

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH—JEBEL ALI

CYCLE C

### INTRODUCTORY RITE

#### Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.

#### Entrance Hymn

1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh; come then, and hearken, for he brings glad tidings from the King of kings.
2. Then cleansed be every Christian breast, and furnished for so great a guest! Yea, let us each our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.
3. For thou art our salvation, Lord, our refuge and our great reward; without thy grace our souls must fade, and wither like a flower decayed.

#### 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

Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### First Reading

3:14–18

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

*The Lord will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.*

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

#### Responsorial Psalm

Is 12:2–6. **R** v.6

**R** Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

1. Truly, God is my salvation,  
I trust, I shall not fear.  
For the Lord is my strength, my song,  
he became my saviour.  
With joy you will draw water  
from the wells of salvation. **R**
2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!  
Declare the greatness of his name. **R**
3. Sing a psalm to the Lord  
for he has done glorious deeds,  
make them known to all the earth!  
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy  
for great in your midst is the Holy one of Israel. **R**

#### Second Reading

4:4–7

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

*The Lord is very near.*

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

#### Gospel Acclamation

Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

#### Gospel

3:10–18

**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.

*What must we do?*

When all the people asked John, "What must we do?" he answered, "If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same." There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, "Master what must we do?" He said to them, "Exact no more than your rate." Some soldiers asked him in their turn, "What about us? What must we do?" He said to them, "No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!"

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, "I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out." As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

#### Nicene Creed

We 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.



**I Baptize With Water  
But One Mightier  
Is Coming**



# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## Offertory Hymn

1. In bread we bring you, Lord, our bodies' labour.  
In wine we offer you our spirit's grief.  
We do not ask you, Lord, who is my neighbour,  
but stand united now, one in belief.  
Oh we have gladly heard your Word, your holy Word;  
and now in answer, Lord, our gifts we bring,  
Our selfish hearts make true, our failing faith renew,  
our lives belong to you, our Lord and King.
2. The bread we offer you is blessed and broken,  
and it becomes for us our spirit's food.  
Over the cup we bring your Word is spoken;  
Make it your gift to us, your healing blood.  
Take all that daily toil, plant in our heart's poor soil,  
take all we start and spoil, each hopeful dream.  
The chances we have missed, the graces we resist,  
Lord, in Thy Eucharist, take and redeem.

## 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, may the gift we offer in faith and love be a continual sacrifice in your honour and truly become our eucharist and our salvation.

## 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

Say to the anxious: be strong and fear not, our God will come to save us.

## 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. My soul proclaims the Lord my God,  
my spirit sings his praise!  
He looks on me, he lifts me up,  
and gladness fills my days.
  2. All nations now will share my joy,  
his gifts he has outpoured.  
His little one he has made great;  
I magnify the Lord.
  3. For those who love his holy name  
his mercy will not die.  
His strong right arm puts down the proud  
and lifts the lowly high.
  4. He fills the hungry with good things,  
the rich he sends away.  
The promise made to Abraham  
is filled to endless day.
  5. Magnificat, magnificat,  
magnificat, praise God!  
Praise God, praise God, praise God, praise God,  
magnificat, praise God!

## Prayer After Communion

God of mercy,  
may this eucharist bring us your divine help, free us from our sins, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour, who is Lord for ever and ever.

## 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 the 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.
3. He who has ears to hear his message,  
he who has ears then let him hear.  
He who would learn the way of wisdom,  
let him hear God's words.

