

*The Sunday next before Advent.*

The Collect. pb pg 225

STIR up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 23: 1-4

A reading from Chapter 23 in the Book of Jeremiah beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse

**Woe** be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD.

<sup>2</sup> Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the LORD.

<sup>3</sup> And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.

<sup>4</sup> And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the Lord.

Here endeth the Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 91 Qui habitat. pb pg 454

We will read Psalm 91 responsively by the whole verse:

**WHOSO** dwelleth under the defence of the Most High, \* shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say unto the LORD, Thou art my hope, and my stronghold; \* my God, in him will I trust.

3 For he shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunter, \* and from the noisome pestilence.

4 He shall defend thee under his wings, and thou shalt be safe under his feathers; \* his faithfulness and truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

5 Thou shalt not be afraid for any terror by night, \* nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

6 For the pestilence that walketh in darkness, \* nor for the sickness that destroyeth in the noon-day.

7 A thousand shall fall beside thee, and ten thousand at thy right hand; \* but it shall not come nigh thee.

8 Yea, with thine eyes shalt thou behold, \* and see the reward of the ungodly.

9 For thou, LORD, art my hope; \* thou hast set thine house of defence very high.

10 There shall no evil happen unto thee, \* neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee, \* to keep thee in all thy ways.

12 They shall bear thee in their hands, \* that thou hurt not thy foot against a stone.

13 Thou shalt go upon the lion and adder: \* the young lion and the dragon shalt thou tread under thy feet.

14 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him; \* I will set him up, because he hath known my Name.

15 He shall call upon me, and I will hear him; \* yea, I am with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and bring him to honour.

16 With long life will I satisfy him, \* and show him my salvation.

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**

A reading from the Book of Jeremiah Chapter 23: beginning at the 5<sup>th</sup> verse:

BEHOLD, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that they shall no more say, The LORD liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; but, The LORD liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land.

Here endeth the Epistle

The Gospel. St. John 6: 5. Pb pg 225

The Holy Gospel is written in the 6<sup>th</sup> Chapter of St. John beginning at the 5<sup>th</sup> verse

WHEN Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do. Philip answered him, Two hundred pennyworth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may take a little. One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many? And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would. When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost. Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten. Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise be to thee, O Christ**