

Sunday 5th December 2021
Second Sunday of Advent

Reading 1: Philippians 1: 3 - 11

Gospel: Luke 3: 1 - 6

Let us pause for a moment to bring ourselves and all that we offer to God and give Him thanks.

Grace mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Acclamation.

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. ³The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. *Hebrews 1: 1-3*

Invitation to Confession:

When the Lord comes,
He will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

Confession:

Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us, forgive us all that is past
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light.

Amen.

Absolution:

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Blessed be the Lord
for he has heard the voice of our prayer;

Therefore, shall our hearts dance for joy
and in our song will we praise our God.

Song: (*click link*) O come to the altar https://youtu.be/OpfuKKH_SCE

Reading 1: Philippians 1: 3 – 11

³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Luke 3: 1 - 6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ² during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ.

Talk: (click link) <https://youtu.be/Ve1br3yUrnI>

Song: (click link) Behold Our God <https://youtu.be/Qx9-0v9m2Sg>

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

The Creed

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,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
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.

We 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 worshipped and glorified,
who 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.

Prayers of Intercession.

Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength
to stand with confidence before our maker and redeemer;

That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy
Let us pray to the Lord.
Lord have mercy

That God may establish among the nations
his sceptre of righteousness,
Let us pray to the Lord
Lord, have mercy.

That we may seek Christ in the scriptures
and recognise him in our midst
Let us pray to the Lord
Lord, have mercy

That God may bind up the broken-hearted
restore the sick,
and raise up all who have fallen,
Let us pray to the Lord
Lord, have mercy

That the light of Gods coming may dawn
on all who live in darkness
and the shadow of death
Let us pray to the Lord,
Lord, have mercy

That, with all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world,
Let us pray to the Lord,
Lord, have mercy

We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray
to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father.

Merciful Father,
Accept these prayers
for the sake of your only son
our saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Collect:

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and God. Amen.

Silence is kept.**Lord's Prayer:**

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name
Your kingdom come
Your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread
and forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil
For the kingdom the power and the glory
are yours now and forever. Amen.

Song: (*click link*) In Christ Alone <https://youtu.be/rn9-UNer6MQ>

Blessing:

May God the Father,
by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen us to walk with Him in his risen life.....

.....and the blessing of God almighty;
Father Son and Holy Spirit,
be with us, and remain with us
and all those whom we love,
now and forever.
Amen.

Song: (*click link*)

*As we come to the end of this service we can fellowship with each other in Spirit, with tea, coffee
and biscuits, and continuing to pray for each other.*

Post something on the Facebook page to bless others.