First Sunday of Advent



" So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

(Cycle A)

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Opening Hymn

Creator Alme Siderum



Greeting

V. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

V. The grace and peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

R. And also with you.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Invitation to reflect on our faults and failings.

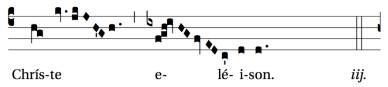
V To prepare ourselves to celebrate these sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our faults and failings and ask our heavenly Father in his mercy for his healing and forgiveness.

Pause for silent reflection.

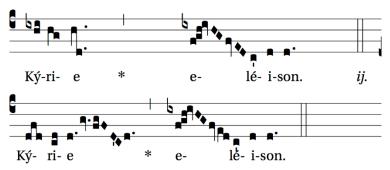
V Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom:



V You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:



V You will come in glory with salvation for your people:



W May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

The Gloria is not said during the Sundays of Advent

Opening Prayer

Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Word.

Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1 (*Is 2:1-5*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

This is what Isaiah, son of Amoz. saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come, the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest mountain and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream toward it: many peoples shall come and say: "Come, let us climb the LORD's mountain, to the house of the God of Jacob. that he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths." For from Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

V. This is the Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (*Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9*)



I rejoiced because they said to me,
"We will go up to the house of the LORD."
And now we have set foot
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Jerusalem, built as a city with compact unity.
To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD.

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

According to the decree for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD. In it are set up judgment seats, seats for the house of David.

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! May those who love you prosper! May peace be within your walls, prosperity in your buildings.

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Because of my brothers and friends I will say, "Peace be within you!"
Because of the house of the LORD, our God, I will pray for your good.

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Reading 2 (*Rom 13:11-14*)

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Romans:

Brothers and sisters:

You know the time;

it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep.

For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed;

the night is advanced, the day is at hand.

Let us then throw off the works of darkness

and put on the armor of light;

let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day,

not in orgies and drunkenness,

not in promiscuity and lust,

not in rivalry and jealousy.

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ,

and make no provision for the desires of the flesh.

V. This is the Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (PS 85:8)



Show us Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation.



Gospel (Mt 24:37-44)

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

V. A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

The celebrant and the people mark a cross on their foreheads (mind), their lips (speech) and over their hearts, asking the Lord to open them to his Word.

R. Glory to you Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples:

"As it was in the days of Noah,

so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

In those days before the flood,

they were eating and drinking,

marrying and giving in marriage,

up to the day that Noah entered the ark.

They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away.

So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.

Two men will be out in the field;

one will be taken, and one will be left.

Two women will be grinding at the mill;

one will be taken, and one will be left.

Therefore, stay awake!

For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.

Be sure of this: if the master of the house

had known the hour of night when the thief was coming,

he would have stayed awake

and not let his house be broken into.

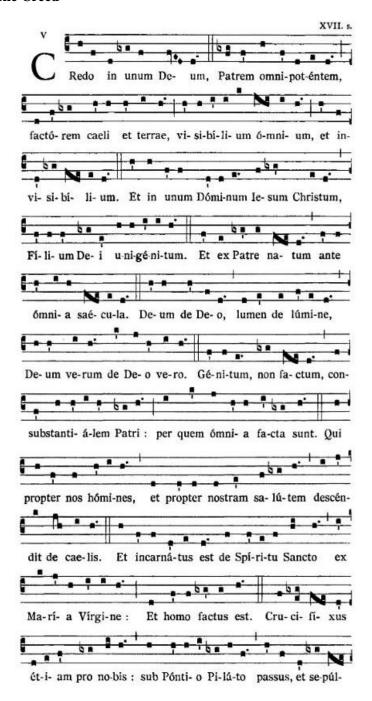
So too, you also must be prepared,

for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

V. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord, Jesus Christ.

Homily





We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, one in Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:

All bow at these two lines

by the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered, died, and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in fulfillment of the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

General Intercessions

The celebrant invites the congregation to pray and offers several prayer intentions. Each concludes, "We pray to the Lord."



Blessing of the Advent Wreath

V Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ: he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples, he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us, he is the Savior of every nation.

Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May he come quickly and not delay.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offering of the Gifts

V. Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

R. Blessed be God for ever.

 \tilde{V} . Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

R. Blessed be God for ever.

Prayer over the Gifts

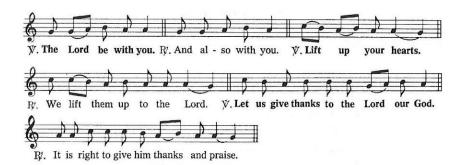
V. Pray, my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.

Father, from all you give us we present this bread and wine. As we serve you now, accept our offering and sustain us with your promise of eternal life.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.

Preface and Sanctus (Advent I)



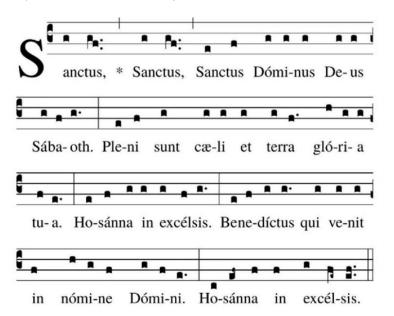
The celebrant recites or sings the Preface:

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord.

When he humbled himself to come among us as a man, he fulfilled the plan you formed long ago and opened for us the way to salvation.

Now we watch for the day, hoping that the salvation promised us will be ours when Christ our Lord will come again in his glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels in heaven we proclaim your glory and join in their unending hymn of praise:



Eucharistic Prayer (I)

The celebrant prays the Eucharistic Prayer. After the consecration, the celebrant sings:

V. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.



The celebrant concludes the Eucharistic Prayer.

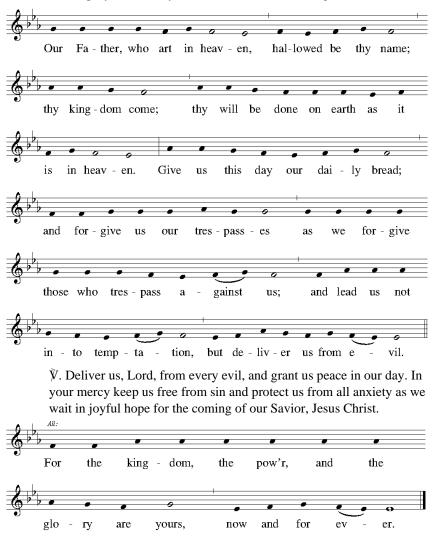
Through him, with him and in him in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father Forever and ever.



COMMUNION LITURGY

The Lord's Prayer

V. We pray confidently in the words our Savior taught us:



V. Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live for ever and ever.

Exchange of Peace

V. The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And also with you.

V. Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

Breaking of the Bread

As the bread is broken, we sing or say:



di: do-na no-bis pa-cem.

V. This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

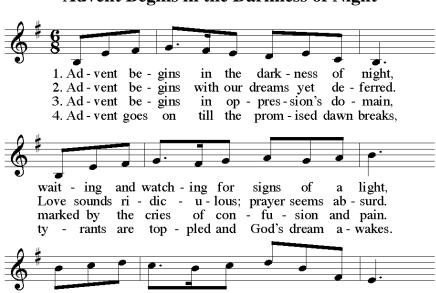
R. Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

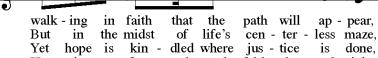
To those receiving Communion, the celebrant says:

V. The body of Christ.

Communion Meditation

Advent Begins in the Darkness of Night





Hope is per-fect - ed and faith is made sight.



dar - ing to fol - low in spite of our fear. we lift to - geth - er our pro - test of praise. mer - cy is nur - tured and peace is be - gun. Love is our cen - ter and Christ is our light.

Prayer after Communion

Father, may our communion teach us to love heaven. May its promise and hope guide our way on earth.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

CONCLUDING RITES

Solemn Blessing (1)

 \vec{V} . The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

You believe that the Son of God once came to us; you look for him to come again.

May his coming bring you the light of his holiness.

R. Amen.

May God make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and untiring in love all the days of your life.

R. Amen.

You rejoice that our Redeemer came to live with us as man. When he comes again in glory, may he reward you with endless life.

R. Amen.

√. May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

Dismissal



Closing Hymn

