

MATTINS

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

The Second Collect, for Peace

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Third Collect, for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Anthem: *Torches* by Joubert

The Sermon

Hymn 609 – To God be the glory

Prayers

The Grace (*said together*): The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Hymn 563 – Rejoice, the Lord is King

Blessing and Dismissal

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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Voluntary: *Tuba Tune* by C.S. Lang

Hymn 38 – The people that in darkness sat
(omit v3)

Sentence of the Scriptures

I will remove the disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time And I will save the lame and gather the outcasts and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth...Thus says the Lord. (*Zephaniah 3: 18-20*)

Welcome and Introduction

Bidding

Beloved, we are come together in the presence of Almighty God and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make confession of our sins; to pray as well for others as for ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all men such things as their well-being doth require. Wherefore let us kneel in silence, and remember God's presence with us now.

General Confession

O God, our Father, we have sinned against thee in thought, word and deed: we have not loved thee with all our heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. Have mercy upon us, we beseech thee; cleanse us from our sins; and help us to overcome our faults; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Absolution

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Versicles and Responses

Minister: O Lord, open thou our lips.

Answer: And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Minister: O God, make speed to save us.

Answer: O Lord, make haste to help us. (*stand*)

Minister: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Answer: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Minister: Praise ye the Lord.

Answer: The Lord's Name be praised.

The Psalmody – from Psalm 146

4 Blessed is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help : and whose hope is in the Lord his God;
5 Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that therein is : who keepeth his promise for ever;
6 Who helpeth them to right that suffer wrong : who feedeth the hungry.
7 The Lord looseth men out of prison : the Lord giveth sight to the blind.
8 The Lord helpeth them that are fallen : the Lord careth for the righteous.
9 The Lord careth for the strangers, he defendeth the fatherless and widow : as for the way of the ungodly, he turneth it upside down.
10 The Lord thy God, O Sion, shall be King for evermore : and throughout all generations.

(please stand)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

The First Lesson: Zephaniah 3: 14-20

Hymn 93 – When Jesus came to Jordan

The Second Lesson: Luke 3: 7-18

The Benedictus

BLESSED be the Lord God of Israel : for he hath visited and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us : in the house of his servant David;
As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets : which have been since the world began;
That we should be saved from our enemies : and from the hand of all that hate us.
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers : and to remember his holy Covenant;
To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham : that he would give us;
That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies : might serve him without fear;
In holiness and righteousness before him : all the days of our life.
And thou, Child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest : for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people : for the remission of their sins,
Through the tender mercy of our God : whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death : and to guide our feet into

the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholick Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

Versicles and Responses

Minister: The Lord be with you.
Answer: And with thy spirit.
Minister: Let us pray. *(please kneel or sit)*
Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Answer: Christ, have mercy upon us.
Minister: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.
Amen.

Minister: O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
Answer: And grant us thy salvation.
Minister: O Lord, save the Queen.
Answer: And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Minister: Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.
Answer: And make thy chosen people joyful.
Minister: O Lord, save thy people.
Answer: And bless thine inheritance.
Minister: Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Answer: Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
Minister: O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Answer: And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent

O LORD Jesu Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee: Grant that the ministers and