

**Advent Wreath Lighting Ceremony
Second Sunday-Hope for those who are weary!**

L: The Light shines in the darkness

R: But the darkness has not overcome it

L: During Advent our weary souls seek God's daily strength.

R: The Lord gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

L: We grow weary when fear overshadows faith.

R: The Lord gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

L: We grow weary when destructive actions erupt in the world.

R: The Lord gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

L: For all of us feeling weary this Advent season.

R: Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act and the grace of Christ as we speak.

Christ, Be Our Light!

A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent

Words and Music by
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Congregation:

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gathered to day.

L: Today we light two candles. The first candle illuminates patience in the areas of our lives where God has called us to wait. The second candle extends the promise of strength to all who feel weary and weak in the shadows of this world. As we continue our Advent journey, may our hope be kindled as the light grows brighter

Light Candles

Closing Prayer: God of mercy and compassion, scripture says that if we draw near to you, you will draw near to us. In a shadowy world where human weakness and weariness reside, we ask for you to draw near and dispel the darkness around us. May the light of this season illuminate our hope, strength, and steadfast endurance as we await the coming savior. We pray this in the name of Christ the Lord. Amen.

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT LITURGY
INTRODUCTORY RITE**

Celebrant: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Response: Amen.

Celebrant: Lord, bless us with the wisdom to praise You in spirit and in truth, so that by following Your holy we will gain eternal salvation.

Response: Amen.

THE PENITENTIAL RITE

C: My dear brothers and sisters let us confess our sins to God and prepare ourselves that we may worthily participate in this Holy Sacrifice. Please now make an examination of your conscience.

Confiteor

Almighty Father, You know my deepest secrets. I confess that I have, through my own fault, sinned against Your holy laws, *(striking the breast three times)* in my thoughts, in my words and in what I have done or failed to do. I sincerely regret my sins and I am truly sorry for offending You. I ask, Father, that in Your mercy You pardon my sins. I promise to change my way of living so that through a deeper holiness I may better serve You throughout the rest of my life. I ask the Blessed Virgin Mary, all the saints and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord, our God.

C: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

R: Amen.

C: May our Lord Jesus Christ absolve you and, with His authority vested in me, I absolve you from all your sins: in the name of the Father, + the Son and the Holy Spirit.

R: Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Malachi 3: 1-2a

C: Lo, I am sending My messenger to prepare the way before Me.

And suddenly there will come to the temple the Lord Whom you seek,

R: And the messenger of the covenant Whom you desire, yes, He is coming, says the Lord of hosts.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

R: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world with out end. Amen.

KYRIE

C: Lord, have mercy. **R:** Lord, have mercy.

C: Christ, have mercy. **R:** Christ, have mercy.

C: Lord, have mercy. **R:** Lord, have mercy.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray. [pause briefly] Heavenly Father, You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to be the herald of Your kingdom and the forerunner of Your Son. Grant that we may be prepared for the day

when the glory of the Lord will be revealed to all people. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Baruch 5: 1-9

Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God forever: wrapped in the cloak of justice from God, bear on your head the mitre that displays the glory of the eternal name. For God will show all the earth your splendor: you will be named by God forever the peace of justice, the glory of God's worship. Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights. look to the east and see your children gathered from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that they are remembered by God. Led away on foot by their enemies they left you: but God will bring them back to you borne aloft in glory as on royal thrones. For God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low and that the age-old depths and

gorges be filled to level ground, that Israel may advance secure in the glory of God. The forests and every fragrant kind of tree have overshadowed Israel at God's command; for God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory, with his mercy and justice for company. This is the Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 126

R: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the LORD brought back the captives of Zion, we were like men dreaming. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with rejoicing. R:

Then they said among the nations "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad indeed. R:

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the torrents in the southern desert. Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing. R:

Although they go forth weeping, carrying the seed to be sown, They shall come back rejoicing, carrying their sheaves. R:

Second Reading

Philippians 1: 4-6, 8-11

Brothers and sisters: I pray always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God. This is the Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamations

Luke 3: 4,6

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 3: 1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert. John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah: A voice of one crying out in the desert "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low.

The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” This is the Gospel of the Lord

**SACRAMENT OF THE WORD OF GOD
PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in One God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen. I 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, by the power of the Holy Spirit. He was born of the Virgin Mary, **AND BECAME MAN**. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in fulfillment of 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 and giver of life who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son, He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

GENERAL INTERCESSION

Celebrant: John the Baptist proclaimed that “All mankind will see the salvation of God.” Therefore, we pray confidently for the needs of all God’s children.

L: Our response is “Lord hear our prayer”.

L: That our National Catholic Church may be pure and blameless in all her endeavors, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That those who direct our lives by laws and regulations, may always seek the good of all men, women and children, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That people without faith may discover the Lord who has done great things for us, and they be filled with joy, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That the hope for world peace may be fulfilled and all violence be eliminated, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That those who have suffered at the hands of violence or through illness be comforted by our loving Savior, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That the Lord leads men to sacred vocations within our Church, let us pray to the Lord.

L: That the eternal light of salvation may shine upon those who have died, especially, N. let us pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Almighty and merciful God, for you all things are possible; fulfill our hopes and intentions, as we confidently pray to you, through Christ our Lord.

OFFERTORY VERSE

And you, child, will be called prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare His ways.
Luke 1:76

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord our God, through this oblation help us to prepare for the coming of Your Son. May He find us waiting and eager in joyful prayer. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

PREFACE-THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 2

We give thanks to You, God our Father, through Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, Whom in these last days You have sent us as Savior, Redeemer and Messenger of Your will. He is Your Word, inseparable from You. Through Him You have made all things and in Him You were well pleased. You sent Him from heaven to a virgin's womb. There He dwelt and was made flesh. He was revealed as Your Son, born through the Holy Spirit and of the Virgin. When He suffered, He fulfilled Your will and gained for You a holy people. He stretched out His hands to free from suffering those who believed in You. When He was betrayed to His freely chosen suffering, thereby to destroy death, to break the chains of darkness, to crush hell beneath His feet, to give light to the just, to make a covenant and to manifest His resurrection.

He took bread; He gave You thanks and said: **TAKE AND EAT: THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS BROKEN FOR YOU.** In like manner He took the cup and said: **THIS IS MY BLOOD WHICH IS Poured OUT FOR YOU.** Whenever you do this, do it in memory of Me. Calling then His death and resurrection to mind, we offer You the Bread and the Cup. We thank You for allowing us to come before You and to serve You. We ask You to send Your Holy Spirit upon the offering of Your holy Church to gather all in unity. Grant to all who partake of these Holy Mysteries the fullness of the Holy Spirit for the strengthening of their faith in the truth. So, may we praise and glorify You through Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Holding the Sacred Host above the Chalice, he elevates them and says or sings:

Through Him may glory and honor be Yours, with the Holy Spirit, in Your holy Church, now and for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

COMMUNION RITE

C: Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us: 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.

C: Deliver us Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day. In Your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

R: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours, now and forever.

Breaking of the Bread

C: The Cup of Blessing which we bless, is it not a participation in the Blood of Christ?

C: The Bread which we break, is it not a participation in the Body of Christ?

R: Because there is one Bread, we who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one Bread.

C: May the union of divinity and humanity in Jesus Christ bring us sanctification and eternal life.

R: Amen.

C: Lord Jesus Christ, You said to Your apostles: I leave you peace, My peace I give you. Do not look at our sins, but on the faith of Your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of Your kingdom where You live for ever and ever. Amen.

C: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R: And also, with you.

C: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

Give a nod or a wave of hand as a sign of peace

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, by the will of the Father and the work of the Holy Spirit, Your death brought life to the world. By Your holy Body and Blood free me from all my sins and from every evil. Keep me faithful to Your teaching and never let me be parted from You.

C: I will take the Bread of Heaven and call upon the name of the Lord.

The celebrant and congregation together say only once:

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

May the Body of Christ bring me to everlasting life.

May the Blood of Christ bring me to everlasting life.

THE COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

This is the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world.

Happy are those who are called to the table of the Lord.

C: Lord, may I possess with a pure heart that which I have taken as food, and may the Gift I have received bring me healing and strength now and forever

COMMUNION VERSE

Up, Jerusalem! Stand upon the heights; look to the east and behold the joy that comes to you from God.
Baruch 5:5; 4:3b

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. [pause briefly] Almighty Father, through the merits of this Holy Communion help us to show our gratitude of Your precious gift, Jesus Christ, to think more of others than of ourselves, and to seek Your presence more deeply, We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

CONCLUDING RITE

C: The Lord be with you.

R: And also, with you.

C: May the Almighty God bless you in the name of the Father + the Son+ and the Holy Spirit.

R: Amen

C: Let us bless the Lord

R: Thanks be to God.

Opening Hymn

“On Jordan’s Bank”

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.
Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way for God within, and let each heart
prepare a home where such a mighty
Guest may come.

For thou art our salvation, Lord, our refuge and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away like flow'rs that wither and decay. To heal the sick stretch out
Thine hand and bid the fallen sinner stand; shine forth and let thy light restore earth's own true
loveliness once more.

Closing Hymn

“There’s A Voice Crying in the Wilderness”

There’s a voice in the wilderness crying, A call from the ways untrod: prepare in the desert a
highway, A highway for our God! the valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low; Make
straight all the crooked places, where the Lord our God may go!

O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up to the heights and sing! Proclaim to a desolate people
The coming of their King. Like the flowers of the field they perish, the works of men decay, The
power and pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away.