

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH—JEBEL ALI

CYCLE C

INTRODUCTORY RITE

Entrance Antiphon

People of Zion, the Lord will come to save all nations, and your hearts will exult to hear his majestic voice.

Entrance Hymn

1. Hark! a herald voice is calling:
"Christ is nigh!" it seems to say;
"Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!"
2. Startled at the solemn warning,
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.
3. Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heav'n;
let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
one and all to be forgiv'n.
4. So when next he comes with glory,
wrapping all the earth in fear,
may he then as our defender
on the clouds of heaven appear.



Jerusalem
Stand Upon
The Heights

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

God of power and mercy, open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy, so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

5:1–9

A reading from the prophet Baruch

God means to show your splendour to every nation.

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, "Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness". Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 125. R v.3

R What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. **R**
2. The heathens themselves said: "What marvels the Lord worked for them!" What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. **R**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. **R**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. **R**



Second Reading

1:3–6. 8–11

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

Be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes. God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 3:4. 6

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Gospel

3:1–6

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.

All mankind shall see the salvation of God.

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness;

Prepare a way for the Lord,

make his paths straight.

Every valley will be filled in,

every mountain and hill be laid low,

winding ways will be straightened

and rough roads made smooth.

And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Apostles' Creed

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 power of 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 God the Father Almighty. 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 life everlasting. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn

1. All that I am, all that I do,
All that I'll ever have,
I offer now to you.
*Take and sanctify these gifts
For your honour, Lord.
Knowing that I love and serve you
Is enough reward.
All that I am, all that I do.
All that I'll ever have
I offer now to you.*
2. All that I dream, all that I pray,
All that I'll ever make,
I give to you today.

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

Lord, we are nothing without you. As you sustain us with your mercy, receive our prayers and offerings.

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

Rise up, Jerusalem, stand on the heights, and see the joy that is coming to you from God.

Communion Hymn

1. How glad the sound! The Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long.
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
and ev'ry voice a song.
2. He comes the pris'ner to release,
the captive to set free;
to preach the good news to the poor,
to make the blind to see.
3. He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure;
and with the treasure of his life
to grace the humble poor.
4. How glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
you advent shall proclaim.
We long for the Parousia
when you will come again.

1. My God loves me,
his love will never end.
He rests within my heart
for my God loves me.
2. His gentle hand
he stretches over me.
Though storm clouds threaten the day
he will set me free.
3. He comes to me
in sharing bread and wine.
He brings me life that will reach
past the end of time.
4. My God loves me,
his faithful love endures,
and I will live like a child
held in love secure.

Prayer After Communion

Father,
you give us food from heaven. By our sharing in this mystery, teach us to judge wisely the things of earth and to love the things of heaven.

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. Holy Virgin, by God's decree,
You were called eternally;
That he could give his Son to our race,
Mary we praise you, hail full of grace.
Ave, ave, ave Maria.
2. By your faith and loving accord,
As the handmaid of the Lord,
You undertook God's plan to embrace.
Mary, we thank you, hail full of grace.
3. To our needy world of today
Love and beauty you portray,
Showing the path to Christ we must trace.
Mary, our mother, hail full of grace.

