

**Advent Wreath Lighting Ceremony**  
**First Sunday-Hope for those who wait!**

L: Advent is a time for the human heart to wait, while trusting God's eternal time.

**R: How long, O Lord, how long?**

L: For those waiting for answered prayer.

**R: Grant Your steadfast patience.**

L: for those waiting in the face of uncertainty.

**R: Grant unshakable confidence in your sovereign provision.**

L: For those waiting for justice and mercy to reign

**R: Grant a glimpse of your glory in our wounded world.**

L: For all of us waiting for God's kingdom to come.

**R: Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.**

**Christ, Be Our Light!**

*A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent*

Words and Music by  
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**Congregation:**



L: This morning we light the first candle which reminds us that through- out history, God's people have spent time waiting, wandering, and wondering about the timing of God's eternal plan. Like the people of old, we long for God's presence to illumine the area of life where we are called to wait. This morning we echo the words of the psalmist, "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!" Psalm 27:14

**Light Candle**

**Closing Prayer:** God of all creation, we declare that you are the Eternal One. We confess to you, O Lord, that we easily grow impatient, when you word to us is to wait. Ignite within us a new and everlasting hope. We pray this in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

**FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT LITURGY**

**INTRODUCTORY RITE**

**Celebrant:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Response: Amen.**

**Celebrant:** Lord, bless us with the wisdom to praise You in spirit and in truth, so that by following Your holy we will gain eternal salvation.

**Response: Amen.**

**THE PENITENTIAL RITE**

C: My dear brothers and sisters let us confess our sins to God and prepare ourselves that we may worthily participate in this Holy Sacrifice. Please now make an examination of your conscience.

**Confiteor**

Almighty Father, You know my deepest secrets. I confess that I have, through my own fault, sinned against Your holy laws,

*(striking the breast three times)* in my thoughts, in my words and in what I have done or failed to do. I sincerely regret my sins and I am truly sorry for offending You. I ask, Father, that in Your mercy You pardon my sins. I promise to change my way of living so that through a deeper holiness I may better serve You throughout the rest of my life. I ask the Blessed Virgin Mary, all the saints and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord, our God.

C. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

**R: Amen.**

C: May our Lord Jesus Christ absolve you and, with His authority vested in me, I absolve you from all your sins: in the name of the Father, + the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**R: Amen.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

**Psalm 92: 2-3**

C: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to Your name, Most High,

R: To proclaim Your love in the morning, Your faithfulness in the night.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

R: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world with out end. Amen.

**KYRIE**

C: Lord, have mercy. **R:** Lord, have mercy.

C: Christ, have mercy. **R:** Christ, have mercy.

C: Lord, have mercy. **R:** Lord, have mercy.

**OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray. [pause briefly] Almighty God, You spoke to Your chosen people through the prophets and gave us, in Your Son, the fulfillment of the hopes of Israel. May we be prepared for the day when all things will be subject to Him. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You, and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading**

**Jeremiah 33: 14-16**

The days are coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise, I made to the house of Israel and Judah. In those days, in that time, I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land. In those days Judah shall be safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure; this is what they shall call her: "The LORD our justice." This is the Word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Psalm 25**

R: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths,  
Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior, and for you I wait all the day.  
R:

Good and upright is the LORD; thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice  
and teaches the humble his way. R:

All the paths of the LORD are kindness and constancy toward those who keep his covenant and  
his decrees. The friendship of the LORD is with those who fear him, and his covenant, for their  
instruction. R:

### **Second Reading**

#### **1 Thessalonians 3: 12-4: 2**

Brothers and sisters: May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for  
all, just as we have for you, so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our  
God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. Amen. Finally, brothers  
and sisters, we earnestly ask and exhort you in the Lord Jesus that, as you received from us how  
you should conduct yourselves to please God and as you are conducting yourselves you do so  
even more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. This is the  
Word of the Lord.

### **Gospel Acclamations**

#### **Psalm 85: 8**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Show us, Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation.

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

### **Gospel**

#### **Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36**

Jesus said to his disciples: "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth  
nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of  
fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be  
shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.  
But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads  
because your redemption is at hand. "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from  
carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like  
a trap. For that day will assault everyone who lives on the face of the earth. Be vigilant at all  
times and pray that you have the strength  
to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man." "This is the  
Gospel of the Lord

## **SACRAMENT OF THE WORD OF GOD**

### **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and  
unseen. I 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, by the power of the Holy Spirit. He was born of the Virgin Mary, **AND**

**BECAME MAN.** For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in fulfillment of 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 and giver of life who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son, He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### **GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Celebrant: At the beginning of this new Church year, let us intercede for others. Our charity shows that we are watching and waiting for the glorious coming of our Savior.**

L: Our response is "Lord hear our prayer"

L: That this holy season will find all members of the Church drawn to prayer and penance, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That world leaders realize that the destiny of nations is in God's control, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That God's grace may touch those hardened hearts to find true life in Christ through His Church, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That we may look to the future, not in fear, but with hope and confidence, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That the faith and spiritual life of our parish grow with renewed trust in the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That sacred vocations be increased in our Church, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That the Son of Man may grant His salvation to those who have died, especially, N. let us pray to the Lord.

**Celebrant: Graciously hear the prayers of your family, most merciful Father. Amidst all the turmoil and change in our lives, we wait for the coming of your Son, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.**

#### **OFFERTORY VERSE**

If You, Lord, mark our sins, Lord, who can stand? But with You is forgiveness, and so You are revered.

**Psalms 130: 3-4**

#### **PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS**

Heavenly Father, as we prepare these gifts before You, help us to prepare our hearts and minds to receive Your Son. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

## **PREFACE-THE GREAT THANKSGIVING SANCTUS**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed + is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 2**

We give thanks to You, God our Father, through Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, Whom in these last days You have sent us as Savior, Redeemer and Messenger of Your will. He is Your Word, inseparable from You. Through Him You have made all things and in Him You were well pleased. You sent Him from heaven to a virgin's womb. There He dwelt and was made flesh. He was revealed as Your Son, born through the Holy Spirit and of the Virgin. When He suffered, He fulfilled Your will and gained for You a holy people. He stretched out His hands to free from suffering those who believed in You. When He was betrayed to His freely chosen suffering, thereby to destroy death, to break the chains of darkness, to crush hell beneath His feet, to give light to the just, to make a covenant and to manifest His resurrection. He took bread; He gave You thanks and said: **TAKE AND EAT: THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS BROKEN FOR YOU.** In like manner He took the cup and said: **THIS IS MY BLOOD WHICH IS POURED OUT FOR YOU.** Whenever you do this, do it in memory of Me. Calling then His death and resurrection to mind, we offer You the Bread and the Cup. We thank You for allowing us to come before You and to serve You. We ask You to send Your Holy Spirit upon the offering of Your holy Church to gather all in unity. Grant to all who partake of these Holy Mysteries the fullness of the Holy Spirit for the strengthening of their faith in the truth. So, may we praise and glorify You through Your Son, Jesus Christ.

*Holding the Sacred Host above the Chalice, he elevates them and says or sings:*

Through Him may glory and honor be Yours, with the Holy Spirit, in Your holy Church, now and for ever and ever.

**R.** Amen.

### **COMMUNION RITE**

C: Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us: 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.

C: Deliver us Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day. In Your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**R: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, now and forever.**

### **Breaking of the Bread**

C: The Cup of Blessing which we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ?

C: The Bread which we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ?

**R: Because there is one Bread, we who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one Bread.**

C: May the union of divinity and humanity in Jesus Christ bring us sanctification and eternal life.

**R: Amen.**

C: Lord Jesus Christ, You said to Your apostles: I leave you peace, My peace I give you. Do not look at our sins, but on the faith of Your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of Your kingdom where You live for ever and ever. Amen.

C: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**R: And also, with you.**

C: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

*Give a nod or a wave of hand as a sign of peace*

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.

### **COMMUNION PRAYER**

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, by the will of the Father and the work of the Holy Spirit,  
Your death brought life to the world. By Your holy Body and Blood free me from all my sins  
and from every evil. Keep me faithful to Your teaching and never let me be parted from You.

C: I will take the Bread of Heaven and call upon the name of the Lord.

*The celebrant and congregation together say only once:*

Lord, I am not worthy to receive You, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

May the Body of Christ bring me to everlasting life.

May the Blood of Christ bring me to everlasting life.

### **THE COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL**

This is the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world.

Happy are those who are called to the table of the Lord.

C: Lord, may I possess with a pure heart that which I have taken as food, and may the Gift I have  
received bring me healing and strength now and forever

### **COMMUNION VERSE**

Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.

**Mark 13: 33**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. [pause briefly] Lord Jesus Christ, You told us of Your return in judgment an hour  
unknown to us. Through the grace of this Holy Communion, help us to watch and to pray always; so  
that whether You come at dusk, at midnight or at daybreak, we may be found among those who  
await You. For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

### **CONCLUDING RITE**

C: The Lord be with you.

**R: And also, with you.**

C: May the Almighty God bless you in the name of the Father + the Son+ and the Holy Spirit.

**R: Amen**

C: Let us bless the Lord

**R: Thanks be to God.**

**Opening Hymn**

**“Watchmen Tell us of the Night”**

Watchman tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are.

Traveler, o’er yon mountain’s height, see that glory beaming star.

Watchman, doth its beauteous ray Aught of joy or hope foretell?

Traveler, yes—it brings the day, Promised day of Israel.

Watchman, tell us of the night; Higher yet that star ascends.

Traveler, blessedness and light, Peace and truth its course portends.

Watchman, will its beams alone Gild the spot that gave them birth?

Traveler, ages are its own; See, it bursts o’er all the earth.

Watchman, tell us of the night, For the morning seems to dawn.

Traveler, darkness takes its flight, Doubt and terror are withdrawn.

Watchman, let thy wanderings cease; Hie thee to thy quiet home.

Traveler, lo! the Prince of Peace, Lo! the Son of God is come!

**Closing Hymn**

**“Advent Longing”**

In this time of Advent Longing, we await our Savior’s coming,

//Filled with hope and expectation, of the coming peace salvation. //

Send forth dew from Heav’n on high; for the Savior’s birth is nigh,

//May the dew enrich the earth; yield the Righteous One in birth. //

In this time of Advent longing, we await the Savior’s coming,

//Let us cleanse both heart and mind, for the birth of Christ Divine. //