

2023 ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

INTRODUCTORY RITES

HYMN

The Advent of our King
Shall be our time for prayer;
Come, let us meet him on the road
A place for him prepare.

The everlasting Son
Incarnate comes to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on
To set his people free.

As judge, on clouds of light,
He soon will come again,
And all his scattered saints unite
With him on high to reign.

All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

Text: *Instantis adventum Dei*, Charles Coffin, 1676-1749

Translation: John Chandler, 1806-1876, alt.

Tune: SWABIA, SM; Johan M. Speiss, 1715-1772

GREETING

OPENING PRAYER

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

1 John 2:3-11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 80: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

GOSPEL

Luke 12: 35-40

HOMILY

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

For failings in our private life:

- Abusing or neglecting the gift of our body, a temple of the Holy Spirit
- Overindulging in food or alcohol
- Engaging in sinful sexual practices
- Becoming complacent or self-satisfied

For failings in our families:

- Hurting or neglecting our families
- Withholding our love from those closest to us
- Withdrawing into our own pursuits
- Arguing too easily
- Failing to say we were sorry
- Failing to say we were wrong

For failures in our communities:

- Being a disruptive force because of our own ego
- Failing to be a peacemaker
- Intentionally excluding others
- Being greedy in the face of poverty

For our failures with our God:

- Failing to put our relationship with God first
- Failing to make time for regular private prayer and for worship with others
- Making important choices in our life without listening for God's voice
- Holding back when God was calling us to be an instrument of grace
- Failing to offer back to God the gifts he has given us

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

GENERAL CONFESSION OF SINS

**I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault:
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints,
and you my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

LITANY OF REPENTANCE

Presider: In your goodness,
forgive our sins against the unity of your family,

All: --make us one in heart, one in spirit.

Presider: Touch our hearts and change our lives,

All: --make us grow always in your friendship.

Presider: Receive us
as we come before you with humble and contrite hearts,

All: --with your pardon give us also your peace.

Presider: Restore us, Lord, to your favor,
and give us joy in your presence,

All: --may our glory be to serve you with all our hearts.

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

PRAYER

HYMN

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding;
"Christ is near," we hear it say;
"Cast away the works of darkness
All you children of the day!"

Wakened by the solemn warning,
From earth's bondage let us rise;
Christ, our sun, all sin dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.

See the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon to bestow.
Let us haste, with tears of gladness,
So his mercy all may know.

Honor, glory, might and blessing
To the Father and the Son,
With the everlasting Spirit
While unending ages run!

Text: *Vox clara ecce intonat*, Latin hymn, 5th century
Translator: Edward Caswall, 1814-1878, alt.
Tune: STUTTGART, 8 7 8 7; Christian F. Witt, 1660-1716

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Then the penitents go to the priests designated for individual confession, and confess their sins. Each one receives and accepts a fitting act of satisfaction and is absolved. After hearing the confession and offering suitable counsel, the priest extends his hands over the penitent's head (or at least extends his right hand) and gives him or her absolution. Everything else which is customary in individual confession is omitted.

After receiving absolution the penitents may return to the main body of the church and spend some time in private prayer.