

Morning Prayer

Advent ↑

We light a candle on the Advent Wreath and say a prayer

Advent 4

**God our Father,
the angel Gabriel told the Virgin Mary
that she was to be the mother of your Son.
Though Mary was afraid,
she responded to your call with joy.
Help us, whom you call to serve you,
to share like her in your great work
of bringing to our world your love and healing.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world.
Amen.**

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips

All and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Reveal among us the light of your presence

All that we may behold your power and glory.

Praise

Blessed are you, Sovereign God of all,
to you be praise and glory for ever.

In your tender compassion

the dawn from on high is breaking upon us
to dispel the lingering shadows of night.

As we look for your coming among us this day,
open our eyes to behold your presence

and strengthen our hands to do your will,
that the world may rejoice and give you praise.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

A Hymn may be sung

This opening prayer may be said

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

Each psalm or group of psalms may end with

**All Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

The responsory

Now it is time to awake out of sleep,

All for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

Now is our salvation nearer than when we first believed,

All for the night is far spent.

Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness
and put on the armour of light,

All for the day is at hand.

Put on the Lord Jesus Christ
and make no provision for the flesh,

All for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

from Romans 13

Reflection: *a short homily is offered*

Gospel Canticle

The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)

**All Look towards the east, O Jerusalem,
and see the glory that is coming from God.**

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ◆
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ◆
born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old ◆
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors, ◆
and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ◆
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear, ◆

holy and righteous in his sight

all the days of our life.

- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, ♦
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
8 To give his people knowledge of salvation ♦
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
9 In the tender compassion of our God ♦
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, ♦
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68-79

All **Glory to the Father and to the Son**
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

All **Look towards the east, O Jerusalem,**
and see the glory that is coming from God.

A Hymn may be sung

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God the Holy Trinity.

All **We believe in God the Father,**
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

cf Ephesians 3

Prayers

Intercessions are offered

Silence may be kept.

The Collect of the day following is said

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer is said

Awaiting his coming in glory,

let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All Our Father, who art in heaven ...

Notices

A Hymn may be sung

The Grace

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.

Amen.

The Conclusion

May the Lord, when he comes,
find us watching and waiting.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.