**THE ORDER OF SERVICE OF THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT**

**TO BE USED IN SCHOOLS**

**PROCESSION**

*The Officiating party will process to the hall.*

*All may sing a hymn during the procession, or accompanied by instrumental music.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *Luke 21:28*

*All stand.*

Officiant Jesus said, “Straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

**EXHORTATION**

Officiant Advent is the season of preparation, penitence and expectancy, begins on the Sunday nearest to the end of November and continues through the four subsequent Sundays.

The Season recognizes the spiritual need for the readying of the mind and soul of the faithful not only for the anniversary of Christ’s coming as the Babe of Bethlehem but also for his coming into the hearts of those who love him and his second coming.

The lighting of the first Advent candle marks the beginning of the Season. It symbolizes God’s creation which brings light to the world and Christ is the Light of the World who comes to redeem the world and to bring new life to us.

Therefore I invite you to join this celebration, and be glad and rejoice in God’s salvation.

**HYMN & LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE**

*While singing, the first Advent candle shall be lit.*

**COLLECT**

*All remain standing.*

Officiant May the Creator God be with you.

***People And also with you.***

Officiant Let us pray.

*Silence*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armour 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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and ever.

***People Amen.***

**READING(S)**

*All sit.*

*One or two following readings will be read.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Isaiah 2:1-5 | Isaiah 60:1-6 |  |
| Romans 1:1-7 | James 5:7-8 |  |
| Matthew 1:18-25 | Matthew 3:1-12 | Luke 11:2-11 |

*After the reading,*

Lector The Word of the Lord.

***People Thanks be to God.***

**HOMILY**

*If there is no homily, a moment of silence may be observed instead after the reading(s).*

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

*All stand.*

**All *Our father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, in earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.***

**INTERCESSIONS**

Intercessor Lord Jesus, you are the Light of the world,

***People that in you there is no darkness.***

Intercessor Lord Jesus, you are the hope of the all humanity,

***People that there will be no more pain and oppression.***

Intercessor Lord Jesus, you give peace to the world,

***People that there will be no more war and hatred.***

Intercessor Lord Jesus, you bring new life to us,

***People that we will be saved from our sins.***

Intercessor Lord Jesus, may your kingdom come,

***People that your name will be glorified.***

Intercessor O Lord Jesus Christ, in all the fullness of your power most gentle, in you exceeding greatness most humble, give your mind and spirit upon us, who have nothing whereof to boast; that clothed in true humility, we may be exalted to true greatness. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***People Amen.***

*All may sing a hymn or there is a chorus singing after the Prayers.*

*If there is not singing, the service shall be concluded either by a priest saying the Blessing or by the Officiant saying the Grace.*

**BLESSING**

*This is to be said by a priest.*

Priest Christ the Son of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

***People Amen.***

*If there is no priest present, the officiant may say the following to conclude the service.*

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

***People Amen.***

**RECESSION**

*The officiating party will recede from the hall accompanied by instrumental music.*

**THE ORDER OF SERVICE OF THE SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT**

**TO BE USED IN SCHOOLS**

**PROCESSION**

*The Officiating party will process to the hall.*

*All may sing a hymn during the procession, or accompanied by instrumental music.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *Luke 3:4,6*

Officiant Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

**READING** *Isaiah 9:6*

*All sit.*

Lector A reading from Isaiah

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

*After the reading,*

Lector The Word of the Lord.

***People Thanks be to God.***

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE**

*The second Advent candle shall be lit.*

**COLLECT**

*All remain standing.*

Officiant May God who gives grace be with you.

***People And also with you.***

Officiant Let us pray.

*Silence*

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 for ever.

***People Amen.***

*All may sing a hymn after the Collect.*

**THE ORDER OF SERVICE OF THE THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT**

**TO BE USED IN SCHOOLS**

**PROCESSION**

*The Officiating party will process to the hall.*

*All may sing a hymn during the procession, or accompanied by instrumental music.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *Isaiah 61:1*

Officiant The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted.

**READING** *Philippians 4:4-5*

*All sit.*

Lector A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

*After the reading,*

Lector The Word of the Lord.

***People Thanks be to God.***

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE**

*The third Advent candle shall be lit.*

**COLLECT**

*All remain standing.*

Officiant May God who gives grace be with you.

***People And also with you.***

Officiant Let us pray.

*Silence*

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 honour and glory, now and for ever.

***People Amen.***

*All may sing a hymn after the Collect.*

**THE ORDER OF SERVICE OF THE FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT**

**TO BE USED IN SCHOOLS**

**PROCESSION**

*The Officiating party will process to the hall.*

*All may sing a hymn during the procession, or accompanied by instrumental music.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *Matthew 1:23*

Officiant A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel: God with us.

**READING** *Luke 1:30-31*

*All sit.*

Lector A reading from the Gospel of Luke

The angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.

*After the reading,*

Lector The Word of the Lord.

***People Thanks be to God.***

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE**

*The fourth Advent candle shall be lit.*

**COLLECT**

*All remain standing.*

Officiant May God who gives grace be with you.

***People And also with you.***

Officiant Let us pray.

*Silence*

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 for ever.

***People Amen.***

*All may sing a hymn after the Collect.*