

Advent Credo

It is not true that creation and the human family are doomed
to destruction and loss— This is true:

For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that
whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life;
It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger
and poverty, death and destruction—

This is true: I have come that they may have life, and that abundantly.

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word,
and that war and destruction rule forever—

This is true: Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given,
and the government shall be upon his shoulder, his name shall be called
wonderful councillor, mighty God, the Everlasting, the Prince of peace.
It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to
rule the world—

This is true: To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo I am
with you, even until the end of the world.

It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who
are the prophets of the Church before we can be peacemakers—

This is true: I will pour out my spirit on all flesh
and your sons and daughters shall prophesy,

your young men shall see visions and your old men shall have dreams.

It is not true that our hopes for liberation of humankind, of justice, of
human dignity of peace are not meant for this earth and for this history—

This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that the true worshipers shall
worship God in spirit and in truth.

So let us enter Advent in hope, even hope against hope. Let us see visions
of love and peace and justice. Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with
faith, with courage: Jesus Christ—the life of the world.

*From Testimony: The Word Made Flesh,
by Daniel Berrigan*



1st Sunday of Advent

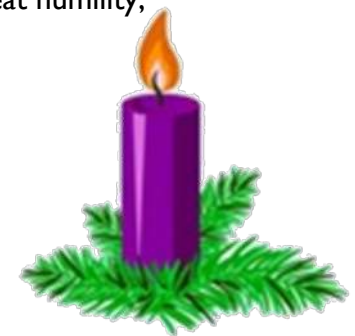
30th November 2025

GATHERING HYMN: 'Long Ago Prophets Knew' (400)

COLLECT:

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen



FIRST READING

Isaiah 2: 1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
In days to come

the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SECOND READING

Romans 13.11-14

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

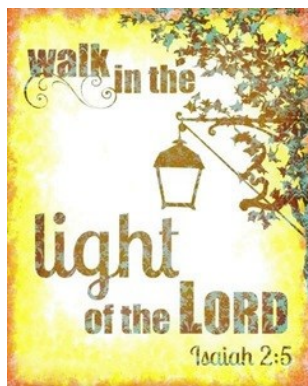
GOSPEL HYMN— ‘Wait for the Lord’ (790)

We repeat this after the Gospel Reading

GOSPEL

Matthew 24: 36-44

‘But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came



and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

HYMN OF THE GIFTS: ‘Hills of the North Rejoice’ (270)

COMMUNION HYMNS:

‘Longing for Light’ - (401)

‘Stay with Me’ (784)

‘Be Still and Know’ (59)

POST COMMUNION

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FINAL HYMN: ‘O Come, O Come, Emmanuel’ (469)

