

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Cycle C

ENTRANCE HYMN

1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh, come then and hearken, for he brings glad tidings from the King of kings.
2. Stretch forth Thine hand, to heal our sore, And make us rise and fall no more; Once more upon Thy people shine, And fill the world with love divine.
3. To Him Who left the throne of Heaven To save mankind, all praise be given; Like praise be to the Father done, And Holy Spirit, Three in One.



2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. (R.)
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. (R.)
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. (R.)

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Baruch 5:1-9
God means to show your splendour to every nation.

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress,
put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever,
wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you,
put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head:
since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven,
since the name God gives you for ever will be,
'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness'.
Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights
and turn your eyes to the east:
see your sons reassembled from west and east
at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God
has remembered them.
Though they left you on foot,
with enemies for an escort,
now God brings them back to you
like royal princes carried back in glory.
For God has decreed the flattening
of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills,
the filling of the valleys to make the ground level
so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God.
And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade
for Israel at the command of God;
for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory
with his mercy and integrity for escort.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 125. R] v. 3

**R. What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.**

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians 1:3-6. 8-11
Be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk 3: 4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight,
and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 3:1-6

All mankind shall see the salvation of God.

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is

written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness;
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley will be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
winding ways will be straightened
and rough roads made smooth.
And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

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

*Take thou the offering thy children make,
All united for thy name's sake.*

1. Heavenly Father, almighty God,
We offer Thee this sacrifice.
Show to us thy mercy, O Lord,
Forgive us the sins of all our life.
2. To thee, O Lord, our joy we give,
Our weariness, our work and woe,
The anxious moments that we live;
Lighten our burden as we go.



COMMUNION HYMNS

1. How glad the sound! The Saviour comes
The Saviour promised long.
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
And ev'ry voice a song.
2. He comes the pris'ners to release
The captive to set free
To preach the good news to the poor
To make the blind to see.

PRpr



3. He comes the broken heart to bind
The bleeding soul to cure
And with the treasure of his life
To grace the humble poor.
4. Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace
Your advent shall proclaim
We long for the Parousia
When you will come again.

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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.

### 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 Christ, whom nations sigh for,  
whom priests and prophets long foretold,  
wilt break the captive fetters,  
redeem the long-lost fold.