

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 2*

God welcomes us

WE COME TO GOD

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The Spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the Spirit of counsel and might,

the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. (Isaiah 11:1-2)

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 came to those who belonged to him,
and his own people did not accept him.

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

Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world.

The prophets foretold that you would bring peace to the world
and save your people.

Bring peace to our hearts, and show God's love to all people.

Amen.

WE SING AN ADVENT HYMN/SONG

WE PRAY PSALM 72

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.
May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.
May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.

In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound.

May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon,
throughout all generations.
May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.
In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound,
until the moon is no more.

In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.
Blessed be his glorious name forever, may his glory fill the whole earth.

In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound.

WE PRAY AN ADVENT PRAYER

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son.
Help us by his coming to serve you with pure hearts and minds. We ask this
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

God speaks to us

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING (*ISAIAH 11:1-10*)

Hear the word of the Lord as it is written in the prophet Isaiah, chapter 11,
verses 1 to 10.
(after the reading)
This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

EPISTLE READING (*ROMANS 15:4-13*)

Hear the word of the Lord as it is written in St Paul's letter to the Romans,
chapter 15, verses 4 to 13.

(after the reading)

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING (*MATTHEW 3:1-12*)

Hear the gospel of the Lord as it is written in the Gospel according to St
Matthew, chapter 3, verses 1-12.

(after the gospel)

This is the gospel of the Lord

Praise be to you, O Christ

Lord Jesus, thank you for coming and bringing the kingdom of heaven.
Lead us to repent, and fill us with your Spirit.

Amen.

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'