

Second Sunday before Advent

INTRODUCTION

INTROIT HYMN— **300** *Hymns Old & New*

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

All respond: Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The PRAYERS OF PENITENCE are introduced.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you, through our own fault, in thought, and word, and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are heartily sorry, and repent of all our sins. For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon ✠ and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEÏSON is sung.

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS is sung.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you

alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory ✠ of God the Father. Amen.

All remain standing for the COLLECT.

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Readings for Year A

FIRST READING

Zep 1.7,12-18

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah.

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm.' Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their

silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *from Ps 90*

R. Fill us with your love, that we may rejoice.
(All repeat)

Lord you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
Before the mountains or the earth were
brought forth,
from age to age you are God. R.

You turn men back to the dust,
saying 'Go back, O children of men.'
For a thousand years in your sight are as the
passing of a day
or as a watch in the night. R.

You sweep men away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass.
In the morning it springs up and flowers;
in the evening it is dried up and withered. R.

For you have set our sins before you,
and our iniquities before your face.
Make us know the shortness of our days,
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. R.

SECOND READING *1 The 5.1-11*

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

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security,' then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as

others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN—**546**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Rev 2.10*

Alleluia. Be faithful unto death, says the Lord: and I will give you the crown of life. **Alleluia.**

GOSPEL READING *Mt 25.14-30*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus told this parable to the disciples:

"The kingdom of heaven will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.

"Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came

forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

A SERMON *may follow.*

All *stand* to recite the 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 and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (all bow) was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man. (all rise) 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who 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.

The INTERCESSIONS are introduced, and all kneel. One of these responses may be used:

℣. Lord, hear us. ℞. **Lord, graciously hear us.**
or ℣. Lord, in your mercy, ℞. **Hear our prayer.**

At the Commemoration of the Departed:

℣. Rest eternal ✠ grant unto them, O Lord;
℞. **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

The Intercessions end: Merciful Father,
Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

All stand as the priest introduces the PEACE.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN— **291**

The people unite their prayers with the priest, who says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS.

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

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.

Lord, grant that the offering we make to you may help us to grow in holiness and bring us to eternal life in heaven; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The PREFACE follows.

All respond with the SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS.
**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.**

All kneel. After the Consecration, all acclaim:
Great is the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

The Eucharistic Prayer continues, and ends:
... for ever and ever. **Amen.**

RITE OF COMMUNION

The priest introduces 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.**

The priest breaks the Host; AGNUS DEI is sung.
**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world: have mercy on us. (x 2)**
**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world: grant us peace.**

The priest gives the COMMUNION INVITATION.
Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the
sin of the world. Blessed are those who are
called to his supper.

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

Holy Communion is distributed.

The priest says the POST-COMMUNION prayer.
Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you
give substance to our hope: bring us at the
last to that fullness of life for which we long;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

CONCLUSION

The priest gives the BLESSING and DISMISSAL.
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

... The blessing of God almighty, the Father,
the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, be among
you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN—154

The service may be followed by the ANGELUS.
∇. The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary:
℞. **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**
Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
**Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners, now,
and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

∇. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:
℞. **Be it unto me according to thy word.**
Hail Mary ...

∇. And the Word was made flesh:
℞. **And dwelt among us.**
Hail Mary ...

∇. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God:
℞. **That we may be made worthy of the
promises of Christ.**

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O
Lord, your grace into our hearts; that we to
whom the Incarnation of Christ, your Son,
was made known by the message of an angel,
may by his Passion and Cross ✠ be brought
to the glory of his Resurrection; through the
same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**