

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH—JEBEL ALI

CYCLE C

### INTRODUCTORY RITE

#### Entrance Antiphon

**To you, my God, I lift my soul, I trust in you; let me never come to shame. Do not let my enemies laugh at me. No one who waits for you is ever put to shame.**

#### Entrance Hymn

1. This Advent we await God's reign  
when greed and hate shall cease,  
and kindness dwells in human hearts  
and all of us find peace.  
O God of holiness and grace,  
illuminate this hour  
with hope that we shall see Christ's face  
when he returns with power.
2. Awake, my soul, and with the sun  
shake off your sloth and rise;  
your daily work and duty done  
will be your sacrifice.  
Redeem your mis-spent time that's past,  
improve yourself with care,  
and live this day as though your last  
for Christ's return prepare.
3. Rise up, rise now for Jesus Christ,  
the strife will not be long;  
this day the noise of battle's heard,  
the next, the Victor's song.  
If sin and self we conquer now,  
the crown will not be far;  
so wait with courage and new hope  
for Christ's Parousia.



#### Greeting

**C:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** AMEN

**C:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All:** And also with you.

#### Penitential Rite

**C:** My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries, let us call to mind our sins.

*Pause for silent reflection. After a brief silence all say:*

**All:** I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned through my own fault in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do; and I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin, all the angels and 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 us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**P:** AMEN

#### The Kyrie

**C:** Lord, have mercy.

**P:** Lord, have mercy.

**C:** Christ, have mercy.

**P:** Christ, have mercy.

**C:** Lord, have mercy.

**P:** Lord, have mercy.

#### Opening Prayer

All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### First Reading

33:14–16

#### A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David.*

**S**ee, the days are coming — it is the Lord who speaks — when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

“In those days and at that time,  
I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David,  
who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.  
In those days Judah shall be saved  
and Israel shall dwell in confidence.  
And this is the name the city will be called:  
The Lord-our-integrity.”

This is the word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

#### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4–5. 8–9. 10. 14. R v.1

**R** To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour. R
2. The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
he guides the humble in the right path;  
he teaches his way to the poor. R
3. His ways are faithfulness and love  
for those who keep his covenant and will.  
The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;  
to them he reveals his covenant. R

#### Second Reading

3:12–4:2

#### A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians

*May the Lord confirm your hearts in holiness when Christ comes.*

**M**ay the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints.

Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

#### Gospel Acclamation

Ps 84:8

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

#### Gospel

21:25–28. 34–36

**C:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** And also with you.

**C:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

**All:** Glory to you, O Lord.

*Your liberation is near at hand.*

**J**esus said to his disciples: “There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.”

“Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Nicene Creed

**W**e 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 men and for our salvation he came down from heaven: (*all bow*) by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He 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.

# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## Offertory Hymn

*Take our bread, we ask you,  
take our hearts, we love you,  
take our lives, oh, Father,  
we are yours, we are yours.*

1. Yours as we stand at the table you set,  
yours as we eat the bread our hearts can't forget.  
We are the signs of your life with us yet,  
we are yours, we are yours.

## The Offering

*(If no song is sung, then the people may make the responses to the prayer of offering given here.)*

**C:** Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

**P:** Blessed be God for ever.

**C:** Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become our spiritual drink.

**P:** Blessed be God for ever.

**C:** Pray, brethren, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**P:** May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.

## Prayer over the gifts

Father, from all you give us we present this bread and wine. As we serve you now, accept our offering and sustain us with your promise of eternal life.

## Eucharistic Prayer

**C:** The Lord be with you.

**P:** And also with you.

**C:** Lift up your hearts.

**P:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**C:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**P:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## The Acclamation

**All:** 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.

## Memorial Acclamation

**C:** Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**P:** Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.

## Communion Rite

**C:** Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Saviour gave us:

**All:** Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**All:** For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

## Breaking of the Bread

**All:** 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.

**C:** This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**All:** Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

## Communion Antiphon

The Lord will shower his gifts, and our land will yield its fruit.

## Communion Hymn

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!*
2. O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,  
who ord'rest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show,

and teach us in her ways to go.

3. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law,  
in cloud and majesty and awe.

1. Fill my house unto the fullest.  
Eat my bread and drink my wine.  
The love I bear is held from no one.  
*All I own and all I do  
I give to you.*
2. Take my time unto the fullest.  
Find in me the trust you seek  
and take my hands to you outreaching.
3. Christ our Lord with love enormous  
from the cross his lesson taught —  
to love all men as I have loved you.
4. Join with me as one in Christ-love.  
May our hearts all beat as one  
and may we give ourselves completely.

## Prayer After Communion

Father,  
may our communion teach us to love heaven. May its promise and hope guide  
our way on earth.

## Concluding Rite

**C:** The Lord be with you.

**P:** And also with you.

**C:** May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

**P:** Amen.

**C:** The Mass is ended, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**P:** Thanks be to God.

## Recessional Hymn

1. Open your ears, O Christian people,  
Open your ears and hear Good News.  
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,  
God has come to you.  
*God has spoken to his people, Alleluia.  
And his words are words of wisdom, Alleluia. (2x)*
2. Israel comes to greet the Saviour,  
Judah is glad to see his day.  
From east and west the peoples travel,  
He will show the way.

