



# CHRIST CHURCH

THE ANGLICAN/EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN VIENNA

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
12 DECEMBER 2021

## ORGAN PRELUDE

## HYMN 36

- 1 **Hark the glad sound! the Saviour comes,  
the Saviour promised long;  
let every heart prepare a throne,  
and every voice a song.**
- 2 **He comes, the prisoners to release  
in Satan's bondage held;  
the gates of brass before him burst,  
the iron fetters yield.**
- 3 **He comes, the broken heart to bind,  
the bleeding soul to cure,  
and with the treasures of his grace  
to enrich the humble poor.**
- 4 **Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
thy welcome shall proclaim;  
and heaven's eternal arches ring  
with thy belovèd name.**

## GREETING

In the name of the living God:  
Father, Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

*The celebrant welcomes those in attendance.*

## THE LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

### SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:  
The first commandment is this:  
'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.  
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.'  
The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'  
There is no other commandment greater than these.  
On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.  
**Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

### CONFESSION

*The officiant uses an invitation to confession.*

When the Lord comes,  
he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness,  
and will disclose the purposes of the heart.  
Therefore in the light of Christ let us confess our sins.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past**

**and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

### KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

### ABSOLUTION

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### COLLECT

*The celebrant prays the collect set for the day.*

O Lord Jesus Christ,  
who at your first coming sent your messenger  
to prepare your way before you:  
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries  
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way  
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,  
that at your second coming to judge the world  
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### LESSON

*Zephaniah 3.14-20*

A reading from the book of the Prophet Zephaniah:

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup>The LORD has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. <sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. <sup>17</sup>The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing <sup>18</sup>as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. <sup>19</sup>I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. <sup>20</sup>At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### CANTICLE

*Isaiah 12:2-6*

**<sup>2</sup>Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. <sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup>And you will say on that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. <sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. <sup>6</sup>Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

### GOSPEL

*Luke 3.7-18*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>7</sup>John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?' <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits worthy of

repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>9</sup> Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' <sup>10</sup> And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' <sup>11</sup> In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' <sup>12</sup> Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' <sup>13</sup> He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' <sup>14</sup> Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.' <sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' <sup>18</sup> So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord:  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

## CREED

*The Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

## INTERCESSIONS

*A member of the congregation offers prayers.*

## PEACE

*The celebrant introduces the Peace with a suitable sentence:*

In the tender mercy of our God,  
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,  
to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you,  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*All exchange an appropriate sign of peace.*

## ORGAN INTERLUDE

### EUCHARIST

#### *Eucharistic Prayer E*

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,  
almighty God and everlasting Father,  
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,  
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world  
to open for us the way of salvation.

Confident that your promise will be fulfilled,

we now watch for the day

when Christ our Lord will come again in glory.

And so we join our voices with angels and archangels

and with all the company of heaven

to proclaim your glory,

for ever praising you and *saying*:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**[Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.]**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;

and as we obey his command,

send your Holy Spirit,

that broken bread and wine outpoured

may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice

made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,

we proclaim his death and resurrection

until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,

help us to work together for that day

when your kingdom comes

and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,

gather us in your loving arms

and bring us with [N and] all the saints

to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,

for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**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,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

## AGNUS DEI

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

## INVITATION

Draw near with faith.  
Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.  
**Amen.**

*The celebrant distributes communion.*

## ORGAN INTERLUDE

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;  
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit  
that when your Christ comes again  
we may shine as lights before his face;  
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out  
in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work  
to your praise and glory.  
Amen.**

## NOTICES

## BLESSING

*The celebrant gives a suitable blessing:*

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,  
scatter the darkness from before your path,  
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;

...and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

### HYMN 32

- 1 **Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,  
and manifest thy virgin-birth:  
let every age adoring fall;  
such birth befits the God of all.**
- 2 **Begotten of no human will,  
but of the Spirit, thou art still  
the Word of God, in flesh arrayed,  
the Saviour, now to us displayed.**
- 3 **From God the Father he proceeds,  
to God the Father back he speeds,  
runs out his course to death and hell,  
returns on God's high throne to dwell.**
- 4 **O equal to thy Father, thou!  
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,  
the weakness of our mortal state  
with deathless might invigorate.**
- 5 **Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,  
and darkness glow with new-born light,  
no more shall night extinguish day,  
where love's bright beams their power display.**

- 6 **O Jesu, virgin-born, to thee  
eternal praise and glory be,  
whom with the Father we adore  
and Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.**

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

### ORGAN POSTLUDE

#### NOTICE OF COPYRIGHT

This liturgy is taken from The Archbishop's Council 2000, *Common Worship* (London: Church House Publishing, 2000). The hymns are taken from *Ancient & Modern* (Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2013). Scripture reference, unless otherwise noted, are from the NRSV translation of *The Holy Bible*.

#### TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Since the beginning of the pandemic (first Austrian lockdown on 17 March 2020), we have not been taking a collection during the services in the church building. We ask those of you who would otherwise make your donations to Christ Church to consider setting up regular standing orders or some other electronic means of contributing. More information is available on our website.

**Your contributions make a difference and we are thankful for them.**