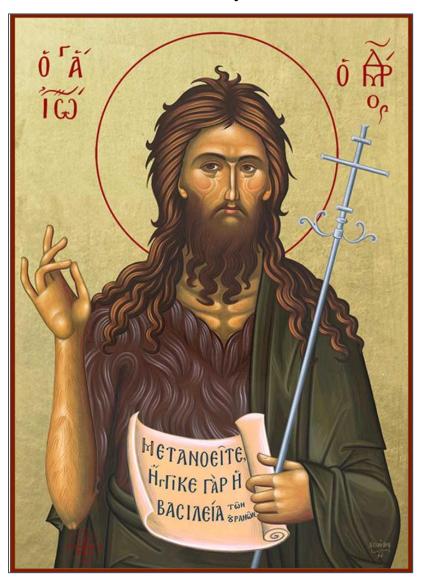
Second Sunday of Advent



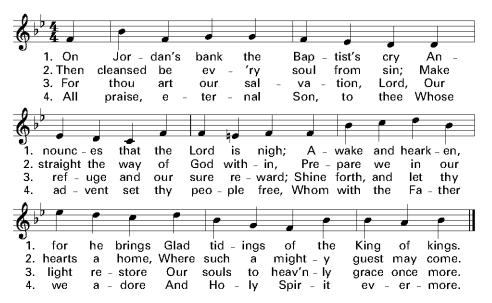
John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

(Cycle A)

INTRODUCTORY RITES

Opening Hymn

On Jordan's Bank



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.

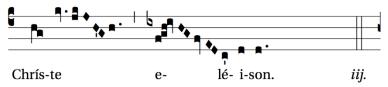
V To prepare ourselves to celebrate these sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our faults and failings and ask our heavenly Father in his mercy for his healing and forgiveness.

Pause for silent reflection.

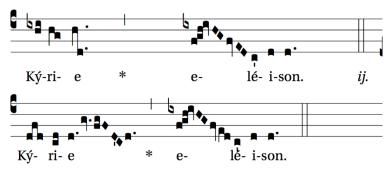
V Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom:



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, the day draws near when the glory of your Son will make radiant the night of the waiting world.

May the lure of greed not impede us from the joy which moves the hearts of those who seek him. May the darkness not blind us to the vision of wisdom which fills the minds of those who find him.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1 (*Is 11:1-10*)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD, and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD. Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide, but he shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land's afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Justice shall be the band around his waist. and faithfulness a belt upon his hips. Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them.

The cow and the bear shall be neighbors, together their young shall rest; the lion shall eat hay like the ox.

The baby shall play by the cobra's den, and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair.

There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD, as water covers the sea.

On that day, the root of Jesse, set up as a signal for the nations, the Gentiles shall seek out, for his dwelling shall be glorious.

V. This is the Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (*Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17.*)



R. Jus-tice shall flour-ish in his time, and full-ness of peace for ev-er.

O God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king's son; he shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment.

R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Justice shall flower in his days, and profound peace, till the moon be no more. May he rule from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him. He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save.

R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

May his name be blessed forever; as long as the sun his name shall remain. In him shall all the tribes of the earth be blessed; all the nations shall proclaim his happiness.

R. Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

Reading 2 (*Rom 15:4-9*)

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans:

Brothers and sisters:

Whatever was written previously was written for our instruction, that by endurance and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I say that Christ became a minister of the circumcised to show God's truthfulness,

to confirm the promises to the patriarchs, but so that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.

As it is written:

Therefore, I will praise you among the Gentiles and sing praises to your name.

V. This is the Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Lk 3:4, 6)



Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God.



Gospel (*Mt 3:1-12*)

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.

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.

John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist.

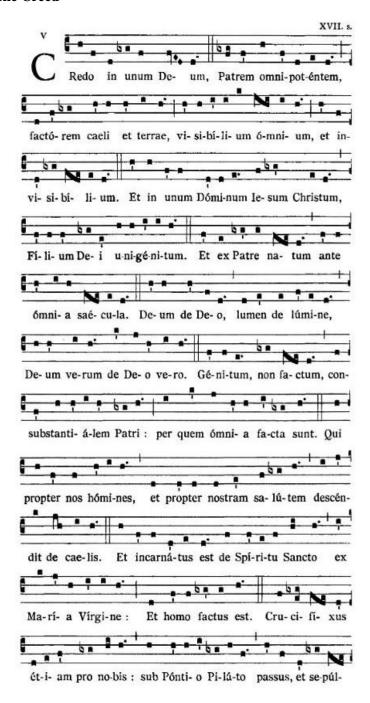
His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

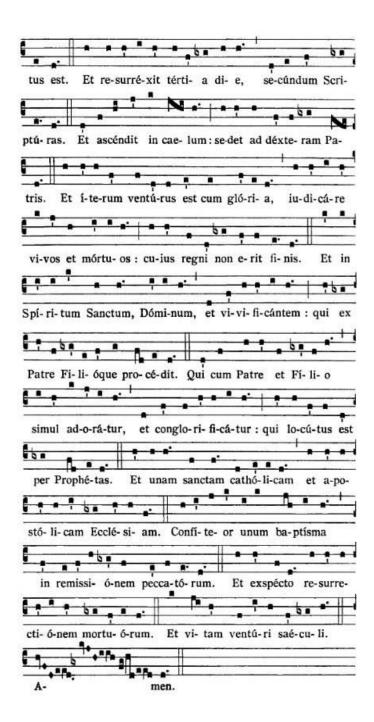
When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones. Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees. Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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."



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.

Lord, we are nothing without you. As you sustain us with your mercy, receive our prayers and offerings.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Preface and Sanctus (Advent I)



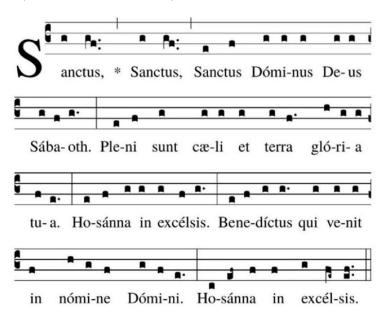
The celebrant recites or sings the Preface:

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 (II)

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.

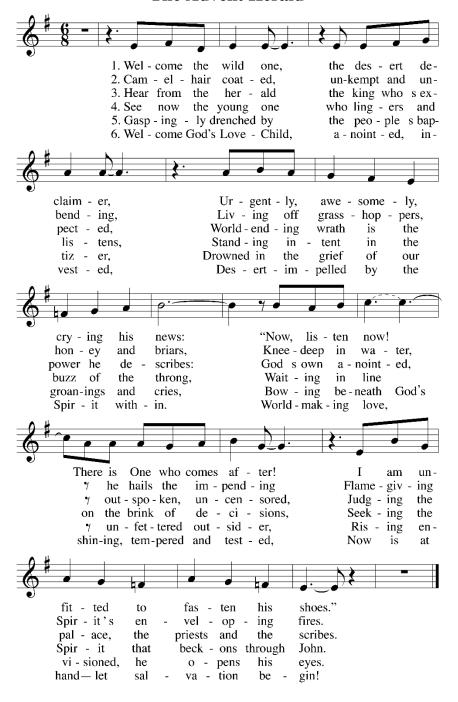
R. Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

To those receiving Communion, the celebrant says:

V. The body of Christ.

Communion Meditation

The Advent Herald



Prayer after Communion

Father, you give us food from heaven. Teach us to live by your wisdom and to love the things of heaven by our sharing in this mystery.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

CONCLUDING RITES

Prayer over the People (1)

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

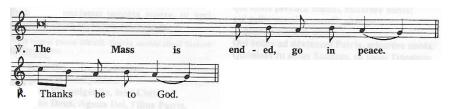
Lord, have mercy on your people. Grant us in this life the good things that lead to the everlasting life you prepare for us.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

V. And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit, come upon you and remain with you for ever.

Dismissal



Closing Hymn

Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord







