

Third Sunday of Advent

Gaudete Sunday, 12th December 2021



OPENING 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 earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.

Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from heaven;
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all to be forgiven;

So when next He comes with glory,
Wrapping all the earth in fear,
May He then as our defender
On the clouds of heaven appear.

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14-18

The Lord will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

PSALM RESPONSE: **Sing and shout for joy, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:4-7

The Lord is very near.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 3:10-18

What must we do?

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven, (*as we say the words in italics, we bow*) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with 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, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

O Jesus Christ, remember
When Thou shalt come again,
Upon the clouds of heaven,
With all Thy shining train;
When every eye shall see Thee
In deity revealed,
Who now upon this altar
In silence art concealed.

Remember then, O Saviour,
I supplicate of Thee,
That here I bowed before Thee
Upon my bended knee;
That here I owned Thy presence,
And did not Thee deny,
And glorified Thy greatness
Though hid from human eye.

Accept, divine Redeemer,
The homage of my praise;
Be Thou the light and honour
And glory of my days.
Be Thou my consolation
When death is drawing nigh:
Be Thou my only treasure
Through all eternity.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Come, Thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.