

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Cycle B

## ENTRANCE HYMN

1. Hark! a herald voice is calling:  
'Christ is nigh,' it seems to say;  
'Cast away the dreams of darkness,  
O ye children of the day!'
2. Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,  
Comes with pardon down from heaven;  
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
One and all to be forgiven.
3. Honour, glory, virtue, merit,  
To the Father and the Son,  
With the co-eternal Spirit,  
While unending ages run. Amen.



## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

*Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down.*

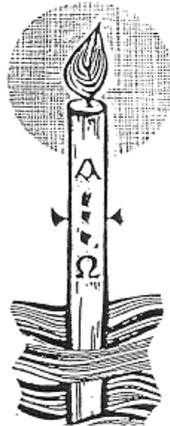
You, Lord, yourself are our Father,  
Our Redeemer is your ancient name.  
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways  
and harden our hearts against fearing you?  
Return, for the sake of your servants,  
the tribes of your inheritance.  
Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down

- at your Presence the mountains would melt.

No ear has heard,  
no eye has seen  
any god but you act like this  
for those who trust him.

You guide those who act with integrity  
and keep your ways in mind.  
You were angry when we were sinners;  
we had long been rebels against you.  
We were all like men unclean,  
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.  
We have all withered like leaves  
and our sins blew us away like the wind.  
No one invoked your name  
or roused himself to catch hold of you.  
For you hid your face from us  
and gave us up to the power of our sins.  
And yet, Lord, you are our Father;  
we the clay, you the potter,  
we are all the work of your hand.

The word of the Lord.



## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19. R] v. 4

**R. God of hosts, bring us back;  
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us,  
shine forth from your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up your might,  
O Lord, come to our help. (R.)
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,  
look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it,  
the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)
3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen,  
the man you have given your strength.  
And we shall never forsake you again:  
give us life that we may call upon your name. (R.)

## SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the  
Corinthians 1:3-9  
*We are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.*

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send  
you grace and peace.

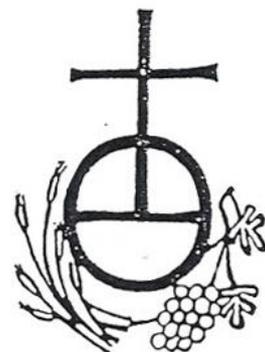
I never stop thanking God for all the graces you  
have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that  
you have been enriched in so many ways,  
especially in your teachers and preachers; the  
witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you  
so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the  
Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ  
to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and  
without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord  
Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined  
you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy  
and give us your saving help.  
Alleluia!



## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark  
13:33-37

*Stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

The Gospel of the Lord.

## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
(All bow)  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father  
almighty;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the  
dead,

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and life everlasting.  
Amen.



## OFFERTORY HYMN

1. Take my hands and make them as your own  
And use them for your kingdom here on earth  
Consecrate them to your care  
Anoint them for your service where  
You may need your gospel to be sown.
2. Take my hands they speak now for my heart  
And by their actions they will show their love  
Guard them on their daily course  
Be their strength and guiding force  
To ever serve the Trinity above.

## COMMUNION HYMNS

1. This Advent we await God's reign  
When greed and hate shall cease  
And kindness dwells in human hearts  
And all of us find peace  
O God of holiness and grace,  
illuminate this hour  
With hope that we shall see Christ's face  
When he returns with pow'r.
2. Awake, my soul, and with the sun  
Shake off your sloth and rise  
Your daily work and duty done  
Will be your sacrifice  
Redeem your mis-spent time that's past  
Improve yourself with care  
And live this day as though your last  
For Christ's return prepare.
3. Rise up, rise now for Jesus Christ:  
The strife will not be long.  
This day the noise of battle's heard  
The next the Victor's song  
If sin and self we conquer now  
The crown will not be far  
So wait with courage and new hope  
For Christ's Parousia.

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1. Come, Lord Jesus (x3)  
come and be born in our hearts!
2. Come, O Prince of Peace (x3)  
come and be born in our hearts!
3. Our hearts are open (x3)  
come and be born in our hearts!
4. Come, Emmanuel (x3)  
come and be born in our hearts!
5. Maranatha (x3)  
come and be born in our hearts!

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## RECESSIONAL HYMN

1. O come, divine Messiah!  
The world in silence waits the day  
when hope shall sing its triumph,  
and sadness flee away.  
*Sweet Saviour, haste come, come to earth:  
dispel the night, and show thy face,  
and bid us hail the dawn of grace.  
O come, divine Messiah!  
The world in silence waits the day  
when hope shall sing its triumph,  
and sadness flee away.*
2. O Thou, whom nations sighed for,  
whom priests and prophets long foretold,  
wilt break the captive fetters,  
redeem the long-last fold.