

ADVENT LITURGY

Entrance Hymn see insert for hymn #, verses 1-3

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Worship Leader: We come to worship Christ

Congregation: Who proclaims good news to the poor,
binds up the broken-hearted,
frees the prisoner
and comforts those who mourn.

Acolyte: We come to worship Christ

Congregation: Who bestows a crown of beauty instead of ashes,
the oil of joy Instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

Celebrant: We come to worship Christ

Congregation: Who rebuilds ancient ruins
and restores broken places.

Written by Phil Whyte, Holy City Planning Group, and posted on the Church of Scotland's **Starters for Sunday** website.
<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/12/advent-call-to-worship-isaiah-61.html>

THE ADVENT PROSE (To be read by all).

Acolyte will now light the altar candles and the week's corresponding candle(s) on the Advent Wreath.

Pour down, O heavens, from above,
and let the skies rain down righteousness.

Turn your fierce anger from us, O Lord,
and remember not our sins forever.
Your holy cities have become a desert,
Zion a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation;
our holy and beautiful house,
where our ancestors praised you.

We have sinned and become like one who is unclean;
we have all withered like a leaf,
and our iniquities like the wind have swept us away.
You have hidden your face from us,
and abandoned us to our iniquities.

You are my witnesses, says the Lord,
and my servant whom I have chosen,
that you may know me and believe me.
I myself am the Lord, and none but I can deliver;
what my hand holds, none can snatch away.

Comfort my people, comfort them;
my salvation shall not be delayed.
I have swept your offences away like a cloud;
fear not, for I will save you.
I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,
your redeemer.

Pour down, O heavens, from above,
and let the skies rain down righteousness.

Church of England, Advent Materials, P.60
Called the Rorate Caeli.
The text is assembled with passages from different chapters by the Prophet Isaiah.
It has been a practice during Advent.

SALUTATION

Celebrant: God be with you.
Congregation: And also, with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.

ADVENT COLLECTS

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Congregation: Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Congregation: Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Congregation: Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Please be seated for the readings

THE LESSONS

The First Reading *(see Insert)*

Reader: A Reading from _____

After the Reading, the Reader says: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People: Thanks be to God.

Worship Leader: The psalm for the day is located in your bulletin insert.

Psalm of the day read by worship leader and congregation

The Second Reading *(see Insert)*

Reader: A Reading from _____

After the Reading, the Reader says: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: see insert for hymn #, verse 1, 2

Please remain standing

The Holy Gospel *(see Insert)*

The Holy Gospel according to _____.

People: Praise and glory to God.

After the Gospel, silence may be kept.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

This is the Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to Christ, the Word.

Gradual Hymn: see insert for hymn #, verse 3

THE SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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 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.

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

Leader: Into our troubles and weaknesses, Into the barren places of our souls, Come Lord,

People: **Come down, come in, come among us and make us whole.**

Leader: Into the war torn and the refugee, Into those who live in conflict, Come Lord,

People: **Come down, come in, come among us and make us whole.**

Leader: Into the homeless and the unemployed, Into those who feel abandoned, Come Lord,

People: **Come down, come in, come among us and make us whole.**

Leader: Into the sick and the disabled, Into those with Ebola and with cancer, Come, Lord

People: **Come down, come in, come among us and make us whole.**

Leader: Into the poor and the starving, Into those who are oppressed or abused, Come Lord

People: **Come down, come in, come among us and make us whole.**

Leader: Into the lives of loved ones, Into those from whom we are estranged, Come Lord,
People: **Come down, come in, come among us and make us whole.**

Leader: Into our joys and celebrations, Into our work and our achievements, Come, Lord
People: **Come down, come in, come among us and make us whole.**

Leader: Let us pray, aloud or in our hearts for friends and family...
People: **God, hear our prayers.**

Leader: O Christ we long for your coming.
People: **Hasten that day when those who seek you in every nation will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south and sit at table in Your Kingdom.**

Leader: Hasten the day when your Kingdom will come in all its glory and suffering and pain and sickness, and oppression and death will be overcome forever.
People: **Hasten the day when we will be resurrected as a great multicultural family and live in peace, harmony, joy and love together in your kingdom.**

Written by Christine Sine on **Godspace** <http://godspace-msa.com/>.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Worship Leader: Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People: **God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

People: **The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

One of the following, or some other appropriate sentence of Scripture, may be used

1. Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name. But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:14, 15*
2. O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. *Revelation 4:11*
3. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom, and you are exalted as head over all. *1 Chronicles 29:11*

Offertory Hymn: see insert for hymn #, verses 1-3

Doxology #380, verse 3

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER 2

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to God.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to our God,

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Worship Leader: We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God,
source of life abundant.

From before time, you made ready the creation.

Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being:

Sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters;

and every living thing.

Congregation: **You made us in your image and taught us to walk in your ways.**

But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us.

Worship Leader: Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

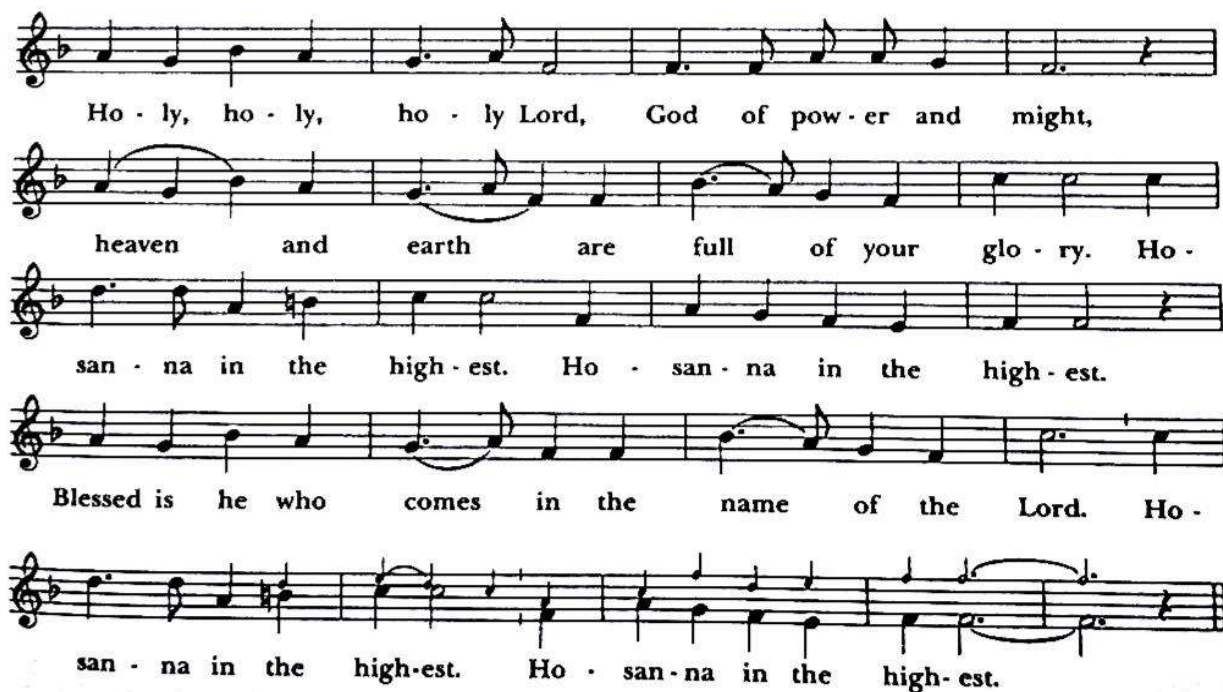
And so, this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus S 125 (Or Choirmaster selection).

The Holy Eucharist

S 125

Holy, holy, holy Lord *Sanctus*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: From *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Celebrant: Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.
To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Worship Leader: Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself, yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing the wine to be consecrated.

Celebrant: On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said:

“Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said:

“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

Worship Leader: In the fullness of time bring us, with St. Joseph, St. Matthew, and St. Martin and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Celebrant: Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

People: **AMEN**

(From *EnrichingOurWorship1*, P.60-62)

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

FRACTION ANTHEMS

Any of the following, or a Fraction Anthem from The Hymnal 1982, S167–S172, may be said or sung in place of the anthem “Christ our Passover” (BCP, p. 364).

1. We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.
2. God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.
Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.
3. This is the true bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.
Whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

Or

4. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.

THE INVITATION

Celebrant: Come God’s people, come to receive Christ’s heavenly food.

-Thanksgiving Praise-1NewZealand Doc.

All are welcome to God’s Table

Jesus never turned anyone away. We therefore invite all who seek God’s presence to receive Communion. Follow the usher’s directions to the altar rail, where you may kneel or stand. Wine and grape juice are in separate chalices. Gluten free host are available upon request. Children are encouraged to receive the Sacrament, or the Priest will offer a Blessing. If you wish to receive the Sacrament at your seat, please inform the Usher.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.

People: **God of abundance, you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

SENDING WORDS

Acolyte: Watch out! Be alert!
Worship Leader: Christ comes when you least expect it.
Celebrant: In the beggar on the Street.
In the loved one at our table.
Worship Leader: In the stranger in our pew,
In the refugee in our shores,
Celebrant: In the hour of birth,
In the hour of death.
With judgement and mercy, Christ comes.
Acolyte: Watch out! Be alert!

Written by Bruce Prewer. Re: Worship. Scripturally based resources for worship planners and leaders.
Based on Mark 13:24-37

Recessional Hymn: see insert for hymn #, verses 1-3

DISMISSAL

Worship Leader: With Love and compassion,
Congregation: **Come, Lord Jesus.**
Acolyte: With judgement and mercy,
Congregation: **Come, Lord Jesus.**
Celebrant: In power and Glory,
Congregation: **Come, Lord Jesus.**
Worship Leader: In Wisdom and Truth,
Congregation: **Come, Lord Jesus.**