



Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025
*“A Light Shines in the
Darkness”*



INTRODUCTORY RITES

Gathering Song:

SAVE US, O LORD

Bob Dufford, SJ

Refrain

Save us, O Lord; car-ry us back. Rouse your pow-er and come.
Res-cue your peo-ple; show us your face. Bring us back.

Verse 1

1. O Shep-herd of Is - ra - el, hear us. Re - turn and we shall be
1. saved. A - rise, O Lord; hear our cries, O Lord: bring us back!

Verse 2

2. How long will you hide from your peo-ple? We long to
2. see your face. Give ear to us. Draw near to us, Lord God of hosts!

Verse 3

3. Turn a-gain; care for your vine; pro - tect what your
3. right hand has plant-ed. Your vine-yards are tram-pled, up -
3. root-ed, and burned. Come to us, Fa - ther of might!

to Refrain

Text: Based on Psalm 80. Text and music © 1981, Robert J. Dufford, SJ. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Sign of the Cross

Greeting

Act of Penitence

Opening Prayer

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1 - [Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10](#)

The desert and the parched land will exult;
the steppe will rejoice and bloom.
They will bloom with abundant flowers,
and rejoice with joyful song.
The glory of Lebanon will be given to them,
the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;
they will see the glory of the LORD,
the splendor of our God.
Strengthen the hands that are feeble,
make firm the knees that are weak,
say to those whose hearts are frightened:
Be strong, fear not!
Here is your God,
he comes with vindication;
with divine recompense
he comes to save you.
Then will the eyes of the blind be opened,
the ears of the deaf be cleared;
then will the lame leap like a stag,
then the tongue of the mute will sing.

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return
and enter Zion singing,
crowned with everlasting joy;
they will meet with joy and gladness,
sorrow and mourning will flee.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 146: Lord, Come and Save Us

Refrain



Lord, come and save us. Lord, come and
save us. Lord, come and save us.

Verses

1. For all my life I will sing to you, O ever faithful God.
You fill the heavens with wondrous lights, the earth sings out your glory.
2. Put not your trust in those who rule, the mighty of this earth.
Their breath shall fail, their power die, their plans shall fade and vanish.
3. You give your sight to all the blind, you raise up those bent low.
Your heart is near to the broken ones, you welcome in the stranger.
4. Happy those who keep faith with you, securing justice for the oppressed,
who give your food to each hungry heart, your freedom to each captive.
5. The weak and poor you sustain in love,
the wicked ones you bring to destruction;
for ever more shall your reign endure, to ev'ry generation.

Text: Psalm 146:3-4, 8-9, 6b-7, 8c-10; Marty Haugen, © 1987, GIA Publications, Inc.; refrain trans. © 1969, ICEL
Music: Marty Haugen, © 1987, GIA Publications, Inc.

Reading II

Reading 2

[James 5:7-10](#)

Be patient, brothers and sisters,
until the coming of the Lord.
See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth,
being patient with it
until it receives the early and the late rains.
You too must be patient.
Make your hearts firm,
because the coming of the Lord is at hand.
Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one another,

that you may not be judged.

Behold, the Judge is standing before the gates.

Take as an example of hardship and patience, brothers and sisters,
the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Advent Alleluia

Refrain

Cantor, then all (first time only):



Verses

1. Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
2. Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
3. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
he sent me to bring good news to the poor.
4. A virgin will give birth to a Son; a virgin will give birth to a Son;
his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
5. I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.

Text: *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, ICEL
Tune: Michael Joncas, b.1951, © 1988, GIA Publications, Inc.

Gospel

Priest or Deacon: The Lord be with you

All Respond: And with your spirit

Priest or Deacon: A reading from the Holy Gospel According to: Matthew

*All Respond: (signing the cross on their forehead, lips and heart) Glory to you, O
Lord.*

Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ,
he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question,
"Are you the one who is to come,
or should we look for another?"
Jesus said to them in reply,
"Go and tell John what you hear and see:
the blind regain their sight,
the lame walk,
lepers are cleansed,
the deaf hear,
the dead are raised,
and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.
And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me."

As they were going off,
Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John,
"What did you go out to the desert to see?
A reed swayed by the wind?
Then what did you go out to see?
Someone dressed in fine clothing?
Those who wear fine clothing are in royal palaces.
Then why did you go out? To see a prophet?
Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.
This is the one about whom it is written:
*Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;
he will prepare your way before you.*
Amen, I say to you,
among those born of women
there has been none greater than John the Baptist;
yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

The Gospel of the Lord

Homily

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day 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.
I 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 adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism
for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful)

Please respond: Lord, Hear Our Prayer

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation Song:

MARANATHA

Gerard Chiusano

Refrain



Ma - ra - na - tha, we long for your peace.
Ma - ra - na - tha, we long for your mer - cy. Ma - ra - na -
tha, we long for your com - ing, O God.

Verses



1. In your im - age you have fash - ioned us, in the
2. In our weak - ness we have turned from you, turned from
3. In your love — you have sent your Son, your sal -
4. We a - wait your day of glo - ry, Christ —

1. gar - den you made — us; you have giv - en us your
2. light to the dark - ness, ev - er long - ing for sal -
3. va - tion for ev - 'ry-one; Word in - car - nate, God's com -
4. Je - sus, re - turn for us. Gen - tle King, — Just De -

to Refrain

1. breath of life, voice to praise your name, voice to praise your name.
2. va - tion, O — Lord of light, O — Lord of light.
3. pas - sion, hope for hu - man - kind, hope for hu - man - kind.
4. liv - er - er, you will bring us home, you will bring us home.

© 2000, Gerard Chiusano. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

Invitation to Pray

Pray my brothers and sisters ...

*Response: 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 holy Church.*

Preface Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

Response: And with your spirit.

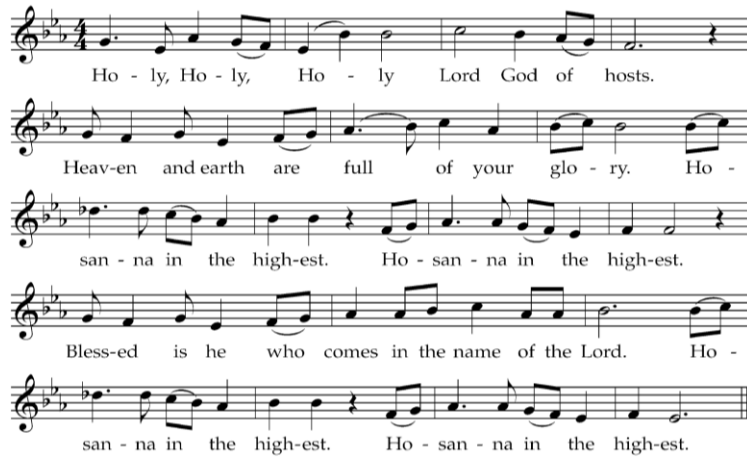
Lift up your hearts.

Response: We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Response: It is right and just.

Eucharistic Acclamations: Mass for Our Lady



Text © 2010, ICEL

Steven C. Warner and Karen Schneider Kirner
Music © 2011, WLP

Memorial Acclamation

Priest: Let us proclaim the Mystery of Faith:

All Sing:



Text © 2010, ICEL

Steven C. Warner and Karen Schneider Kirner
Music © 2011, WLP

Doxology

Priest: Through him, with him and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.

All Sing:



Steven C. Warner and Karen Schneider Kirner
Music © 2011, WLP

The Lord's Prayer

Sign of Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Response: And with your Spirit

Fraction Rite

Cantor *All*

A-gnus De - i, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the

Cantor

world, have mer-cy on us. A-gnus De - i,

All

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, O grant us peace.

Steven C. Warner and Karen Schneider Kirner
Music © 2011, WLP

Invitation to Communion

Behold the Lamb of God, Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

*Response: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.*

Communion Song:

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL

Verses

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And
2. O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who
3. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who
4. O come, Thou Rod of Jes - se's stem, From
5. O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And
6. O come, Thou Day - spring from on high And
7. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In

1. ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in
2. or - d' rest all things might - i - ly; To us the
3. to thy tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient
4. ev - 'ry foe de - liv - er them That trust thy
5. o - pen wide our heav - 'nly home; Make safe the
6. cheer us by thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the
7. one the hearts of all hu - man - kind; Bid thou our

1. lone - ly ex - ile here Un - til the Son of
2. path of knowl - edge show, And teach us in her
3. times didst give the law, In cloud and maj - es -
4. might - y pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry
5. way that leads on high, And close the path to
6. gloom - y clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ow
7. sad di - vi - sions cease, And be thy - self our

Refrain

1. God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u -
2. ways to go.
3. ty and awe.
4. o'er the grave.
5. mis - er - y.
6. put to flight.
7. Prince of Peace.

el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Text: LM with refrain; Latin, 9th cent.; verses 1, 3-6, para. in *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*,
Cologne, 1710; tr. by John Mason Neale, 1818-1866; verses 2, 7 tr. fr. *The Hymnal* 1940, alt.
Music: *Processionale*, 15th cent. French; adapt. by Thomas Helmore, 1811-1890; Chant, Mode I.

Post Communion Prayer

CONCLUDING RITES

Announcements

Final Blessing

Dismissal

Sending Song:

O COME, DIVINE MESSIAH

VENEZ, DIVIN MESSIE

Verses



1. O come, di - vine Mes - si - ah; The world in
2. O Christ, whom na - tions sigh for, Whom priest and
3. You come in peace and meek - ness And low - ly

1. si - lence waits the day When hope shall sing its
2. proph - et long fore - told, Come, break the cap - tive's
3. will your cra - dle be; All clothed in hu - man

1. tri - umph And sad - ness flee a - way.
2. fet - ters, Re - deem the long - lost fold.
3. weak - ness Shall we your God - head see.

Refrain



Dear Sav - ior, haste! Come, come to earth. Dis - pel the
night and show your face, and bid us hail the dawn of grace. O
come, di - vine Mes - si - ah; the world in si - lence waits the day when
hope shall sing its tri - umph and sad - ness flee a - way.

Text: 78 76 with refrain; Abbé Simon-Joseph Pellegrin, 1663–1745; tr. by S. Mary of St. Philip, 1877.
Music: Trad. French Carol, 16th cent.

Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-700431. All rights reserved.”

Scripture reprinted with permission of Confraternity of Christian Doctrine of the USCCB. Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States, second typical edition, Copyright © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine; Psalm refrain © 1968, 1981, 1997, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. Neither this work nor any part of it may be reproduced, distributed, performed or displayed in any medium, including electronic or digital, without permission in writing from the copyright owner.