

## Readings 27<sup>th</sup> November 2022

### First Sunday of Advent

#### Candle Lighting Prayer

We wait for the coming of Christ, the light of the world

***All Come Lord Jesus***

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church  
gathered today.

*We light the first candle*

The true light, which enlightens everyone  
is coming into the world.

***All Come Lord Jesus***

The light shines in the darkness  
And the darkness will not overcome it.

***All Christ, shine in your church today***

**Collect**

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life,  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;  
that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty  
to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*(or)*

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns,  
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness,  
that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

## Isaiah 2.1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks;

nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

## Romans 13.11-end

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

## Matthew 24.36-44

'But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

## Post Communion

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Next week's readings: Isaiah 11.1-10, Romans 15.4-13, Matthew 3.1-12*