

THURSDAY MORNING PRAYER FOR ADVENT

Leader: "Now is the time to wake out of sleep. For now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed."

bells and silence

PENITENTIAL RITE

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

All: 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 are truly sorry and we 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. Amen.

Leader: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as warriors rejoice when dividing the plunder. For as in the day of Midian's defeat, you have shattered the yoke that burdens them, the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor. Every warrior's boot used in battle and every garment rolled in blood will be destined for burning, will be fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:2-6)

THE INVITATORY

All: The kingdom of God is at hand: O come, let us worship.

Leader: Splendour and honour and kingly power are yours by right, O Lord our God, for you created everything that is, and by your will they were created and have their being; And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, for with your blood you have redeemed for God, from every family, language, people, and nation, a kingdom of priests to serve our God on earth. And so to him who sits upon the throne, and to Christ the Lamb, be worship and praise, dominion and splendour, for ever and evermore.

All: The kingdom of God is at hand: O come, let us worship.

PSALM

Leader: God of love, Your Son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us. He is a sign of your love. Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent, as we wait and prepare for his coming. we pray in the name of Jesus, our Saviour.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hallelujah

GOSPEL

Hallelujah

Silence to ponder the liturgy, and scripture.

I invite you to share any reflections you may have.

HEAR O ISRAEL

All: Hear, O Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your mind,
and with all your strength.

This is the first and the great commandment.
The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

PRAYERS

(In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, Lord Jesus, come soon!")

Leader: O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

All: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Leader: O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

All: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Leader: O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

All: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Leader: O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

All: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Leader: O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Son of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

All: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Leader: O King of the nations you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

All: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Leader: O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

All: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Silence

I invite any prayers of intercession or thanksgiving you may have either silently or aloud.

Leader: Keep us watchful for the day when you will gather the faithful from all the ends of the earth, so that we may greet you in glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Holy God, heaven and earth may pass away but your realm is eternal and your promise is sure. Leaven our hearts with hope as our redeemer draws near.

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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Leader: A voice of one calling:

"In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low;
the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.

And the glory of the Lord will be revealed,
and all people will see it together.

For the mouth of the
Lord has spoken." (Isaiah 40:3-5)

SENDING

**All: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord

Thanks be to God.