

**MORNING PRAYER**      December 1  
*Advent Feria*

*Officiant*      Lord, open our lips,  
*People*            **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant*      O God, make speed to save us.  
*People*            **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

**All**                **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.  
Alleluia!**

**INVITATORY**              *Venite* (Psalm 95:1-7)

*Officiant*      Our King and Saviour now draws near:  
*People*            **Come, let us adore him.**

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
    let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
    and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.  
For the Lord is a great God, \*  
    and a great king above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
    and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his for he made it, \*  
    and his hands have moulded the dry land.  
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
    and kneel before the Lord our maker.  
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
    Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice.

*People*            **Our King and Saviour now draws near:  
Come, let us adore him.**

**PSALM**              119:1-24

**Aleph** *Beati immaculati*

Happy are they whose way is blameless, \*  
    who walk in the law of the LORD!  
Happy are they who observe his decrees \*  
    and seek him with all their hearts!

Who never do any wrong, \*  
but always walk in his ways.  
You laid down your commandments, \*  
that we should fully keep them.  
Oh, that my ways were made so direct \*  
that I might keep your statutes!  
Then I should not be put to shame, \*  
when I regard all your commandments.  
I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, \*  
when I have learned your righteous judgments.  
I will keep your statutes; \*  
do not utterly forsake me.

**Beth** *In quo corrigit?*

How shall a young man cleanse his way? \*  
By keeping to your words.  
With my whole heart I seek you; \*  
let me not stray from your commandments.  
I treasure your promise in my heart, \*  
that I may not sin against you.  
Blessed are you, O LORD; \*  
instruct me in your statutes.  
With my lips will I recite \*  
all the judgments of your mouth.  
I have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees \*  
than in all manner of riches.  
I will meditate on your commandments \*  
and give attention to your ways.  
My delight is in your statutes; \*  
I will not forget your word.

**Gimel** *Retribuere servo tuo*

Deal bountifully with your servant, \*  
that I may live and keep your word.  
Open my eyes, that I may see \*  
the wonders of your law.  
I am a stranger here on earth; \*  
do not hide your commandments from me.  
My soul is consumed at all times \*  
with longing for your judgments.  
You have rebuked the insolent; \*  
cursed are they who stray from your commandments!

Turn from me shame and rebuke, \*  
for I have kept your decrees.  
Even though rulers sit and plot against me, \*  
I will meditate on your statutes.  
For your decrees are my delight, \*  
and they are my counselors.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**READING**      2 Peter 3:1-10

A reading from 2 Peter

This is now, beloved, the second letter I am writing to you; in them I am trying to arouse your sincere intention by reminding you that you should remember the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets, and the commandment of the Lord and Saviour spoken through your apostles. First of all you must understand this, that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and indulging their own lusts and saying, 'Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since our ancestors died, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation!' They deliberately ignore this fact, that by the word of God heavens existed long ago and an earth was formed out of water and by means of water, through which the world of that time was deluged with water and perished. But by the same word the present heavens and earth have been reserved for fire, being kept until the day of judgement and destruction of the godless. But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

*Reader*            Thanks be to God.

### **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

*Officiant*        I believe in God,  
**All**                **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.**

#### **INTERCESSIONS AND THANKSGIVINGS**

*Officiant* Watchful at all times,  
let us pray for strength to stand with confidence  
before our Maker and Redeemer.  
That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

*Officiant* That God may establish among the nations  
his sceptre of righteousness,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

*Officiant* That we may seek Christ in the Scriptures  
and recognize him in the breaking of the bread,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

*Officiant* That God may bind up the brokenhearted,  
restore the sick  
and raise up all who have fallen,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

*Officiant* That the light of God's coming may dawn  
on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

*Officiant* That, with all the saints in light,  
we may shine forth as lights for the world,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

*Officiant* We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray  
to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father:

## COLLECT

*Officiant* 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 us in great humility,  
that on 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, one God, now and for ever.

*All* Amen.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Officiant* Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,  
*All* **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

## CONCLUSION

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**