

God receives our offering

WE SING A HYMN/SONG AS OUR OFFERING IS RECEIVED

WE PRAY FOR OURSELVES AND THE WORLD

Prayer response:

Lord, in your mercy:
hear our prayer.

WE PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

God blesses us

WE GO WITH GOD

May Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, shine on us and make us ready to meet him when he comes in glory.

And the blessing of almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with us always.

Amen.

WE SING A HYMN/SONG

Sunday Word & Prayer *Advent 1*

God welcomes us

WE COME TO GOD

Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.

Come, O house of Jacob,

Let us walk in the light of the Lord! (Isaiah 7:3,5)

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit
Amen.

WE CONFESS OUR SIN AND GOD FORGIVES US

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of each other.

**We confess to you, almighty God,
before the whole company of heaven,
and to each other,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
by our own fault.**

**Have mercy on us, for Jesus' sake,
forgive us all our sins,
and bring us to eternal life. Amen.**

May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon
and forgiveness of all our sins.

Amen.

WE LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE AND PRAY

The true light was in the world,
and the world came into being through him;
yet the world did not know him.

**The true light, who enlightens everyone,
was coming into the world.**

Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world.

You came to be born as a king in Bethlehem, the city of King David.
Be born in our hearts, and rule our lives today.

Amen.

WE SING AN ADVENT HYMN/SONG

WE PRAY PSALM 122

I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'
Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem – built as a city that is bound firmly together.
To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: May they prosper who love you
Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.
For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say: Peace be within you.
For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'

WE PRAY AN ADVENT PRAYER

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord, and come.

Protect us, so that we may be rescued
from the threatening dangers of our sins,
and saved by your deliverance.

For you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

God speaks to us

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING (*ISAIAH 2:1-5*)

Hear the word of the Lord as it is written in the prophet Isaiah, chapter 2,
verses 1 to 5.

(after the reading)

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

EPISTLE READING (*ROMANS 13:11-14*)

Hear the word of the Lord as it is written in St Paul's letter to the Romans,
chapter 13, verses 11 to 14.

(after the reading)

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING (*MATTHEW 24:36-44*)

Hear the gospel of the Lord as it is written in the Gospel according to St
Matthew 24, verses 36 – 44.

(after the gospel)

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise be to you, O Christ

The time has come for us to wake up from our sleep

for the night is nearly over and the day is almost here.

WE SING A HYMN/SONG

WE LISTEN TO THE ADDRESS

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH

**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 Spirit,**

**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 sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty,

from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

* 'catholic' here meaning 'universal'