## Joy at His Coming

At the coming of Christ,

Abraham rejoiced (John 8:56);

John the Baptist rejoiced, though still in his mother's womb (Luke 1:44);

Mary rejoiced (Luke 1:46-47);

the magi rejoiced (Matthew 2:10); and

the angels of heaven rejoiced (Luke 2:10-14).

The coming of Christ was

"good news of great joy which will be for all the people" (Luke 2:10, NASB).

But not only was His coming joy to all the human race,

it was joy to all creation.

Just as our separation from God brought suffering and death to us,

it brought suffering and death to all creation.

And as creation shared our fall,

it will share our redemption.

The creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. (Romans 8:19-22, NIV)

So it's no wonder that the Old Testament repeatedly proclaims that at the coming of Christ,

all creation bursts into jubilant rejoicing:

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it. Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them; let all the trees of the forest sing for joy. Let all creation rejoice before the Lord, for he comes, he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his faithfulness. (Psalm 96:11-13, NIV)

Jesus Christ has come, and

He is coming again to gloriously complete all He has started. Let all that is, praise Him and sing for joy!

## Hymn: Advent Joy

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