



Order of Worship

December 9th, 2018



Second Sunday of Advent

*This liturgy was written by the Rev. Dr. Scotty J. Williams
and was celebrated in St. Gallen, Switzerland at
All Souls Protestant Church which is now dissolved.*

LITURGY

December 9th, 2018

Second Sunday Of Advent

WELCOME



SECOND CANDLE OF ADVENT – A NEW WAY

Lector: A voice cries out in the wilderness!

People: Prepare the way of the Lord!

Lector: Make straight the highway for our God!

People: Prepare the way of the Lord!

Lector: Make valleys high and mountains low!

People: Prepare the way of the Lord!

Lector: And let salvation come to all!

People: Prepare the way of the Lord!

(the second candle is lit)

Lector: Brothers and Sisters, let us pray...

ALL: O Gracious God, we light this candle for a new way, and we thank You for the voice of truth that cries within the wilderness. The voice that tells all people, “Prepare the way of the Lord”. And the voice that tells us now to turn from sin and be restored.

In Your holy name we pray. Amen!

† SONG OF APPROACH “On Jordan’s Bank The Baptist’s Cry”

words by Charles Coffin, 1736; music by William H. Monk, 1847

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery life from sin; make
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our
 4 Stretch forth your hand; our health re - store, and

nounc - es that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 straight the way for God with - in, and let us all our
 ref - uge and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 make us rise to fall no more. O let your face up -

for he brings glad ti - dings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

† THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: Our Father, Who art in Heaven,
 Hallowed be Thy name.
 Thy kingdom come.
 Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread.
 And forgive us our trespasses,
 As we forgive those who trespass against us.
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
 For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
 Forever and ever. Amen.

† SONG OF ADORATION

“God In My Living”

words and music by Tim Hughs, 2005

God in my living, there in my breathing
 God in my waking, God in my sleeping
 God in my resting, there in my working
 God in my thinking, God in my speaking
Be my everything, be my everything (2x)

God in my hoping, there in my dreaming
 God in my watching, God in my waiting
 God in my laughing, there in my weeping
 God in my hurting, God in my healing
Be my everything, be my everything (2x)

Christ in me, Christ in me
 Christ in me, the hope of glory
 You are everything

Christ in me, Christ in me
 Christ in me, the hope of glory
 Be my everything
Be my everything, be my everything (2x)

† CONFESSION OF SIN

Pastor: Brothers and Sisters, in the presence of Christ, Who is the hope of glory, let us confess our sins together saying:

ALL: O Son of God, how many John the Baptists have we ignored, because they were not what we were looking for? And how many times have we ignored voices crying in the wilderness, "Prepare the way." Lord, help us to hear these voices anew, as we wait for You this Advent season. And clear the path in all our lives that we might truly turn from sin. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.

(Confess in Silence)

† SONG OF CONFESSION

“Thy Word”

words and music by Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith, 1999

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet,
 And a light unto my path. (2x)*

When I feel afraid, and think I've lost my way.
 Still You're there right beside me.
 Nothing will I fear, as long as You are near.
 Please be near me to the end.

† CONFESSION OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Brothers and Sisters, be at peace and be at rest, for the Son of God is with us. He is with us in every hour of the day! He is with us in the love we have for one another! He is with us in His Sacraments! And He is with us in His Holy Word! Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of the His holy Church, and by His authority, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all of our sins. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made righteous!
Thanks be to God!

† CONFESSION OF FAITH **Apostles Creed**

Pastor: And now, let us confess our faith together saying:

ALL: 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, died, and was buried;
He descended to the dead;
On the third day He rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
And He is seated at the right hand of the Father;
He will come again 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.

* The word *catholic* means “universal” or “for all people” (not the Roman Catholic Church).

† PASSING OF PEACE

Pastor: Friends, the peace of the Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Pastor: Please take this time to offer the peace of Christ to one another.

† SONG OF PEACE

“Jesus, Cast A Look On Me”

words by John Berridge, 1700's; music by Matthew P. Jones, 2008 (Indelible Grace)

Jesus, cast a look on me,
Give me sweet simplicity
Make me poor and keep me low,
Seeking only Thee to know.

All that feeds my busy pride,
Cast it evermore aside
Bid my will to Thine submit,
Lay me humbly at Thy feet.

Make me like a little child,
Of my strength and wisdom spoiled
Seeing only in Thy light,
Walking only in Thy might.

Leaning on Thy loving breast,
Where a weary soul can rest
Feeling well the peace of God,
Flowing from His precious blood.

In this posture let me live,
And hosannas daily give
In this temper let me die,
And hosannas ever cry!

† OLD TESTAMENT READING

Malachi 3:1-5 (ESV)

Lector: Children of God and friends of Christ, hear these words from the prophet Malachi:

¹“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.”

Lector: This is the Word of God for you, the people of God!

People: Thanks be to God!

† NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 3:2-9 (ESV)

Pastor: And now friends, a reading from the Gospel of Luke.
Listen and hear the Word of God:

²During the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.

⁵Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall become straight,

and the rough places shall become level ways,

⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

⁷He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

⁸Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ⁹Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

Pastor: This too is the Word of God for you, the people of God!

People: Thanks be to God!

† WORSHIP IN GIVING

If you are our guest today feel under no compulsion to give, but if you do choose to give we greatly appreciate your gift and pray that you are blessed.

† DOXOLOGY *words by Thomas Ken, 1674; music by Louis Bourgeois, 1551*

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise *him, all crea-tures
here be-low; praise *him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise
Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

† INVITATION TO THANKSGIVING (Eucharist)

Pastor: In the ancient Church a greeting was given at the breaking of bread, and like those before us I greet you with the joy of God. Friends, the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: Let us pray...It is our duty and delight that we should (chant) everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to You, O God, through Jesus Christ, Who calls us to follow His way of humble service and love. And so with the Church on earth, all creation and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn....

† SANCTUS *words by Reginald Heber, 1826; music by John B. Dykes 1861*

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly! Lord God Al-might-y!
All, Thy works shall praise Thy Name in earth, and sky, and sea;
Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly! Mer-ci-ful and Might-y!
God in three Per-sons bless-ed Trin-i-ty.

+ WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND INSTRUCTION

Pastor: On the night He was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take this and eat of it; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me until I come again."

And in the same way, after supper, He also took the cup, and said, "Take this and drink of it; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me."

Gracious Father, we thank You for sending Your Son Jesus Christ, Who gave His life for us on the cross and shows us the way to live. Send down Your Holy Spirit upon these Your gifts of bread and wine that they might be for us His body and His blood. Amen.

Friends, in the breaking of His body, Christ received our brokenness and gave us the blessings of heaven. Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of faith in Him.

ALL: Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Pastor: Behold the gifts of God for you, the people of God.
Let us keep the feast!

+ DISTRIBUTION

We welcome all baptized Christians and those who wish to follow Jesus to come to the Table and receive Communion. We take the elements by *intinction* or dipping the bread into the cup, so once you receive the bread please hold on to it that you might dip it into the cup. To ensure that all can partake our bread is gluten-free, and we use grape juice.

+ SONG OF THANKSGIVING "Lord, I Lift Your Name On High"

words and music by Rick Founds, 1989

Lord, I lift Your name on high!
Lord, I love to sing Your praises!
I'm so glad You're in my life!
I'm so glad You came to save us!

*You came from heaven to earth
To show the way.
From the earth to the cross
My debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave,
From the grave to the sky,
Lord, I lift Your name on high!*

Lord, I lift Your name on high!
Lord, I love to sing Your praises!
I'm so glad You're in my life!
I'm so glad You came to save us!

*You came from heaven to earth
To show the way.
From the earth to the cross
My debt to pay.
From the cross to the grave,
From the grave to the sky,
Lord, I lift Your name on high!*

† PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Friends, as we prepare to leave this place of rest, and go back into a restless world, let us pray with all our hearts, souls, and minds saying, Maranatha,

People: Come Lord Jesus!

Pastor: O Son of God, come to Your Church as Lord and Judge. We pray for all believers (be they Protestants, Catholics, Orthodox, or without denominations), and we pray for all Church leaders (and especially those in our Kirchenbund and Kantonalkirche). Lord, help us to live in the light of Your coming, and give us a longing for Your Kingdom here and now. Maranatha,

People: Come Lord Jesus!

Pastor: O Son of God, come to Your world as King of the nations. We pray for all countries in peace and at war, and we pray that their leaders might govern in truth. Lord, before You all rulers will stand in silence, and with every person give into account before Your throne. Maranatha,

People: Come Lord Jesus!

Pastor: O Son of God, come to our sufferings as Comforter and come to us as Savior and the Shepherd of souls. We pray for all the trials and troubles that we bear today, and we ask You for endurance and hope for tomorrow. Lord, break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free to serve You, both now and forever. Maranatha,

People: Come Lord Jesus!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay, and give new courage to Your people, who trust in Your love. May we daily think of how we shall meet You, and may we daily seek to prepare the way and walk with You in grace and truth. Lord, may Your coming raise us to share in the joy of Your Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven, where You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, as one God, both now and forever. Amen.

† SONG OF SENDING

“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”

words by Paul Gerhardt, 1653; music by Melchoir Teschner, 1641

1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel-come you a - right?
 2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me;
 3 You come, O Lord, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good-will,

Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!
 your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro-cured my lib - er - ty.
 to bring an end to sad - ness and bid our fears be still.

O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, a lamp with - in my breast,
 O love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
 In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we live for that great day

to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.
 in love, all loves ex - cel - ling, our lost and fal - len race.
 when your re - newed cre - a - tion your glo - ry shall dis - play.

† BENEDICTION

Irish Blessing

Pastor: May the road rise to meet you,
 May the wind be always at your back,
 May the sun shine warm upon your face,
 May the sweet and fragrant rain of God's blessing fall
 soft upon your lives,
 And until we meet again, brothers and sisters, family
 and friends in Christ
 May Almighty God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 hold you in the hollow of His hand.

† CONGREGATIONAL AMEN

Threefold (Danish) Amen

A - men. A - men. A - men.