

Third Sunday of Advent

13th December 2020



OPENING HYMN

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!'

Startled at the solemn warning,
Let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.

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;

So when next He comes with glory,
Wrapping all the earth in fear,
May He then as our defender
On the clouds of heaven appear.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11

I exult for joy in the Lord.

PSALM RESPONSE:

My soul rejoices in my God.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

May you be kept safe, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 1:6-8, 19-28

There stands among you, unknown to you, the One who is coming after me.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven, *(as we say the words in italics, we bow)* and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with 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. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

As we are currently unable to gather for Mass and to receive the sacraments, you are invited to pray a prayer of Spiritual Communion:

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

The co-eternal Son,
A maiden's offspring see;
A servant's form Christ putteth on
To set His people free.

Daughter of Sion, rise
To greet thine infant King,
Nor let thy stubborn heart despise
The pardon He doth bring.

In glory from His throne
Again will Christ descend,
And summon all that are His own
To joys that never end.

Our joyful praises sing
To Christ, who sets us free;
Like tribute to the Father bring,
And, Holy Ghost, to Thee.