impossible  
 We take your love into the world  
 Let our light shine, we let it burn

There's nothing that your love won't do  
 There's not a mountain faith can't move  
 There's power in the blood  
 The power of the cross

**Edge of Heaven (River Valley Worship):**

For now we may feel pain  
 For now we stand in faith  
 For now your Spirit moves  
 For now we reach for You

*Here we are  
 Living on the edge of Heaven  
 Clinging to Your holy presence  
 We're longing to be where You are  
 Here we are  
 Lifting holy hands to Heaven  
 We will sing your praise forever  
 Longing to be where You are*

For now you give us strength  
 For now heaven calls our name  
 For now our hope is this  
 For now we know You're coming again

Take this world, take it all  
 Give me Jesus  
 Through the trial, through the pain  
 Give me Jesus  
 Take my life, everything  
 Give me Jesus

**Yes and Amen (Housefires):**

Father of kindness you have poured out grace  
 You brought me out of darkness you have filled me with peace  
 Giver of mercy, you're my help in time of need  
 Lord I can't help but sing

*Faithful, you are  
 Faithful, forever you will be  
 Faithful, you are  
 All your promises are yes and amen*

Beautiful Savior you have brought me near  
 Pulled me from the ashes you have broken every curse  
 Blessed Redeemer you have set this captive free  
 Lord I can't help but sing

We will rest, in your promises  
 Our confidence, is your faithfulness  
 We say yes, to your promises  
 Our confidence, is your faithfulness

**Prayer of Confession (Original Content):**

Our good and gracious God, we confess that we've allowed our surroundings and situations to determine our joy. Forgive us, our Father, for choosing to despair instead of resting in your promises. Forgive us, our Savior, for striving to earn or discover what you love to so freely give. Forgive us, Emmanuel, for losing sight of the joy readily available to us, because of your presence *with us.*

**Surrounded (UPPERROOM):**

There's a table that you've prepared for me  
 In the presence of my enemies  
 It's your body and your blood you shed for me  
 This is how I fight my battles