



December 12th, 2021 - Third Sunday of Advent

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Come, thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see Thee,
Dayspring from on high, appear;
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse,
of Thy birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing news,
Glad tidings of a birth
"Go to him, your praises bringing;
Christ the Lord has come to Earth."

Come to earth to taste our sadness, He whose
glories knew no end;
by His life He brings us gladness,
Our redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number,
born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder,
Christ was born the Lord of all!

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Welcome

Opening Acclamation

Leader: Surely the Lord is coming soon. **People:** *Amen. Come Lord Jesus!*

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Summary of the Law

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

The Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us. *Christ, have mercy upon us.* Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lighting of the Advent Candle - The Townsends

The Collect of the Day

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen

What Wondrous Love Is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this

That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down,
sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down
Beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing

Psalm 85

*LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.
You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.
Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation toward us!
Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?
Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.
Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;
but let them not turn back to folly.
Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.
Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.
Faithfulness springs up from the ground,
and righteousness looks down from the sky.
Yes, the LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.*

Please be seated for a reading from the Book of Zephaniah [3:14-20]

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

Leader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** *Thanks be to God.*

Please stand for The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Luke [3:7-20]

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

[John the Baptist] said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages." As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to

gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reprovved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison. **Leader:** The Gospel of the Lord. **People:** *Praise to you, Lord Christ!*

The Sermon: Bear Fruits Worthy of Repentance – Mr. Dan Omar

The 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 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 the Father. 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Leader: Let us pray for the Church and for the world, saying, "hear our prayer." [Add petitions silently or aloud before "Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer."]

For the peace of the whole world, and for the well-being and unity of the people of God.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For Foley, our Archbishop, and Martyn, our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people of our Diocese and Congregation.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For all those who proclaim the Gospel at home and abroad; and for all who teach and disciple others.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For our brothers and sisters in Christ who are persecuted for their faith.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For our nation, for those in authority, and for all in public service,

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

For all those who are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity,

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

We give thanks to you for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Leader: Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Join me in praying this prayer for our pastor search:

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a Rector for this congregation that we may receive a faithful pastor who will preach the Gospel, care for your people, equip us for ministry, and lead us forth in fulfillment of the Great Commission, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Confession and Absolution

Most merciful God we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways to the glory of your name; through Christ our Lord.

(Standing) Passing of the Peace

(Seated) Announcements

(Standing) The Doxology

(Standing) THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: *And with your spirit.*

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

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

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Leader: It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away, you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.

People: *You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.*

Leader: In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.

People: *He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.*

Leader: On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends, he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

People: *Father, we do this in remembrance of him; his body is the bread of life.*

Leader: At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

People: *Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.*

Leader: As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

People: *As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.*

Leader: With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven: *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.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not, Thy compassions,
They fail not
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be

*Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning, new mercies I see
All I have needed, Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and
bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside

Behold the Lamb of God

We who walk in darkness deep
now see the light of morning
the mighty god, the prince of peace
a child to us is born

*Behold, the Lamb of God Who takes away our sin
Behold the Lamb of God The life and light of men
Behold the Lamb of God Who died and rose again
Behold the Lamb of God who comes
To take away our sin*

Wanderers in the wilderness
oh hear a voice is crying
prepare the way, make straight the paths
your king has come to die

Son of God-Emmanuel
Son of Man-we praise you
Behold the Lamb, the hope of man
Behold the Lamb

The Blessing

All of our problems: *We send to the cross of Christ* All of our difficulties: *We send to the cross of Christ*
All of the devil's works: *We send to the cross of Christ* And all of our hopes: *We set on the risen Lord!*

Leader: The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face to shine upon us. The Lord lift up his countenance upon us and give us peace. And the blessing of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore.

Leader: Let us bless the Lord. **People:** *Thanks be to God!*