

Collect and Lessons for the Second Sunday in Advent
December 5, 2021

The Collect.

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast, the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The Old Testament Lesson

The Old Testament Lesson is written in the 40th Chapter of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah beginning at the 1st verse:

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. ² Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.

³ The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: ⁵ And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

⁶ The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field:

⁷ The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. ⁸ The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

⁹ O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!

¹⁰ Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him.

¹¹ He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young. Here endeth the Old Testament Lesson.

Psalm 85. *Benedixisti, Domine.*

We will read Psalm 85 antiphonally by the half verse beginning with the men ...and the women reading the response (in bold)

1 Lord, thou art become gracious unto thy land; * **thou hast turned away the captivity of Jacob.**

2 Thou hast forgiven the offence of thy people, * **and covered all their sins.**

3 Thou hast taken away all thy displeasure, * **and turned thyself from thy wrathful indignation.**

4 Turn us then, O God our Saviour, * **and let thine anger cease from us.**

5 Wilt thou be displeased at us for ever? * **and wilt thou stretch out thy wrath from one generation to another?**

6 Wilt thou not turn again, and quicken us, * **that thy people may rejoice in thee?**

7 Show us thy mercy, O LORD, * **and grant us thy salvation.**

8 I will hearken what the LORD God will say; * **for he shall speak peace unto his people, and to his saints, that they turn not again unto foolishness.**

9 For his salvation is nigh them that fear him; * **that glory may dwell in our land.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
**As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end,
Amen.**

The New Testament Lesson

The New Testament Lesson is written in the 3rd Chapter of Peter's Second Letter beginning at the 2nd verse:

You should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles, ³ knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires...

⁸ But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

¹¹ Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! ¹³ But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. ¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace. Here endeth the New Testament Lesson.

The Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel is written in the 1st Chapter of Mark beginning at the 1st verse:

Glory be to thee, O Lord

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; ² As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. ³ The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

⁴ John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. ⁵ And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁶ And John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey; ⁷ And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose. ⁸ I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise be to thee, O Christ