

Advent Liturgy

Call to Worship

In the hustle and bustle of the Advent season, it is easy to get swept up with the business of preparing our homes for guests, visiting friends and families, and finding the perfect gift for our loved ones. Let us take a moment to slow down and remember what Advent is meant to be: a time of waiting for the coming of Christ.

Gathering Prayer

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
+Amen.

Creator God,

You sent your only Son to redeem the world.

Guide us during this Advent season to wait in joyful and hopeful anticipation for the coming of Christ. May you help us to prepare and make straight the path toward Jesus. Help us to keep him at the centre of all that we do during this special time of the liturgical year.

We ask this through Christ, our Holy Redeemer.

+Amen.

Reading (Jeremiah 33.14-16)

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14)

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;
teach me your paths,
Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior,
and for you I wait all the day.

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Good and upright is the LORD;
thus he shows sinners the way.
He guides the humble to justice,
and teaches the humble his way.

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

All the paths of the LORD are kindness and constancy
toward those who keep his covenant and his decrees.
The friendship of the LORD is with those who fear him,
and his covenant, for their instruction.

R. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Gospel (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36)

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples:

"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars,
and on earth nations will be in dismay,
perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves.

People will die of fright
in anticipation of what is coming upon the world,
for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

And then they will see the Son of Man
coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

But when these signs begin to happen,
stand erect and raise your heads
because your redemption is at hand.

"Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy
from carousing and drunkenness
and the anxieties of daily life,
and that day catch you by surprise like a trap.

For that day will assault everyone
who lives on the face of the earth.

Be vigilant at all times
and pray that you have the strength
to escape the tribulations that are imminent
and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayers of the Faithful

The response is: ***Lord hear our prayer.***

For Pope (Francis), the bishops, clergy and all holy men and women:
That during this holy time of the year, God continues to shower them with the grace to be our spiritual leaders, guiding us to what is most important, his Son Jesus Christ.

We pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer.

For the leaders of all nations and communities:
That they strive to pass laws and legislation that builds their communities and celebrates the dignity of every individual that they represent.

We pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer.

For the people in our (Insert school name here) community:
May we, the administration, staff, students and volunteers look past the commercialism surrounding us, remembering that Jesus is the reason for the season.

We pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer.

For the thoughts and prayers that lie deep within our hearts. (Pause for a few moments.)

We pray to the Lord.

R. Lord hear our prayer.

Let us join our hearts and voices in the prayer that Jesus taught us...

Our Father,
+Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
+Amen.