

ADVENT CAROL LITURGY

Entrance Hymn	(all kneel)		
Word of justice,	Alleluia,	come to dwell here	Maranatha!
Word of mercy,	Alleluia,	live among us,	Maranatha!
Word of power,	Alleluia,	live within us,	Maranatha!
Word of freedom,	Alleluia,	save your people,	Maranatha!
Word of healing,	Alleluia,	heal our sorrow,	Maranatha!
Word of comfort,	Alleluia,	bring us hope now,	Maranatha!
Word of gladness,	Alleluia,	fill our hearts now,	Maranatha!
Word of wisdom,	Alleluia,	come renew us,	Maranatha!

Lighting of the Advent candles

Word we long for,	Alleluia,	word we thirst for,	Maranatha!
Key of David,	Alleluia,	Son of Mary,	Maranatha!
Promised Saviour,	Alleluia,	true Messiah,	Maranatha!
Cry of prophets,	Alleluia,	hope of ages,	Maranatha!
Light of nations,	Alleluia,	light in darkness,	Maranatha!
Risen Saviour,	Alleluia,	Lord of glory,	Maranatha!
You we long for,	Alleluia,	you we thirst for,	Maranatha!
Here among us,	Alleluia,	living in us,	Maranatha!

Welcome and Introduction

Hymn

Hark, a herald voice is calling; "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
"Cast away the dreams of darkness, O ye children of the day."

Startled at the solemn warning, let the earthbound soul arise;
Christ her Sun, all sloth dispelling, shines up on the morning skies.

Lo, the Lamb so long expected, comes with pardon down from heav'n;
let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all to be forgiv'n.

So when next He comes with glory, shrouding all the earth in fear,
may He then as our defender, on the clouds of heav'n appear.

Honour, glory, praise and blessing, to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit, while unending praises run.

Reading

Luke 1: 5-25

Reflection



Prayer

With tender and transforming power,
you come into our midst,
O God of mercy and might.

Make ready a way in the wilderness, clear a straight path in our hearts,
and form us into a repentant people, that the advent of your Son
may find us watchful and eager for the glory he reveals.

We ask this through him whose coming is certain,
whose day draws near:
your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Hymn

The angel Gabriel, from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame.
“All hail,” said he, “thou lowly maiden, Mary, most highly favoured lady.” Gloria!

“For know, a blessed Mother thou shalt be.” All generations laud and honour thee.
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favoured lady.” Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head. “To me be, as it pleaseth God,” she said.
“my soul shall laud and magnify his holy name!” Most highly favoured lady! Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn;
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say: “Most highly favoured lady!”
Gloria!

Reading

Luke 1:26-38

Reflection

Prayer

Here in our midst, O God of mystery,
You disclose the secret hidden for countless ages.
For you we wait; for you we listen.

Upon hearing your voice
may we, like Mary, embrace your will
and become a dwelling fit for your Word.

Grant this through him whose coming is certain,
whose day draws near:
your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever. **Amen.**



Hymn

My soul proclaims the greatness of God my saving Lord,
and my spirit sings with joyfulness for the favours he's outpoured.
For I am his lowly servant, yet all ages call me blessed;
and by his marv'ulous work for me his love is manifest.
His might cannot be broken and Holy is his name.
And his mercy is unending to those who fear his reign.

He has shown his awful power by scattering the proud.
He casts the mighty from their thrones; the wealthy he has bowed.
But the lowly are exalted and the hungry given food,
and to Israel his servant his promise he makes good.
He protects her in his mercy, remembers from of old
his covenant with Abraham and ages now untold.

To the Father and Creator all glory now be given.
And to Jesus Christ our Saviour who lives with him in Heaven.
To the Spirit who protects us and who dwells within our hearts,
and through his sev'nfold gifts of grace to us his power imparts.
As it was in the beginning, today and still remains,
and so endures for ever, eternal is their reign.

Reading

Luke 1: 39-56

Reflection

Prayer

Who are we, Lord God, that you should come to us?
Yet you have visited your people and redeemed us in your Son.

As we prepare to celebrate his birth,
Make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your Word,
And move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works.

We ask this through him whose coming is certain,
whose day draws near:
your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Homily

Intercessions



Final Prayer

Eternal God,
in the psalms of David, in the words of the prophets,
in the dream of Joseph, your promise is spoken.
At last, in the womb of Mary, your Word takes flesh.

Teach us to welcome Jesus, the promised Emmanuel,
And to preach the good news of his coming,
That every age may know him as the source of redemption and grace.

Grant this through him whose coming is certain,
whose day draws near:
your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever. **Amen.**