Morning Prayer Form

The Liturgy Letter

(Second Sunday of Advent - Year C)

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Opening Scripture

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. -Isaiah 40:3

Silence

O Antiphon

O Flower of Jesse's stem, You have been raised up as a sign for all peoples; Kings stand silent in your presence; the nations bow down in worship before you. Come, let nothing keep you from coming to our aid

O Key of David,
O Royal Power of Israel
Controlling at your will the gate of heaven:
Come, break down the prison walls of death
for those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of
death; and lead your captive people into freedom

Hymn - Prepare the Way of the Lord

Prepare ye the way of the Lord, prepare ye the way of the Lord. And all people shall see the salvation of our God. (3x)

Words & music: Jacques Berthier, Taizé, France

Confession (from The Book of Common Prayer)

Let us confess our sins to God.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your
Name, Amen,

Silence

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Hear our voice O Lord, according to your faithful love:

He has heard our voice and is faithful and just to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Amen.

Psalm 130 (NIV)

A song of ascents.

1 Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord;
2 Lord, hear my voice.
Let your ears be attentive
to my cry for mercy.
3 If you, Lord, kept a record of sins,
Lord, who could stand?
4 But with you there is forgiveness,
so that we can, with reverence, serve you.
5 I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits,
and in his word I put my hope.
6 I wait for the Lord
more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.

7 Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.
8 He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

Gloria Patri

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

Scripture Readings

Malachi 3:1-4
Philippians 1:3-11

(Please stand for the reading of the Gospel)

Luke 3:1-6

(A short silence is observed after the reading of the Gospel)

The Song of Zechariah (Benedictus Dominus Deus - Luke 1:68-79)

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;

he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty savior,

born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,

that he would save us from our enemies,

from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers

and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear,

holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation

by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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.

The Prayers of the People

Intercessions (A time of spontaneous prayers and intercessions. Say "out loud" the names and situations that you would like to bring before God.)

To God be all honor and glory, dominion and power, now and forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we are bold to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

*If praying with others, stand and hold hands. If praying individually, stand with hands open and outstretched in the sign of the Orans.

A Prayer for the Second Week of Advent (from the Book of Common Prayer)

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.

Benediction

Go forth in joy to love and serve God in all that you do. Let us bless our Lord. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Closing Hymn

Prepare ye the way of the Lord, prepare ye the way of the Lord. And all people shall see the salvation of our God. (3x)

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