

THE 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



AT-HOME GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

December 6, 2020

A SERVICE OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Before the service, decorate the home with greenery and flowers. Set up a small table with a piece of purple fabric on it. If you have candles and a Bible, place these on the table. An Advent wreath is also appropriate for the season.

OPENING ANTHEM

Begin with an opening hymn. We recommend "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus."

Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel's Strength and Consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Chorus

Oh Lord Jesus Come to Us
Oh Lord Jesus, Fill Us Up
Oh Lord Jesus Bring Your Love
Oh Lord Jesus Come to Us, Come to Us

Born Thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

THE ACCLAMATION

The People standing, the Officiant says

People Surely the Lord is coming soon.
Amen. Come Lord Jesus!

THE COLLECT FOR PREPARATION

The Officiant says

Let us pray.

The Officiant and People pray together

Guide and direct us, O Lord, always and everywhere with your holy light, that we may discern with clear vision your presence among us, and partake with worthy intention of your spiritual presence and communion. Amen.

THE DECALOGUE

Presider God spoke these words and said: I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods but me.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider You shall not make for yourself any idol.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider You shall not take the Name of the Lord your God in vain.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider Honor your father and your mother.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider You shall not murder.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider You shall not commit adultery.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider You shall not steal.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Presider You shall not covet.

People **Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these, your laws, in our hearts, we beseech you.**

THE TRISAGION

The presider and people prayer together

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

The person appointed says the following

All who truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and seek to live in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking in his holy ways: draw near with faith and make your humble confession to Almighty God.

The people kneel as able. Silence.

The presider and people pray together

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker and judge of us all:**

**We acknowledge and lament our many sins and offenses,
which we have committed by thought, word, and deed
against your divine majesty,
provoking most justly your righteous anger against us.**

**We are deeply sorry for these our transgressions;
the burden of them is more than we can bear.**

Have mercy upon us,

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,**

forgive us all that is past;

**and grant that we may evermore serve and please you in
newness of life,**

**to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The presider stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, † have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The people stand.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Officiant says to the People

The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, † have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The People sit.

THE FIRST LESSON

A Reading from Isaiah 40:1–11

- 1 Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
- 2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.
- 3 A voice cries out:
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

- 4 Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
- 5 Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."
- 6 A voice says, "Cry out!"
And I said, "What shall I cry?"
All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
- 7 The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
- 8 The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.
- 9 Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"
- 10 See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
- 11 He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 85

Sing Psalm 85 together as a family. We recommend the version below by St. Mark's Orthodox Coptic Church.

¹ LORD, you have been gracious to your land;
you have turned away the captivity of Jacob.

² **You have forgiven the offence of your people
and covered all their sins.**

⁸ I will hearken to what the LORD God will say,
for he shall speak peace unto his people, and to his saints,
that they turn not again.

⁹ **For his salvation is near to those who fear him,
that glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰ Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹ **Truth shall flourish out of the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹² Indeed, the LORD shall show goodness,
and our land shall give its increase.

¹³ **Righteousness shall go before him,
and he shall direct his going in the way.**

THE SECOND LESSON

A Reading from 2 Peter 3:8-15a

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ¹⁵and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

A Reading from Mark 1:1-8

Officiant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

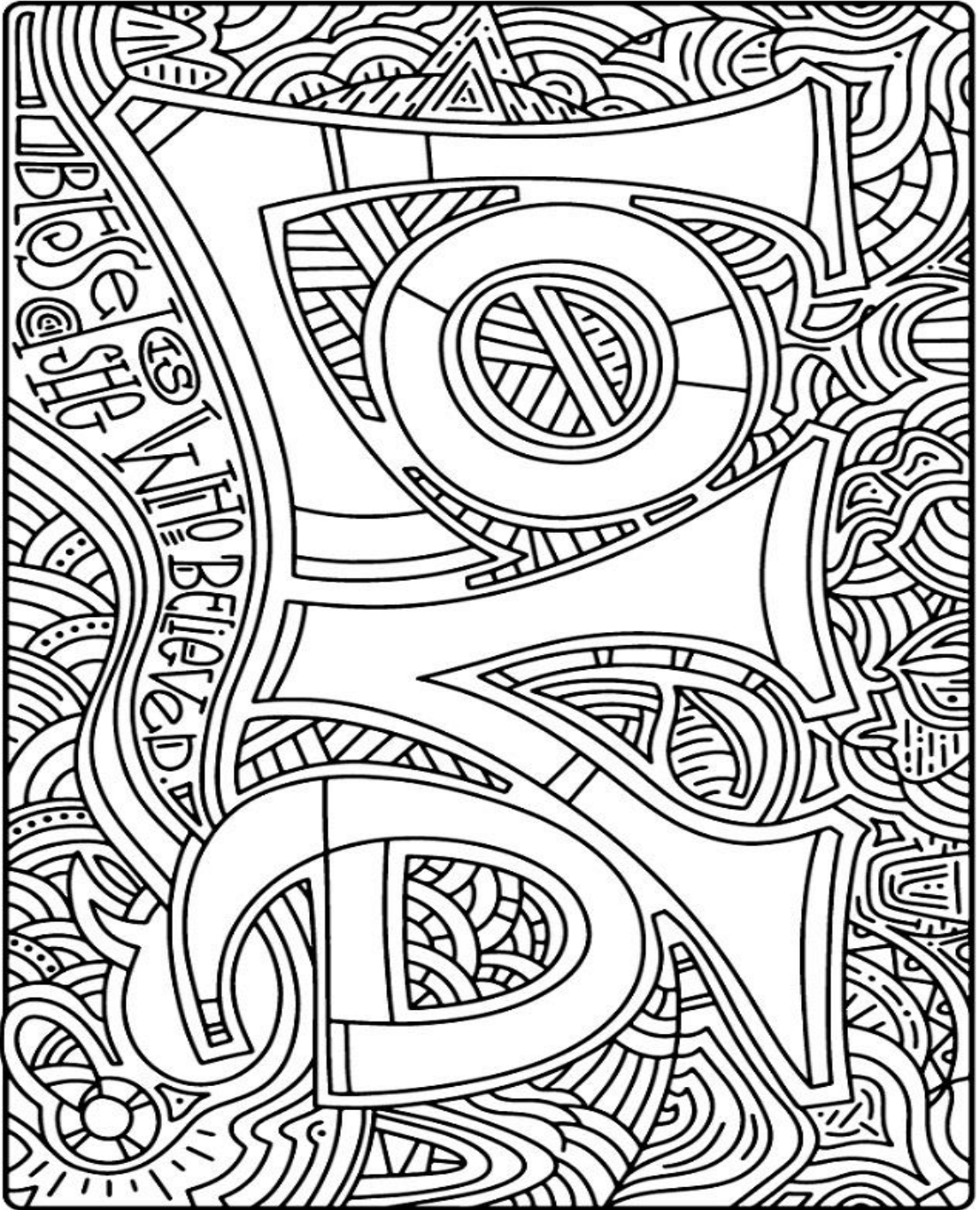
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The People sit.

THE HOMILY

Take a moment to talk with your family about the Gospel Lesson. You may also access Fr. Wes’ sermon online.





HYMN

“Christ Our Hope in Life and Death” *Getty, Getty, Papa
Boswell, Kauflin, Merker*

**What is our hope in life and death?
Christ alone, Christ alone.
What is our only confidence?
That our souls to him belong.
Who holds our days within his hand?
What comes, apart from his command?
And what will keep us to the end?
The love of Christ, in which we stand.**

Chorus

***O sing hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death.***

**What truth can calm the troubled soul?
God is good, God is good.
Where is his grace and goodness known?
In our great Redeemer’s blood.
Who holds our faith when fears arise?
Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore, the rock of Christ?**

Chorus

**Unto the grave, what shall we sing?
“Christ, he lives; Christ, he lives!”
And what reward will heaven bring?
Everlasting life with him.
There we will rise to meet the Lord,
Then sin and death will be destroyed,
And we will feast in endless joy,
When Christ is ours forevermore.**

Chorus

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Officiant and People together, all standing

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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 the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Officiant invites the People to offer intercessions and laments.

Please remember in your prayers:

- **Clergy** — Foley, our Archbishop; Bill, our Bishop; Fr. Wes, Fr. Brian, and Fr. Chuck, our Priests; and for all the clergy and people of our Diocese and Congregation, especially Faith Anglican Church in Fairview, TX and the Rev. Justin Lokey
- **Missionaries** — Lauren Butler in Albania; Jerry and Stacy Kramer in Tanzania and Iraq, Suzy McCall and Amanda Scott in Honduras, Craig Stewart in South Africa, and Tillie Tiller in Chad
- **Immigration Services** — Stacy Preston and Lynn Binkley
- **Public Servants** — our president, Donald Trump; our president-elect Joseph Biden; our governor, Bill Lee; our county mayor, Jimmy Harris; and our city mayor, Scott Conger

- **Parishioners** —Rich and Carole Beitz, Carlin Diffie, Mary Louise Flanagan, Gail and Tommy Hedgepeth, Shirley Phillips, Charles Richards, Celeste Pope, Bill and Anne Ross, and Liam Williams
- **Birthdays this week** — Brad Box
- **Anniversaries this week** — Aaron and Keely Beasley, and Julian and Sheila Williamson
- **Vestry member of the week** – Steven Swanson, Prayer
- **Family of Parishioners** —Bill Gay, Eddie Jordan, Tom Mullady, Bob Nailling, Scott Pipkin, Armando Psungo, Eddie and Leanna Traylor and family, Emily Traylor, Wiley Traylor, and Gary Vailes
- **Friends of Parishioners** — Bob Bear, the Dugie and Lowrimore families, the Rev. Archdeacon Phil Eberhart, Stan Langley, Rebecca Muncie, Danny Nowell, Chris Primeaux, Ramona Sparks, Samantha Tucker, and Nicole Young and family
- **Military** — Taylor Bartos, Bryan Laird, and Dalton Young

A COLLECT FOR COVID-19

Almighty God, our strong tower and defense in time of trouble: We ask for your continued deliverance from the dangers associated with COVID-19, which lately have surrounded us and taken the lives of so many. In this time of fear and anxiety, we beseech you to send us your gracious gift of peace. We confess that your goodness alone has preserved us; and we ask you still to continue your mercies toward us, that we may always know and acknowledge you as our Savior and mighty Deliverer; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR RACIAL HEALING

God of Heaven and Earth, you created the one human family and endowed each person with great dignity. Aid us, we pray, in overcoming the sin of racism. Grant us your grace in eliminating this blight from our hearts, our communities, our social and civil institutions. Fill our hearts with love for you and our neighbor so that we may work with you in healing our land from racial injustice; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The People stand.

THE PEACE

Officiant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And with your spirit.**

PREPARATION FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The Officiant continues

Hear what St. Paul says: “May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith—that you may have strength...and know the love of Christ.”

THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Officiant then says

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray

Officiant and People together pray

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE AGNUS DEI

Officiant and People together pray

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us your peace.

THE ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The Officiant says the following invitation

The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart, because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

The Officiant and People together pray

Dear Jesus,

I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament.

**I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul,
and since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart.**

**I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people,
gathered around every altar of your Church,
and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul.**

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Silence.

THE ANIMA CHRISTI

The Officiant says

Let us pray.

The Officiant and People together sing the “Anima Christ” of St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton, using the musical version composed by Alicia L. Greey (online).

Soul of Jesus, sanctify me
Blood of Jesus, wash me
Passion of Jesus, comfort me
Wounds of Jesus, hide me
Heart of Jesus, receive me
Spirit of Jesus, enliven me
Goodness of Jesus, pardon me
Beauty of Jesus, draw me

Chorus

*Till I behold thee, unveiled
Till I behold thee, unveiled
Till I behold thee, unveiled
In thy glory*

Humility of Jesus, humble me
Peace of Jesus, pacify me
Love of Jesus, inflame me
Kingdom of Jesus, come to me
Grace of Jesus, replenish me
Mercy of Jesus, pity me
Sanctity of Jesus, sanctify me
Purity of Jesus, purify me

Chorus

Cross of Jesus, bind me
Nails of Jesus, hold me
Cross of Jesus, bind me
Nails of Jesus, hold me
Cross of Jesus, bind me
Nails of Jesus, hold me

Chorus

THE DISMISSAL

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE CONCLUDING SENTENCE

The Officiant says

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. **Amen.**

HYMN

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

Kyrie Eleison
Christe Eleison
Kyrie Eleison
Kyrie

O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

Kyrie Eleison
Christe Eleison
Kyrie Eleison
Kyrie

THE BLESSING

All stand. The children are invited forward to help lead in the blessing.

Officiant All our problems

People **We send to the cross of Christ.**

Officiant All our difficulties

People **We send to the cross of Christ.**

Officiant All the devil's works

People **We send to the cross of Christ.**

Officiant All our hopes

People **We set on the risen Christ.**

Officiant May the Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, giving you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and to proclaim the wonderful works of God; and the blessing of God Almighty, † the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**